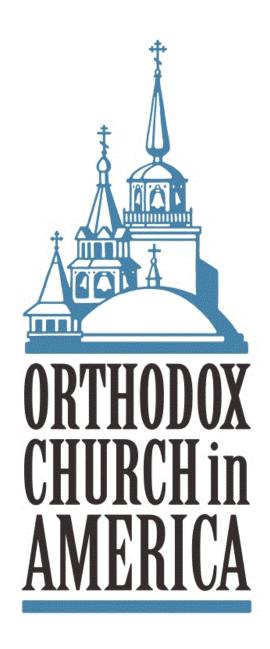
# Sexual Harassment Policy Orthodox Church in America



Blessed by the Holy Synod of Bishops on October 24, 2018

Adopted in accordance with New York State Law <a href="https://www.ny.gov/combating-sexual-harassment-workplace/employers">https://www.ny.gov/combating-sexual-harassment-workplace/employers</a>



## SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

#### INTRODUCTION

The Orthodox Church in America is committed to maintaining a workplace free from sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is a form of workplace discrimination. All employees are required to work in a manner that prevents sexual harassment in the workplace. This Policy is one component of The Orthodox Church in America's commitment to a discrimination-free work environment. Sexual harassment is against the law<sup>1</sup> and all employees have a legal right to a workplace free from sexual harassment and employees are urged to report sexual harassment by filing a complaint internally with The Orthodox Church in America. Employees can also file a complaint with a government agency or in court under federal, state or local antidiscrimination laws.

## **Policy:**

- 1. The Orthodox Church in America policy applies to all employees, applicants for employment, interns, whether paid or unpaid, contractors and persons conducting business, regardless of immigration status, with The Orthodox Church in America. In the remainder of this document, the term "employees" refers to this collective group.
- 2. Sexual harassment will not be tolerated. Any employee or individual covered by this policy who engages in sexual harassment or retaliation will be subject to remedial and/or disciplinary action (e.g., counseling, suspension, termination).
- 3. Retaliation Prohibition: No person covered by this Policy shall be subject to adverse action because the employee reports an incident of sexual harassment, provides information, or otherwise assists in any investigation of a sexual harassment complaint. The Orthodox Church in America will not tolerate such retaliation against anyone who, in good faith, reports or provides information about suspected sexual harassment. Any employee of The Orthodox Church in America who retaliates against anyone involved in a sexual harassment investigation will be subjected to disciplinary action, up to and including termination. All employees, paid or unpaid interns, or non-employees<sup>2</sup> working in the workplace who believe they have been subject to such retaliation should inform a supervisor, manager, or the Chancellor

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> While this policy specifically addresses sexual harassment, harassment because of and discrimination against persons of all protected classes is prohibited. In New York State, such classes includeage, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, sex, disability, marital status, domestic violence victim status, gender identity and criminal history.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> A non-employee is someone who is (or is employed by) a contractor, subcontractor, vendor, consultant, or anyone providing services in the workplace. Protected non-employees include persons commonly referred to as independent contractors, "gig" workers and temporary workers. Also included are persons providing equipment repair, cleaning services or any other services provided pursuant to a contract with the employer.

- of The Orthodox Church in America. All employees, paid or unpaid interns or non-employees who believe they have been a target of such retaliation may also seek relief in other available forums, as explained below in the section on Legal Protections.
- 4. Sexual harassment is offensive, is a violation of our policies, is unlawful, and may subject The Orthodox Church in America to liability for harm to targets of sexual harassment. Harassers may also be individually subject to liability. Employees of every level who engage in sexual harassment, including managers and supervisors who engage in sexual harassment or who allow such behavior to continue, will be penalized for such misconduct.
- 5. The Orthodox Church in America will conduct a prompt and thorough investigation that ensures due process for all parties, whenever management receives a complaint about sexual harassment, or otherwise knows of possible sexual harassment occurring. The Orthodox Church in America will keep the investigation confidential to the extent possible. Effective corrective action will be taken whenever sexual harassment is found to have occurred. All employees, including managers and supervisors, are required to cooperate with any internal investigation of sexual harassment.
- 6. All employees are encouraged to report any harassment or behaviors that violate this policy. The Orthodox Church in America will provide all employees a complaint form for employees to report harassment and file complaints.
- 7. Managers and supervisors are **required** to report any complaint that they receive, or any harassment that they observe or become aware of, to the Chancellor of the Orthodox Church in America.
- 8. This policy applies to all employees, paid or unpaid interns, and non-employees and all must follow and uphold this policy. This policy must be provided to all employees and should be posted prominently in all work locations to the extent practicable (for example, in a main office, not an offsite work location) and be provided to employees upon hiring.

#### What Is "Sexual Harassment"?

Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination and is unlawful under federal, state, and (where applicable) local law. Sexual harassment includes harassment on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, self-identified or perceived sex, gender expression, gender identity and the status of being transgender.

Sexual harassment includes unwelcome conduct which is either of a sexual nature, or which is directed at an individual because of that individual's sex when:

- Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance
  or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment, even if the reporting individual is not
  the intended target of the sexual harassment;
- Such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of employment; or
- Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting an individual's employment.

A sexually harassing hostile work environment includes, but is not limited to, words, signs, jokes, pranks, intimidation or physical violence which are of a sexual nature, or which are directed at an individual because of that individual's sex. Sexual harassment also consists of any unwanted verbal or physical advances, sexually explicit derogatory statements or sexually discriminatory remarks made by someone which are offensive or objectionable to the recipient, which cause the recipient discomfort or humiliation, which interfere with the recipient's job performance.

Sexual harassment also occurs when a person in authority tries to trade job benefits for sexual favors. This can include hiring, promotion, continued employment or any other terms, conditions or privileges of employment. This is also called "quid pro quo" harassment.

Any employee who feels harassed should report so that any violation of this policy can be corrected promptly. Any harassing conduct, even a single incident, can be addressed under this policy.

#### **Examples of sexual harassment**

The following describes some of the types of acts that may be unlawful sexual harassment and that are strictly prohibited:

- Physical acts of a sexual nature, such as:
  - o Touching, pinching, patting, kissing, hugging, grabbing, brushing against another employee's body or poking another employee's body;
  - o Rape, sexual battery, molestation or attempts to commit these assaults.
- Unwanted sexual advances or propositions, such as:
  - o Requests for sexual favors accompanied by implied or overt threats concerning the target's job performance evaluation, a promotion or other job benefits or detriments;
  - o Subtle or obvious pressure for unwelcome sexual activities.
- Sexually oriented gestures, noises, remarks or jokes, or comments about a person's sexuality or sexual experience, which create a hostile work environment.
- Sex stereotyping occurs when conduct or personality traits are considered inappropriate simply because they may not conform to other people's ideas or perceptions about how individuals of a particular sex should act or look.
- Sexual or discriminatory displays or publications anywhere in the workplace, such as:
  - Displaying pictures, posters, calendars, graffiti, objects, promotional material, reading materials
    or other materials that are sexually demeaning or pornographic. This includes such sexual displays
    on workplace computers or cell phones and sharing such displays while in the workplace.
- Hostile actions taken against an individual because of that individual's sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and the status of being transgender, such as:
  - o Interfering with, destroying or damaging a person's workstation, tools or equipment, or otherwise interfering with the individual's ability to perform the job;
  - o Sabotaging an individual's work;

o Bullying, yelling, name-calling.

#### Who can be a target of sexual harassment?

Sexual harassment can occur between any individuals, regardless of their sex or gender. New York Law protects employees, paid or unpaid interns, and non-employees, including independent contractors, and those employed by companies contracting to provide services in the workplace. Harassers can be a superior, a subordinate, a coworker or anyone in the workplace including an independent contractor, contract worker, vendor, client, customer or visitor.

#### Where can sexual harassment occur?

Unlawful sexual harassment is not limited to the physical workplace itself. It can occur while employees are traveling for business or at employer sponsored events or parties. Calls, texts, emails, and social media usage by employees can constitute unlawful workplace harassment, even if they occur away from the workplace premises, on personal devices or during non-work hours.

#### Retaliation

Unlawful retaliation can be any action that could discourage a worker from coming forward to make or support a sexual harassment claim. Adverse action need not be job-related or occur in the workplace to constitute unlawful retaliation (e.g., threats of physical violence outside of work hours).

Such retaliation is unlawful under federal, state, and (where applicable) local law. The New York State Human Rights Law protects any individual who has engaged in "protected activity." Protected activity occurs when a person has:

- made a complaint of sexual harassment, either internally or with any anti-discrimination agency;
- testified or assisted in a proceeding involving sexual harassment under the Human Rights Law or other anti-discrimination law;
- opposed sexual harassment by making a verbal or informal complaint to management, or by simply informing a supervisor or manager of harassment;
- reported that another employee has been sexually harassed; or
- encouraged a fellow employee to report harassment.

Even if the alleged harassment does not turn out to rise to the level of a violation of law, the individual is protected from retaliation if the person had a good faith belief that the practices were unlawful. However, the retaliation provision is not intended to protect persons making intentionally false charges of harassment.

#### **Reporting Sexual Harassment**

**Preventing sexual harassment is everyone's responsibility.** The Orthodox Church in America cannot prevent or remedy sexual harassment unless it knows about it. Any employee, paid or unpaid intern or non-employee who has been subjected to behavior that may constitute sexual harassment is encouraged to report such behavior to a supervisor, manager or the Chancellor of The Orthodox Church in America. Anyone who witnesses or becomes aware of potential instances of sexual harassment should report such behavior to a supervisor, manager or the Chancellor of the Orthodox Church in America.

Reports of sexual harassment may be made verbally or in writing. A form for submission of a written complaint is attached to this Policy, and all employees are encouraged to use this complaint form. Employees who are reporting sexual harassment on behalf of other employees should use the complaint form and note that it is on another employee's behalf.

Employees, paid or unpaid interns or non-employees who believe they have been a target of sexual harassment may also seek assistance in other available forums, as explained below in the section on Legal Protections.

## **Supervisory Responsibilities**

All supervisors and managers who receive a complaint or information about suspected sexual harassment, observe what may be sexually harassing behavior or for any reason suspect that sexual harassment is occurring, **are required** to report such suspected sexual harassment to the Chancellor of the Orthodox Church in America.

In addition to being subject to discipline if they engaged in sexually harassing conduct themselves, supervisors and managers will be subject to discipline for failing to report suspected sexual harassment or otherwise knowingly allowing sexual harassment to continue.

Supervisors and managers will also be subject to discipline for engaging in any retaliation.

## **Complaint and Investigation of Sexual Harassment**

**All** complaints or information about sexual harassment will be investigated, whether that information was reported in verbal or written form. Investigations will be conducted in a timely manner, and will be confidential to the extent possible.

An investigation of any complaint, information or knowledge of suspected sexual harassment will be prompt and thorough, commenced immediately and completed as soon as possible. The investigation will be kept confidential to the extent possible. All persons involved, including complainants, witnesses and alleged harassers will be accorded due process, as outlined below, to protect their rights to a fair and impartial investigation.

Any employee may be required to cooperate as needed in an investigation of suspected sexual harassment. The Orthodox Church in America will not tolerate retaliation against employees who file complaints, support another's complaint or participate in an investigation regarding a violation of this policy.

While the process may vary from case to case, investigations should be done in accordance with the following steps:

- Upon receipt of complaint, the Chancellor of The Orthodox Church in America will conduct an immediate review of the allegations, and take any interim actions (e.g., instructing the respondent to refrain from communications with the complainant), as appropriate. If complaint is verbal, encourage the individual to complete the "Complaint Form" in writing. If he or she refuses, prepare a Complaint Form based on the verbal reporting.
- If documents, emails or phone records are relevant to the investigation, take steps to obtain and preserve them.
- Request and review all relevant documents, including all electronic communications.
- Interview all parties involved, including any relevant witnesses;
- Create a written documentation of the investigation (such as a letter, memo or email), which contains the following:
  - o A list of all documents reviewed, along with a detailed summary of relevant documents;
  - o A list of names of those interviewed, along with a detailed summary of their statements;
  - o A timeline of events;
  - o A summary of prior relevant incidents, reported or unreported; and
  - The basis for the decision and final resolution of the complaint, together with any corrective action(s).
- Keep the written documentation and associated documents in a secure and confidential location.
- Promptly notify the individual who reported and the individual(s) about whom the complaint was made of the final determination and implement any corrective actions identified in the written document.
- Inform the individual who reported of the right to file a complaint or charge externally as outlined in the next section.

## **Legal Protections And External Remedies**

Sexual harassment is not only prohibited by The Orthodox Church in America but is also prohibited by state, federal, and, where applicable, local law.

Aside from the internal process at The Orthodox Church in America, employees may also choose to pursue legal remedies with the following governmental entities. While a private attorney is not required to file a complaint with a governmental agency, you may seek the legal advice of an attorney.

In addition to those outlined below, employees in certain industries may have additional legal protections.

#### **State Human Rights Law (HRL)**

The Human Rights Law (HRL), codified as N.Y. Executive Law, art. 15, § 290 et seq., applies to all employers in New York State with regard to sexual harassment, and protects employees, paid or unpaid interns and non-employees, regardless of immigration status. A complaint alleging violation of the Human Rights Law may be filed either with the Division of Human Rights (DHR) or in New York State Supreme Court.

Complaints with DHR may be filed any time **within one year** of the harassment. If an individual did not file at DHR, they can sue directly in state court under the HRL, **within three years** of the alleged sexual harassment. An individual may not file with DHR if they have already filed a HRL complaint in state court.

Complaining internally to The Orthodox Church in America does not extend your time to file with DHR or in court. The one year or three years is counted from date of the most recent incident of harassment.

You do not need an attorney to file a complaint with DHR, and there is no cost to file with DHR.

DHR will investigate your complaint and determine whether there is probable cause to believe that sexual harassment has occurred. Probable cause cases are forwarded to a public hearing before an administrative law judge. If sexual harassment is found after a hearing, DHR has the power to award relief, which varies but may include requiring your employer to take action to stop the harassment, or redress the damage caused, including paying of monetary damages, attorney's fees and civil fines.

DHR's main office contact information is: NYS Division of Human Rights, One Fordham Plaza, Fourth Floor, Bronx, New York 10458. You may call (718) 741-8400 or visit: www.dhr.ny.gov.

Contact DHR at (888) 392-3644 or visit <u>dhr.ny.gov/complaint</u> for more information about filing a complaint. The website has a complaint form that can be downloaded, filled out, notarized and mailed to DHR. The website also contains contact information for DHR's regional offices across New York State.

## Civil Rights Act of 1964

The United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) enforces federal anti-discrimination laws, including Title VII of the 1964 federal Civil Rights Act (codified as 42 U.S.C. § 2000e et seq.). An individual can file a complaint with the EEOC anytime within 300 days from the harassment. There is no cost to file a complaint with the EEOC. The EEOC will investigate the complaint, and determine whether there is reasonable cause to believe that discrimination has occurred, at which point the EEOC will issue a Right to Sue letter permitting the individual to file a complaint in federal court.

The EEOC does not hold hearings or award relief, but may take other action including pursuing cases in federal court on behalf of complaining parties. Federal courts may award remedies if discrimination is found to have occurred. In general, private employers must have at least 15 employees to come within the jurisdiction of the EEOC.

An employee alleging discrimination at work can file a "Charge of Discrimination." The EEOC has district, area, and field offices where complaints can be filed. Contact the EEOC by calling 1-800-669-4000 (TTY: 1-800-669-6820), visiting their website at www.eeoc.gov or via email at info@eeoc.gov.

If an individual filed an administrative complaint with DHR, DHR will file the complaint with the EEOC to preserve the right to proceed in federal court.

#### **Local Protections**

Many localities enforce laws protecting individuals from sexual harassment and discrimination. An individual should contact the county, city or town in which they live to find out if such a law exists. For example, employees who work in New York City may file complaints of sexual harassment with the New York City Commission on Human Rights. Contact their main office at Law Enforcement Bureau of the NYC Commission on Human Rights, 40 Rector Street, 10th Floor, New York, New York; call 311 or (212) 306-7450; or visit www.nyc.gov/html/cchr/html/home/home.shtml.

#### **Contact the Local Police Department**

If the harassment involves unwanted physical touching, coerced physical confinement or coerced sex acts, the conduct may constitute a crime. Contact the local police department.

#### **Orthodox Church in America**

New York State Labor Law requires all employers to adopt a sexual harassment prevention policy that includes a complaint form to report alleged incidents of sexual harassment.

If you believe that you have been subjected to sexual harassment, you are encouraged to complete this form and submit it to the Chancellor of the Orthodox Church in America. You will not be retaliated against for filing a complaint.

If you are more comfortable reporting verbally or in another manner, your employer should complete this form, provide you with a copy and follow its sexual harassment prevention policy by investigating the claims as outlined at the end of this form.

For additional resources, visit: ny.gov/programs/combating-sexual-harassment-workplace

#### COMPLAINANT INFORMATION

Na	me:				
Wo	ork Address:	Work Phone:			
Job	Title:	Email:			
Select Preferred Communication Method:		☐Email ☐Phone ☐In person			
SUPERVISORY INFORMATION					
Im	Immediate Supervisor's Name:				
Title:					
Work Phone:		Work Address:			
COMPLAINT INFORMATION					
1.	Your complaint of Sexual Harassment is made about:				
	Name:	Title:			
	Work Address:	Work Phone:			
	Relationship to you: Supervisor Supervisor	bordinate Co-Worker Other			

2.	Please describe what happened and how it is affecting you and your work. Please use additional sheets of paper if necessary and attach any relevant documents or evidence.
3.	Date(s) sexual harassment occurred:
	Is the sexual harassment continuing?   Yes   No
4.	Please list the name and contact information of any witnesses or individuals who may have information related to your complaint:
Th	e last question is optional, but may help the investigation.
5.	Have you previously complained or provided information (verbal or written) about related incidents? If yes, when and to whom did you complain or provide information?
If :	you have retained legal counsel and would like us to work with them, please provide their contact information.
Sig	gnature: Date:
In	structions for Employers
If	you receive a complaint about alleged sexual harassment, follow your sexual harassment prevention policy.

An investigation involves:

- Speaking with the employee
- Speaking with the alleged harasser
- Interviewing witnesses
- Collecting and reviewing any related documents

While the process may vary from case to case, all allegations should be investigated promptly and resolved as quickly as possible. The investigation should be kept confidential to the extent possible.

Document the findings of the investigation and basis for your decision along with any corrective actions taken and notify the employee and the individual(s) against whom the complaint was made. This may be done via email.



## Sexual harassment is against the law.

All employees have a legal right to a workplace free from sexual harassment, and the Orthodox Church in America is committed to maintaining a workplace free from sexual harassment.

Per New York State Law, the Orthodox Church in America has a sexual harassment prevention policy in place that protects you. This policy applies to all employees, paid or unpaid interns and non-employees in our workplace, regardless of immigration status.

If you believe you have been subjected to or witnessed sexual harassment, you are encouraged to report the harassment to a supervisor, manager or the Chancellor of the Orthodox Church in America so we can take action.

Our complete policy may be found: <a href="https://oca.org/about/documents">https://oca.org/about/documents</a>

Our Complaint Form may be found: https://oca.org/about/documents

If you have questions and to make a complaint, please contact:

## **Chancellor of the Orthodox Church in America**

Email chancellor@oca.org or call 516-922-0550 ext. 130

For more information and additional resources, please visit:

www.ny.gov/programs/combating-sexual-harassment-workplace

## **Sexual Harassment Prevention EMPLOYER TOOLKIT**



## **Introduction**

New York State is a national leader in the fight against sexual harassment and is partnering with employers across the state to further our commitment to ending sexual harassment in the workplace.

This toolkit will provide you step-by-step guidance to implementing the required training and sexual harassment policy, directing you to resources available through New York State and the relevant state agencies.

These resources are all available on the State's Combating Sexual Harassment in the Workplace website: www.ny.gov/programs/combating-sexual-harassment-workplace.

## What are the New Requirements?

The 2019 New York State Budget includes the nation's strongest and most comprehensive sexual harassment package, including new resources and requirements for employers. There are two key components under this law:

## **Policy** (see pages 2-4)

Under the new law, every employer in New York State is **required to establish a sexual harassment prevention policy**. The Department of Labor in consultation with the Division of Human Rights has established a model sexual harassment prevention policy for employers to adopt, available at www.ny.gov/programs/combating-sexual-harassment-workplace. Or, employers may adopt a similar policy that meets or exceeds the minimum standards of the model policy (www.ny.gov/combating-sexual-harassment-workplace/employers#model-sexual-harassment-policy).

#### **Training** (see pages 5-6)

In addition, every employer in New York State is **required to provide employees with sexual harassment prevention training**. The Department of Labor in consultation with the Division of Human Rights has established this model training for employers to use. Or, employers may use a training program that meets or exceeds the minimum standards of the model training (www.ny.gov/combating-sexual-harassment-workplace/employers#training-requirements).

## **Policy: Implementation**

All employers must adopt and provide a sexual harassment prevention policy to all employees by **October 9, 2018**.

#### If you want to adopt the State Model Policy:

- The State Model Policy contains fields for you to list your business name and the name/contact
  information for the individual(s) you have designated to receive sexual harassment complaints.
  Fill in those fields and apply whatever branding (e.g., logos, etc.) you like. You may choose to
  modify the policy to reflect the work of your organization and industry specific scenarios or best
  practices.
- Distribute the policy to all employees in writing or electronically. Employers are also
  encouraged to have employees acknowledge receipt of the policy, and to post a copy of the
  policy where employees can easily access it.

#### If you already have a policy and do NOT want to adopt the State Model Policy:

- Use the checklist on the next page to ensure your policy meets or exceeds the required minimum standards.
- If it already meets those standards, ensure it already has been or will be distributed to employees by October 9, 2018. All future new employees should receive the policy before commencing work.
- Ensure your complaint form and process are up to date and that employees are made aware
  of it as part of the policy.
- If you do not have a complaint form, a model is available online: <a href="www.ny.gov/combating-sexual-harassment-workplace/employers#model-complaint-form">www.ny.gov/combating-sexual-harassment-workplace/employers#model-complaint-form</a>
- Review the online FAQs, which outline numerous common questions that may arise: <u>www.ny.gov/combating-sexual-harassment-workplace/combating-sexual-harassment-frequently-asked-questions</u>
- Distribute a copy of your finalized policy to all employees in writing. This may be done
  electronically, for example, by email. Employers are also encouraged to have employees
  acknowledge receipt of the policy, and to post a copy of the policy where employees can easily
  access it.
- You are also encouraged to provide the policy and training to anyone providing services in the workplace.

#### If you do NOT yet have a policy:

- Download the model policy, available online: <a href="www.ny.gov/combating-sexual-harassment-workplace/employers#model-sexual-harassment-policy">www.ny.gov/combating-sexual-harassment-policy</a>
- Customize the document by filling in the employer name, person or office designated to receive complaints and appropriate contact information, as highlighted throughout.
- You may choose to modify the policy to reflect the work of your organization and industry specific scenarios or best practices.
- Review the online FAQs, which outline numerous common questions that may arise: <u>www.ny.gov/combating-sexual-harassment-workplace/combating-sexual-harassment-frequently-asked-questions</u>
- Distribute a copy of your finalized policy to all employees in writing. This may be done
  electronically, for example, by email. Employers are also encouraged to have employees
  acknowledge receipt of the policy, and to post a copy of the policy where employees can easily
  access it.
- You are also encouraged to provide the policy and training to anyone providing services in the workplace.

## **Policy: Minimum Standards Checklist**

An employer that does not use the State model policy -- developed by the State Department of Labor and State Division of Human Rights -- must ensure their policy meets or exceeds the following minimum standards.

The	policy <b>must</b> :
	Prohibit sexual harassment consistent with guidance issued by the Department of Labor in consultation with the Division of Human Rights;
	Provide examples of prohibited conduct;
	Include information concerning the federal and state statutory provisions concerning sexual harassment, remedies available to victims of sexual harassment, and a statement that there may be applicable local laws;
	Include a complaint form;
	Include a procedure for the timely and confidential investigation of complaints that ensures due process for all parties;
	Inform employees of their rights of redress and all available forums for adjudicating sexual harassment complaints administratively and judicially;
	Clearly state that sexual harassment is considered a form of employee misconduct and that sanctions will be enforced against individuals engaging in sexual harassment and against supervisory and managerial personnel who knowingly allow such behavior to continue; and
	Clearly state that retaliation against individuals who complain of sexual harassment or who testify or assist in any investigation or proceeding involving sexual harassment is unlawful.

## **Training: Instructions for Employers**

All employers are required to train current employees by October 9, 2019. New employees should be trained as quickly as possible. In addition, all employees must complete sexual harassment prevention training at least once per year. This may be based on calendar year, anniversary of each employee's start date or any other date the employer chooses.

#### If you already have a training:

- Use the checklist on the next page to ensure your training meets or exceeds the required minimum standards.
- If your existing training does not, it should be updated to include all the listed elements. You may also provide supplemental training to employers who have already completed the training to ensure they have received training that meets or exceeds the minimum standards.
- Review the online FAQs, which outline numerous common questions that may arise: <u>www.ny.gov/combating-sexual-harassment-workplace/combating-sexual-harassment-frequently-asked-questions</u>

#### If you do NOT yet have a training:

- Download the model training, available online: <a href="www.ny.gov/combating-sexual-harassment-workplace/employers#training-requirements">workplace/employers#training-requirements</a>.
  - You may execute this training in a variety of ways, including live in person, via webinar or on an individual basis, with feedback as outlined in the training guidance document.
  - Depending on how you choose to present your training, you may utilize different available resources. For example, if you do a live presentation, you should download the PowerPoint and read the script that appears in the "Notes" of each slide.
  - If you choose to train employees with the video, you may direct them to watch it online or download it and show to a group, after which you would provide them a mechanism for feedback, as outlined in the training guidance document.
- Customize the training document(s) and modify them to reflect the work of your organization, including industry specific scenarios or best practices.
- The training should detail any internal process employees are encouraged to use to complain and include the contact information for the specific name(s) and office(s) with which employees alleging harassment should file their complaints.
- You may wish to include additional interactive activities as part of the training, including an opening activity, role playing or group discussion(s).
- Review the online FAQs, which outline numerous common questions that may arise: <u>www.ny.gov/combating-sexual-harassment-workplace/combating-sexual-harassment-frequently-asked-questions</u>

## **Training: Minimum Standards Checklist**

An employer that does not use this model training -- developed by the State Department of Labor and State Division of Human Rights -- must ensure their training meets or exceeds the following minimum standards.

The	training <b>must</b> :
	☐ Be interactive (see the model training guidance document for specific recommendations);
	Include an explanation of sexual harassment consistent with guidance issued by the Department of Labor in consultation with the Division of Human Rights;
	Include examples of unlawful sexual harassment;
	Include information concerning the federal and state statutory provisions concerning sexual harassment and remedies available to targets of sexual harassment;
	☐ Include information concerning employees' rights of redress and all available forums for adjudicating complaints; and
	☐ Include information addressing conduct by supervisors and additional responsibilities for supervisors.