

Colorado Equal Pay for Equal Work Act

Background:

- SB19-058 passed during the 2019 legislative session
- Effective January 1, 2021

Requires University to:

• Pay the same rate for substantially similar work

Adhere to new:

- Recordkeeping requirements
- Notice requirements
- Pay history prohibitions
- Pay transparency
- Rights of action process

Project Approach

- University-wide review started in early 2020 led by System HR, DEI Office, and University Counsel in partnership with campuses
- Advisory Committee:
 - Campus HR teams
 - Employees involved in setting compensation for staff and faculty
 - Faculty and Academic Affairs
 - University Faculty Council and Staff Council
- Consultant reviewing CU compensation policies and practices, also evaluating salaries across positions that perform substantially similar work
- Reviewing pay related Regent Laws and Policies at System level
- Reviewing each campus as separate entity (comparing substantially similar roles within each campus but not across the system)
 - Detailed position-by-position analysis

Project Activities

Activities Aon CU

Data Collection & Planning

(Completed)

Compensation Review

(Completed)

Legal Review (in process)

Pay Equity
Analysis

(in process)

Presentations & Action Plan (pipeline)

- Campus orientations
- Develop data requests
- Interviews and review policies and practices
- Review findings and recommendations with CU
- Legal assessment of current practices
- Provide guidance re state and federal laws
- Finalize job groups
- Conduct pay equity analysis
- Present pay gap analysis findings

 Present recommendations to leadership and project sponsors

- Provide data and documents
- Meetings on compensation policies
- Feedback on findings and recommendations
- Feedback on legal findings
- Assist in identifying groups doing similar work
- Review modeling results and outliers
- Review overall recommendations and develop a plan to implement recommended changes



CO Equal Pay for Equal Work Act, Effective January 1, 2021

Pay same rate for substantially similar work

- An employer shall not discriminate between employees on the basis of sex, or on the basis of sex in combination with another protected status, by paying an employee of one sex a wage rate less than the rate paid to an employee of a different sex for substantially similar work, regardless of job title.
- A wage rate differential is permissible if at least one of the following factors accounts for the entire wage rate differential:
 - A seniority system;
 - A merit system;
 - A system that measures earnings by quantity or quality of production;
 - The geographic location where the work is performed;
 - Education, training, or experience to the extent that they are reasonably related to the work in question; or
 - Travel, if the travel is a regular and necessary condition of the work performed

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 Recordkeeping: Required to keep records of job descriptions and wage rate history for each employee during employment and for two years after employment ends

• Notice Requirements:

- Job Openings: must disclose in each posting for each job opening the hourly or salary compensation, or a range of the hourly or salary compensation, and a general description of all of the benefits and other compensation to be offered to the hired applicant.
- Promotional Opportunities: must announce, post, or otherwise make known all opportunities for promotion to all current employees on the same calendar day and prior to making a promotion decision.
- Pay History Prohibitions: Impermissible to seek the wage rate history of a prospective employee or rely on the wage rate history of a prospective employee to determine a wage rate
- Pay Transparency: Employees are expressly permitted to disclose or discuss their pay
- Rights of Action: Employees may go directly to court without pursuing or exhausting an administrative remedy first