



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

REGION VI
LOUISIANA
MISSISSIPPI
TEXAS

Renaissance Tower
1201 Elm Street, Suite 1000
Dallas, TX 75270-2102

September X, 2021

Re: 06152078

Dr. Rick Brewer, President
Louisiana College
1140 College Drive
LC Box 584
Pineville, Louisiana 71359

Via email only: rick.brewer@lacollege.edu

Dear Dr. Brewer,

The U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR), Dallas Office, has resolved the above-referenced complaint, filed against Louisiana College (College). In the complaint, the complainant alleged that the College discriminates against persons with mobility impairments, on the basis of their disabilities, in violation of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504), 29 U.S.C. § 794, and its implementing regulation at 34 C.F.R. Part 104. Specifically, the complainant alleged that the College failed to provide an accessible route to the entrance of the football stadium, failed to provide an accessible route to portable restroom facilities in use at the football stadium, and failed to provide signage for parking spaces designated for use by disabled persons, including persons who use wheelchairs, at the football stadium.

OCR is responsible for determining whether organizations that receive or benefit from Federal financial assistance from the Department, or an agency that has delegated investigative authority to the Department, are in compliance with Section 504, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability. OCR has determined that LC is a recipient of Federal financial assistance from the Department. Therefore, OCR has jurisdiction to investigate this complaint under Section 504.

OCR's preliminary review of the information provided by the College indicates that the parking lot identified by the College serving the stadium does not have accessible spots and lanes in accordance with accessibility guidelines, does not have appropriate signage for parking spaces designated for use by disabled persons, nor is there an accessible route from the parking lot to the stadium. In addition, preliminary evidence indicates that the portable restrooms, when brought in for use at the stadium for events, are not on an accessible route.

The Department of Education's mission is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.

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Prior to the conclusion of OCR's investigation, the College informed OCR that it was interested in resolving the complaint. Section 302 of OCR's Case Processing Manual provides that a complaint may be resolved at any time when, prior to the conclusion of an investigation, the recipient expresses an interest in resolving the allegation. The provisions of the resulting resolution agreement will be aligned with the complaint allegations and will be consistent with applicable regulations. OCR approved the College's request to resolve this complaint prior to conclusion of the investigation.

The College voluntarily signed the enclosed resolution agreement (Agreement) on September X, 2021. OCR determined the Agreement addresses and, when fully implemented, resolves the issue under investigation. Thus, OCR is closing the investigation of this complaint as of the date of this letter. OCR will monitor implementation of the Agreement. If the College fails to implement the Agreement, OCR will resume investigative activities.

Please be advised that the recipient may not harass, coerce, intimidate, discriminate or otherwise retaliate against any individual because he or she asserted a right or privilege under a law enforced by OCR or filed a complaint, testified, or participated in the complaint resolution process. If this happens, the individual may file a retaliation complaint with OCR.

Under the Freedom of Information Act, it may be necessary to release this document and related correspondence and records upon request. In the event that OCR receives such a request, it will seek to protect, to the extent provided by law, personally identifiable information which, if released, could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Sincerely,

Terri Gonzales
Supervisory Attorney/Team Leader
Office for Civil Rights