

Equal Opportunity and Fair Housing

No person shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity funded in whole or in part with HOME funds on the grounds of race, color, national origin, religion, disability, family status or sex.

⇒ **Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act -1968** requires that:

- to the greatest extent feasible, opportunities for training and employment arising from HOME will be provided to low-income persons residing in the program service area.
- to the greatest extent feasible, contracts for work of all types to be performed in connection with HOME will be awarded to business concerns which are located in or owned by persons residing in the program.

⇒ HOME funds must be made available in accordance with the following laws and executive orders:

The Fair Housing Laws:

[Fair Housing Act](#)

Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Fair Housing Act), as amended, prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental, and financing of dwellings, and in other housing-related transactions, based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status (including children under the age of 18 living with parents of legal custodians, pregnant women, and people securing custody of children under the age of 18), and handicap (disability).

[Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964](#)

Title VI prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance.

[Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973](#)

Section 504 prohibits discrimination based on disability in any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. All recipients and sub-recipients must perform self-evaluations of Section 504 compliance.

[Section 109 of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974](#)

Section 109 prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or religion in programs and activities receiving financial assistance from HUD's Community Development and Block Grant Program.

Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990

Title II prohibits discrimination based on disability in programs, services, and activities provided or made available by public entities. HUD enforces Title II when it relates to state and local public housing, housing assistance and housing referrals.

Architectural Barriers Act of 1968

The Architectural Barriers Act requires that buildings and facilities designed, constructed, altered, or leased with certain federal funds after September 1969 must be accessible to and useable by handicapped persons.

Age Discrimination Act of 1975

The Age Discrimination Act prohibits discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance.

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972

Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities that receive federal financial assistance.

Fair Housing-Related Presidential Executive Orders:

Executive Order 11063

Executive Order 11063 prohibits discrimination in the sale, leasing, rental, or other disposition of properties and facilities owned or operated by the federal government or provided with federal funds.

Executive Order 11246

Executive Order 11246, as amended, bars discrimination in federal employment because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

Executive Order 12892

Executive Order 12892, as amended, requires federal agencies to affirmatively further fair housing in their programs and activities, and provides that the Secretary of HUD will be responsible for coordinating the effort. The Order also establishes the President's Fair Housing Council, which will be chaired by the Secretary of HUD.

Executive Order 12898

Executive Order 12898 requires that each federal agency conduct its program, policies, and activities that substantially affect human health or the environment in a manner that does not exclude persons based on race, color, or national origin.

Executive Order 13166

Executive Order 13166 eliminates, to the extent possible, limited English proficiency as a barrier to full and meaningful participation by beneficiaries in all federally-assisted and federally conducted programs and activities.

Executive Order 13217

Executive Order 13217 requires federal agencies to evaluate their policies and programs to

determine if any can be revised or modified to improve the availability of community-based living arrangements for persons with disabilities.

⇒ Where more restrictive, compliance with Vermont Fair Housing and Public Accommodations Act shall apply.