



## ANTI-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC) represents more than 15,000 college counseling and admission professionals nationwide. As education professionals dedicated to helping all students make the transition to postsecondary education, NACAC opposes legislation or other policies that allows for discrimination in any form.

NACAC is driven by a mission to foster ethical college admission practices, and is guided by the Code of Ethics and Professional Practices (CEPP). NACAC's core values, as outline in the CEPP, state that *"our members have a responsibility to treat one another and students in a fundamentally fair and equitable manner. Our institutional and individual members strive to eliminate from the education system bias based on race, ethnicity, creed, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, age, political affiliation, national origin, or disability. We view this as fundamental to our responsibility as educators."* The CEPP encourages guidelines that help maintain a college admission environment that believes in the dignity, worth, and potential of every student; it is critical that federal and state governments also support and produce policies that promote college access for students from all backgrounds and prohibit legislation or policies that promote discrimination.

In recent years, many states have introduced legislation that would negatively impact students and faculty who are transgender or are part of the LGBTQ community. If signed into law, these bills, often referred to as "bathroom bills," would violate the privacy and safety of our students, educators, and others. NACAC believes that these discriminatory bills, and other bills like them, would create an unsafe environment for students and professionals, and could prevent NACAC members from providing quality post-secondary counseling to students of all backgrounds.

Legislation and other policies that single out students because of their race, religion, sexual orientation, or gender identity may lead to a variety of negative consequences, such as:

- Unsafe learning and/or working environments
- Prioritizing the needs of some students over other students
- Allow for the bullying of individuals
- Negative educational outcomes
- Lack of access to quality counseling regarding post-secondary plans and/or financial aid

NACAC unequivocally believes that our members have a responsibility to *treat one another and students in a fundamentally fair and equitable manner*. Therefore, we oppose legislation or other policies that allow for discrimination in any form.