



Non-Intake Personnel Civil Rights Training

Thank you for volunteering – you are helping make a difference in the lives of our neighbors in need!

The Maine Dept of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry is grateful that our volunteers serve each client with the dignity they deserve. We are required by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to ensure that all clients are informed and aware of their civil rights while they are being served.

You are our eyes and ears and can help us identify any instances in which a client is subject to harassment or discrimination. **The State of Maine will not tolerate harassment or discrimination by any individual.**

What is discrimination? Discrimination is the practice of unfairly treating a person or group of people differently from other people or groups of people.

The USDA prohibits discrimination based on the following:

- Race
- Color
- National Origin
- Reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity
- Sex (including orientation and gender)
- Disability
- Age

Here is an excerpt from the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (it’s been amended to protect additional groups referenced above). “No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity of an applicant or recipient receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department of Agriculture or any Agency thereof.”

Before you volunteer today or interact with food assistance program participants, you must agree to comply with the above statements. To show your agreement and acknowledge your understanding to not discriminate, please fill out your printed name, signature, and today’s date below. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Printed Name

Signature

Date