

OPM 98-33

May 26, 1998

To: All Appointing Authorities

From: Oscar B. Jackson, Jr.
Administrator and Cabinet Secretary of Human Resources

Subject: Agency Responsibilities: Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

On June 25, 1998, the Office of Personnel Management and the ABLE Tech project of Oklahoma State University are hosting a seminar on Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. We invite you and your staff in purchasing, personnel, and affirmative action to attend one of the two sessions. The enclosed sheet gives the details on the seminar. Individuals who attended this seminar last year are encouraged to attend this year for the latest updates to this law. **There is no charge and the two hours will count for mandatory supervisory training.** Individuals who attended this seminar last year are encouraged to attend this year for the latest updates to the law.

Section 508 declares that state agencies shall purchase equipment (electronic and informational technology) that is accessible to all state employees regardless of disabilities. The intent of Section 508 is to ensure that individuals with disabilities have comparable access to electronic information and data.

The "Technology Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Act" of 1988, Public Law 100-47, and 103-218 (known as the Tech Act) requires that Oklahoma ABLE Tech assure compliance with Section 508. Governor Frank Keating issued a letter of assurance stating that, "all agencies, boards, and commissions of the State and their employees will comply with Section 508. . ." This is an opportunity to determine the procedure for ensuring compliance.

If you have questions concerning this seminar, please contact Larry Fisher, OPM Assistant Administrator at (405) 522-0762, or Linda Jaco, Oklahoma ABLE Tech, Oklahoma State University, (405) 744-9864.

SPECIAL SEMINAR

Complying with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

When and Where?

June 25, 1998

Morning session: 9:30 a.m.--11:30 a.m.

Repeat afternoon session: 1:30 a.m.-- 3:30 p.m.

Tom Steed Center, Rose State College

Midwest City, Oklahoma

Why Attend?

“State agencies shall purchase equipment (electronic and informational technology) that is accessible to all state employees regardless of disabilities” (Section 508, Rehabilitation Act of 1973). Governor Frank Keating has issued a letter of assurance stating that, “. . .all agencies, boards, and commissions of the State and their employees will comply with Section 508. . .”

Who is Offering This Seminar?

Oklahoma ABLE Tech, Oklahoma State University and the Office of Personnel Management are hosting this two-hour seminar. **There is no charge.**

What Are the Objectives?

By the completion of this seminar, participants will be able to:

1. Define “electronic and informational technology equipment.”
2. Explain what is required to ensure compliance with Section 508.
3. Give examples of equipment that meet the requirements of Section 508.

Who Should Attend?

Anyone involved in purchasing, or recommending the purchase of, electronic or informational technology equipment, such as purchasing directors, purchasing staff, individuals who recommend purchases, and other key staff.

What Will Be Covered?

- Definitions and requirements of Section 508 Staff, Oklahoma ABLE Tech
Oklahoma State University
- Equipment demonstrations NanoPac
- Questions and Answers Period Staff, Oklahoma ABLE Tech
NanoPac
Dept. of Rehabilitation Services

How Do We Register?

Agencies using the HRDS on-line registration system should use course code M206 for the a.m. session and M207 for the p.m. session. Others should use the standard OPM/HRDS registration process (OPM Workshop Nomination Form 193).

Specify which session you want to attend--a.m. or p.m. For information call (405) 521-6334 or 522-0762.