



SYSTEMWIDE TITLE IX OFFICE

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
1111 Franklin Street,
Oakland, California 94607-5200

September 8, 2022

[VICE PROVOST CARLSON
VICE PRESIDENT LLOYD
VICE PRESIDENT GULLATT]

SUBJECT: UC Public Comment on Proposed Title IX Regulations from the U.S. Department of Education

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to share with you the response on behalf of the University of California (UC) to proposed regulations implementing Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), as published in the Federal Register on July 12, 2022. (See the [Department of Education's fact sheet](#) for a summary of the proposed amendments.)

The Department of Education's proposed regulations would restore vital protections for students, advancing Title IX's goal of ensuring that no person experiences sex discrimination in education, that all students receive appropriate support as needed to access equal educational opportunities, and that school procedures for investigating and resolving complaints of sex discrimination, including sex-based harassment and sexual violence, are prompt and equitable. The proposed changes would help balance fairness and kindness while providing schools the flexibility to align policy with institutional values.

UC shares the Department's commitment to providing fairness for all parties, supporting complainants when they come forward with a claim of sex discrimination, and protecting freedom of speech and academic freedom. UC remains committed to policies, procedures and support services that affirm and acknowledge the fundamental dignity of all community members, treat all involved both fairly and empathetically, and produce outcomes that are just and reliable.

UC applauds the Department's leadership in including explicit prohibitions against retaliation, a critical protection for the most vulnerable; providing express protection for students and employees who are pregnant or have pregnancy-related conditions; including protections for LGBTQI+ students from discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity, and sex characteristics; and calling attention to our responsibility to ensure meaningful access to and participation in the Title IX process for people with disabilities. We are also pleased that the new regulations broaden the definition of sexual harassment, which is narrowly defined and leaves some egregious conduct unaddressed.

UC's comments in support of the proposed regulations are discussed in detail in Section One of the attached. Additional feedback and requests for clarification or revision are set forth in Section Two. Finally, UC's responses to the Department's directed questions are in Section Three.

You are welcome to contact me with questions. Thank you for your help with this important undertaking.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Isabel Alvarado Dees', with a stylized, cursive script.

Isabel Alvarado Dees
Systemwide Title IX Deputy Director and Interim
Systemwide Title IX Director (as of July 1, 2022)

Attachment:

UC Public Comment on Proposed Title IX Regulations from the U.S. Department of Education
Proposed Title IX Rules published July 12, 2022

cc: