

# AODA – Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (IASR) Employment Policy

#### Intent

This policy is intended to meet the requirements of the <u>Integrated Accessibility</u> <u>Standards, Ontario Regulation 191/11</u> for the Employment Standard set forth under the <u>Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005</u>. This policy applies to the provision of accessible employment services for persons with disabilities.

All employment services provided by shall follow the principles of dignity, independence, integration and equal opportunity.

#### **Definitions**

<u>Accessible Formats</u>—Include but are not limited to large print, recorded audio and electronic formats, braille and other formats usable by persons with disabilities.

<u>Communication Supports</u> – Include but are not limited to captioning, alternative and augmentative communication supports, plain language, sign language and other supports that facilitate effective communications.

<u>Performance Management</u> – Activities related to assessing and improving employee performance, productivity and effectiveness with the goal of facilitating employee success.

<u>Conversion Ready</u> – an electronic or digital format that facilitates conversion into an acceptable format

<u>Redeployment</u> – The reassignment of employees to other departments or jobs within the organization as an alternative to layoff, when a particular job or department has been eliminated by the organization.

# General Principles

In accordance with the *Integrated Accessibility Standards*, *Ontario Regulation 191/11*, this policy addresses the following:

- A. General Requirements
- B. Recruitment, Assessment and Selection
- C. Accessible Formats and Communication Supports for Employees
- D. Workplace Emergency Response Information
- E. Documented Individual Accommodation Plans
- F. Performance Management and Career Development and Advancement



- G. Return to Work
- H. Redeployment
- I. Review

#### A. General Requirements

General requirements that apply across (2) standards, Information and Communications and Employment.

#### Establishment of Accessibility Policies and Plans

Labor Tek has developed policies governing how it will achieve accessibility through these requirements. Labor Tek has included a statement of its commitment to meeting the accessibility needs of persons with disabilities in a timely manner in its policies. This has been achieved through documentation in Labor Tek's policies and making these documents publicly available, in an accessible format, upon request.

Labor Tek has documented a multi-year accessibility plan outlining its strategy to prevent and remove barriers and meet its requirements under the IASR regulation. Labor Tek will post its accessibility plans on its website and provide the plan in an accessible format upon request. Labor Tek will review and update its accessibility plans once every five (5) years in consultation with persons with disabilities or an advisory committee. Annual status reports will be prepared that will report on the progress of the steps taken to implement 's accessibility plan. This status report will be posted on our website. If requested, the report shall be created in an accessible format.

## Procuring or Acquiring Goods and Services, or Facilities

Labor Tek will incorporate accessibility criteria and features when procuring or acquiring goods, services or facilities. The only exception is in cases where it is impracticable to do so.

#### **Training Requirements**

Labor Tek will provide training for its employees regarding the IASR and the Ontario Human Rights Code .

# B. Recruitment, Assessment and Selection

Labor Tek will make every reasonable effort to accommodate job applicants who have disabilities. Applicants will be informed that these accommodations are available, upon request, for the interview process and other candidate selection methods.

# C. Accessible Formats and Communication Supports for Employees



If an employee with a disability requests it, Labor Tek will make every reasonable effort to provide or arrange for the provision of accessible formats and communication supports for the following:

- 1. Information needed in order to perform their job; and
- 2. Information that is generally available to all employees in the workplace.

# D. Workplace Emergency Response Information

Where required, Labor Tek will create individual workplace emergency response information for employees with disabilities. This information will take into account the unique challenges created by the individual's disability and the physical nature of the workplace, and will be created in consultation with the employee.

This information will be reviewed when:

- The employee moves to a different physical location in the organization;
- The employee's overall accommodation needs or plans are reviewed; and/or
- reviews general emergency response policies.

#### E. Documented Individual Accommodation Plans

Labor Tek will develop and have in place written processes for documenting individual accommodation plans for employees with disabilities. The process for the development of these accommodation plans should include specific elements, including:

- The ways in which the employee can participate in the development of the plan;
- The means by which the employee is assessed on an individual basis:
- The ways that an employee can request an evaluation by an outside medical expert, or other experts (at the employer's expense) to determine if accommodation can be achieved, or how it can be achieved;
- The steps taken to protect the privacy of the employee's personal information;
- The frequency with which the individual accommodation plan should be reviewed or updated and how it should be done; and
- The means of providing the accommodation plan in an accessible format, based on the employee's accessibility needs.

# F. Performance Management and Career Development and Advancement

Labor Tek will consider the accessibility needs of employees with disabilities when implementing performance management processes, or when offering career development or advancement opportunities.

Individual accommodation plans will be consulted, as required.



#### G. Return to Work

Labor Tek will develop and implement return to work processes for employees who are absent from work due to a disability and require disability-related accommodation(s) in order to return to work.

The return to work process will outline the steps will take to facilitate the employee's return to work and shall use documented individual accommodation plans (as described in section 28 of the regulation).

# H. Redeployment

The accessibility needs of employees with disabilities will be taken into account in the event of redeployment.

Individual accommodation plans will be consulted, as required.

Contact Us:

If you have any questions or concerns about this policy or its related procedures please contact:

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