OCR’s LEGAL AUTHORITIES INCLUDE:

- **Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964**, Section 2000d to 2000d-6, prohibits discrimination based on race, color, and national origin in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance and USDA Implementing Regulation, 7 CFR Part 15, Subpart A and Subpart C.

- **Americans with Disabilities Act** (28 CFR Part 35, Title 11, Subtitle A), prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in all services, programs and activities provided to the public by State and local governments, except public transportation services.

- **Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972** (20 U.S. C. Section 1681 et. Seq.), prohibits discrimination based on sex under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance; and USDA Implementing Regulation, 7 CFR Part 15 a.

- **Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973**, prohibits discrimination based on disability; and USDA Implementing Regulation, 7 CFR Part 15 b.

- **Age Discrimination Act of 1973**, prohibits discrimination based on age in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance.

- **The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996** (PRWORA), and Department of Justice (DOJ) Memorandum dated January 28, 1999, entitled, "Policy Guidance Document - Enforcement of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Related Statutes in Block Grant Type Programs."

- **Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987**, which clarifies the intent of Congress as it relates to the scope of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related nondiscrimination statutes to ensure nondiscrimination in all programs and activities of a recipient, whether those programs and activities are federally funded or not.

- **The Food Stamp Act of 1977**, as amended. The Food Stamp Program (FSP) is an entitlement program available to all low-income individuals and families who meet the income, resource, and eligibility requirements as specified under the Act and corresponding regulations. The Act prohibits discrimination against any applicant or participant in aspect of program administration for reasons of age, race, color, sex, handicap, religious creed, national origin, or political beliefs.


- **USDA Departmental Regulation 4330-2**, Activities Receiving USDA Financial Assistance, ensures compliance with and enforcement of the prohibition against discrimination in programs and activities funded in whole or part by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

- **USDA Regulation 7 CFR part 16**, Equal Opportunity for Religious Organizations, implements executive branch policy that , within the framework of constitutional church-State guidelines, religiously affiliated (or "faith-based") organizations should be able to compete on an equal footing with other organizations for USDA assistance.