



# County Technical Assistance Service

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## Race/Color Discrimination

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Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the CTAS electronic library known as e-Li. This online library is maintained daily by CTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee county government.

We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with county government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other e-Li material.

Sincerely,

The University of Tennessee  
County Technical Assistance Service  
226 Capitol Blvd. Suite 400  
Nashville, TN. 37219  
615-532-3555 phone  
615-532-3699 fax  
[ctas@tennessee.edu](mailto:ctas@tennessee.edu)  
[www.ctas.tennessee.edu](http://www.ctas.tennessee.edu)

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## Race/Color Discrimination

**Reference Number:** CTAS-1051

In addition to discrimination based directly on race or color, Title VII prohibits employment decisions based on stereotypes or assumptions about abilities, traits or the performance of individuals of certain racial groups. Title VII prohibits both intentional discrimination and neutral job policies that disproportionately exclude minorities and that are not job related.

Title VII prohibits discrimination on the basis of immutable characteristics associated with race, such as skin color, hair texture or certain facial features, even though not all members of the same race share the same characteristic. Title VII also prohibits discrimination on the basis of a condition that predominantly affects one race, unless the practice is job related and consistent with business necessity.

Minority employees cannot be segregated by physically isolating them from other employees or from customer contact. It also is illegal to exclude minorities from certain positions, or to group or categorize employees or jobs so that certain jobs are generally held by minorities.

Coding applications or resumes to indicate an applicant's race can be evidence of discrimination if minorities are excluded from employment or from certain positions. Also, requesting information that discloses or tends to indicate an applicant's race suggests that race will be unlawfully used in hiring decisions.

[EEOC Facts about Race/Color Discrimination](#)

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**Source URL:** <https://eli.ctas.tennessee.edu/reference/racecolor-discrimination>

