



AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

A.C.T. Institute of Technical and Further Education (Amendment) Act 1992

No. 11 of 1992

An Act to amend the A.C.T. Institute of Technical and Further Education Act 1987

[Notified in ACT Gazette S62: 2 June 1992]

The Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory enacts as follows:

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the *A.C.T. Institute of Technical and Further Education (Amendment) Act 1992*.

Principal Act

2. In this Act, "Principal Act" means the *A.C.T. Institute of Technical and Further Education Act 1987*.¹

Insertion

3. After section 19 of the Principal Act the following section is inserted in Part III:

Personnel management

“19A. (1) The Institute’s powers in relation to employment matters shall be exercised—

- (a) without patronage, favouritism or unjustified discrimination; and
- (b) with regard to the equal employment opportunity program for the Institute.

“(2) Without limiting the generality of paragraph (1) (a), and subject to paragraph (1) (b), the Institute’s powers in relation to employment shall be exercised in accordance with procedures that ensure that where a person is to be selected for engagement for a period exceeding 3 months, or for advancement, by the Institute—

- (a) all persons who are eligible have, so far as practicable, a reasonable opportunity to apply for selection; and
- (b) the selection is made on the basis of an assessment of the relative suitability of the applicants having regard to—
 - (i) the nature of the duties to be performed; and
 - (ii) the abilities, qualifications, experience, personal qualities and potential for development of each applicant that are relevant to the performance of the duties.

“(3) A reference in this section to the exercise of a power shall be read as including a reference to the making of a report or recommendation in relation to the exercise of that power.

“(4) For the purposes of paragraph (1) (b), the Director shall, after consulting with each relevant staff organisation and such other persons as the Director considers appropriate—

- (a) develop an equal employment opportunity program for the Institute; and
- (b) from time to time, review that program.

“(5) The Director shall comply with paragraph (4) (a) as soon as practicable and, in any event, within 12 months after the commencement of this section.

“(6) As soon as practicable after the development or review of the equal employment opportunity program, the Director shall provide the Head of Administration with written particulars of the program.

“(7) The Head of Administration may, from time to time, by notice in writing given to the Director, issue guidelines to the Director on the provisions to be made by the equal employment opportunity program, and on the development, implementation or review of the program.

“(8) The Director shall take any action necessary to give effect to the equal employment opportunity program and to comply with any guidelines issued under subsection (7).

“(9) The Director shall furnish to the Minister a written report relating to the operation of this section during each financial year.

“(10) In this section—

‘advancement’ means movement within the Institute resulting in an employee undertaking work, and being remunerated, at a higher level than previously;

‘designated group’ means any of the following classes of persons:

- (a) members of the Aboriginal race of Australia or persons who are descendants of indigenous inhabitants of the Torres Strait Islands;
- (b) persons who have migrated to Australia and whose first language is a language other than English, and the children of such persons;
- (c) persons with physical or mental disabilities;
- (d) any other class of persons declared by the regulations to be a designated group for the purposes of this definition;

‘employment matter’, in relation to the Institute, means—

- (a) the selection of persons by the Institute for engagement or advancement;
- (b) the transfer of employees to positions in the Institute;
- (c) training and staff development for employees of the Institute;
- (d) the conditions of service of employees of the Institute; or
- (e) any other matter related to the employment of persons by the Institute;

‘equal employment opportunity program’, in relation to the Institute, means a program designed to ensure that—

- (a) appropriate action is taken to eliminate unjustified discrimination against women and persons in designated groups in relation to employment matters; and
- (b) measures are taken to enable employees who are women or persons in designated groups—
 - (i) to compete for engagement, transfer and advancement; and
 - (ii) to pursue careers;

as effectively as other persons and to have equal opportunities with others in relation to other employment matters;

‘relevant staff organisation’ means an organisation—

- (a) within the meaning of the *Industrial Relations Act 1988* of the Commonwealth;
- (b) in which persons employed by the Institute would be eligible for membership; and
- (c) that is a party to an industrial award that applies in relation to the salary payable in respect of that employment;

‘unjustified discrimination’ includes—

- (a) discrimination that is unlawful under the *Discrimination Act 1991*; and
- (b) unjustified discrimination on the ground of age or social origin;

but does not include—

- (c) discrimination that is essential for the effective performance of the relevant duties, is not unlawful under the *Discrimination Act 1991* and is prescribed; or
- (d) discrimination that is not unlawful under the *Discrimination Act 1991* and is in accordance with the equal employment opportunity program for the Institute or with a prescribed program.”.

NOTE

1. Ordinance No. 71, 1987 as amended by No. 82, 1988; Nos. 21 and 38, 1989; Act No. 25, 1990; No. 53, 1991.

[Presentation speech made in Assembly on 9 April 1992]

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