

Uniform Complaint Procedures (UCP)
Annual Notice
2024–2025

DESERT SANDS CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

Desert Sands Charter High School (Charter School) annually notifies our students, employees, parents or guardians of its students, school advisory committees, and other interested parties of our Uniform Complaint Procedures (UCP) process. The UCP Annual Notice is available on our website and in our parent-student handbook.

The Charter School is primarily responsible for compliance with federal and state laws and regulations, including those related to unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation or bullying against any protected group, and all programs and activities that are subject to the UCP.

Programs and Activities Subject to the UCP

- Accommodations for Pregnant and Parenting Pupils
- Adult Education
- After School Education and Safety
- Agricultural Career Technical Education
- Career Technical and Technical Education and Career Technical and Technical Training Programs
- Child Care and Development Programs
- Compensatory Education
- Consolidated Categorical Aid Programs
- Course Periods without Educational Content
- Discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying against any protected group as identified under California *Education Code (EC)* sections 200 and 220 and *Government Code* Section 11135, including any actual or perceived characteristic as set forth in *Penal Code* Section 422.55, or on the basis of a person’s association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics, in any program or activity conducted by an educational institution, as defined in *EC* Section 210.3, that is funded directly by, or that receives or benefits from, any state financial assistance.
- Educational and graduation requirements for pupils in foster care, pupils who are homeless, pupils from military families, pupils formerly in Juvenile Court now enrolled in a school district, pupils who are migratory, and pupils participating in a newcomer program.
- Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
- Instructional Materials and Curriculum Diversity
- Local Control and Accountability Plans (LCAP)
- Migrant Education
- Physical Education Instructional Minutes
- Pupil Fees
- Reasonable Accommodations to a Lactating Pupil
- Regional Occupational Centers and Programs
- School Plans for Student Achievement

- Schoolsite Councils
- State Preschool
- State Preschool Health and Safety Issues in LEAs Exempt from Licensing
- And any other state or federal educational program the State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SSPI) or designee deems appropriate.

The programs and activities subject to the UCP in which the Charter School operates are:

- Accommodations for Pregnant and Parenting Pupils
- Career Technical and Technical Education and Career Technical and Technical Training Programs
- Consolidated Categorical Aid Programs
- Discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying against any protected group as identified under California Education Code (EC) sections 200 and 220 and Government Code Section 11135, including any actual or perceived characteristic as set forth in Penal Code Section 422.55, or on the basis of a person's association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics, in any program or activity conducted by an educational institution, as defined in EC Section 210.3, that is funded directly by, or that receives or benefits from, any state financial assistance.
- Educational and graduation requirements for pupils in foster care, pupils who are homeless, pupils from military families, pupils formerly in Juvenile Court now enrolled in a school district, pupils who are migratory, and pupils participating in a newcomer program.
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- And any other state or federal educational program the State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SSPI) or designee deems appropriate.

Filing a UCP Complaint

A UCP complaint shall be filed no later than one year from the date the alleged violation occurred. For complaints relating to Local Control and Accountability Plans (LCAP), the date of the alleged violation is the date when Charter School Board of Directors approves the LCAP or LCAP annual update.

A pupil enrolled in the Charter School shall not be required to pay a pupil fee for participation in an educational activity. A pupil fee complaint may be filed with the Charter School principal or their designee.

A pupil fee or LCAP complaint may be filed anonymously, that is, without an identifying signature, if the complainant provides evidence or information leading to evidence to support an allegation of noncompliance.

Contact Information

Complaints within the scope of the UCP are to be filed with the person responsible for processing complaints:

Victor Nardiello, Area Superintendent
44130 20th St. West
Lancaster, CA 93534
(661) 942-3357
UCPOfficer@dschs.org

The above contact is knowledgeable about the laws and programs that they are assigned to investigate in the Charter School.

Responsibilities of the Charter School

The Charter School shall post a standardized notice, in addition to this notice, with educational and graduation requirements for pupils in foster care, pupils who are homeless, pupils from military families, pupils formerly in Juvenile Court now enrolled in a school district, pupils who are migratory, and pupils participating in a newcomer program.

The Charter School advises complainants of the opportunity to appeal an Investigation Report of complaints regarding programs within the scope of the UCP to the California Department of Education (CDE).

The Charter School advises complainants of civil law remedies, including injunctions, restraining orders, or other remedies or orders that may be available under state or federal discrimination, harassment, intimidation or bullying laws, if applicable.

Copies of the UCP procedures shall be available free of charge.