

DISCRIMINATION BASED ON RACE

You have a right to fair housing, equal employment opportunity, and access to public accommodations regardless of your race and/or color. The Human Rights Commission investigates and adjudicates allegations of discrimination based on race and other protected classes, including gender, disability, sexual orientation, religion, age, and citizenship status, in housing, employment, public accommodations, and credit lending.

HOUSING

The Westchester County Fair Housing Law prohibits anyone involved in residential real estate transactions from discriminating based on a person's actual or perceived race and/or color. That means landlords, brokers, property managers, real estate agents, cooperative and condominium boards, and others may not engage in illegal race discrimination.

Examples of prohibited housing discrimination may include:

- Refusing to rent an apartment to a person because of the person's race
- Requiring tenants of one race to pay an extra security deposit not required of tenants of other races
- Falsely stating that a housing unit is unavailable to prospective tenants based on their race
- Placing advertisements for housing that suggest a preference based on a prospective tenant's race

EMPLOYMENT

The Westchester County Human Rights Law protects employees and applicants from discrimination based on race and/or color in the workplace. You have a right to apply for, and be fairly considered for, a job, apprenticeship, or traineeship regardless of your race and/or color. Employers have an obligation to maintain a workplace free from race discrimination.

Examples of prohibited employment discrimination may include:

- Refusing to interview an applicant because of the person's race
- Subjecting employees of one race to less favorable terms of employment than employees of other races
- Paying employees of one race less than employees of other races

PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS

It is against the law to discriminate against any person based on race when providing public accommodations, services, or facilities. Public accommodations include restaurants, hotels, public transportation, places of entertainment, and shops.

Examples of public accommodation discrimination may include:

- Refusing to seat customers in main seating areas because of race
- Refusing to serve a customer because of race

It is against the law to retaliate against anyone for filing a complaint of discrimination with the Commission.

This general guidance is not binding and is not to be used in any litigation or proceeding. Certain exceptions apply.

