



# **CHART OF FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT LAWS**

**The University of Texas School of Law  
2018 Essential Employment Law:  
A Practical Course in The Basics**

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## FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT LAWS AND REGULATIONS

	FEDERAL LAW	ENFORCEMENT AGENCY	COVERED EMPLOYERS	SUMMARY OF LAW
1	<b>Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA)</b>	Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)	20 or more employees	Prohibits discrimination in all terms, conditions, and privileges of employment based on age. Applies to individuals age 40 and older.
2	<b>Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA)</b>	EEOC	15 or more employees	Prohibits discrimination in all terms, conditions, and privileges of employment based on an individual's physical or mental disability.
3	<b>ADA Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA)</b>	EEOC	15 or more employees	Liberalizes the interpretation of the ADA and instructs employers to adopt a broad standard when determining whether an individual is disabled.
4	<b>Civil Rights Act of 1991</b>	EEOC	15 or more employees	Amends Title VII and the ADA to give parties complaining of intentional discrimination the right to a jury trial. Also authorizes the award of <u>punitive</u> and <u>compensatory</u> damages.
5	<b>Consolidated Omnibus Reconciliation Act (COBRA)</b>	Internal Revenue Service	20 or more employees	Employers must extend the option of continued health insurance to employee, spouse and dependents who otherwise would lose such coverage because of the employee's termination or some other qualifying event.
6	<b>Consumer Credit Protection Act, Title III</b>	Department of Labor (DOL) (Wage and Hour Division)	All employers (regardless of size)	Protects employees from being discharged by their employers because their wages have been garnished for any one debt and limits the amount of employees' earnings which may be garnished in any one week. Restricts garnishment withholding to 25% of disposable income. Limits employer actions with respect to discharge.
7	<b>Davis Bacon Act</b>	DOL (Wage and Hour Division)	Employers with contracts in federally financed construction more than \$2,000	Employer must pay specified minimum hourly rates.
8	<b>Driver's Privacy Protection Act of 1994</b>	Department of Justice (DOJ)	All employers	Regulates third-party access to individual driving record information.

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9	<b>Employee Polygraph Protection Act of 1988 (EPPA)</b>	DOL (Wage and Hour Division)	All employers except those in security of pharmaceutical industries	Prohibits employers from using lie detector tests either for preemployment screening or during employment. Testing is permitted only in extremely limited circumstances.
10	<b>Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA)</b>	DOL (Office of Labor-Management & Welfare Pension Reports)	All employers	Requires extensive pension and welfare plan information, plus disclosure of information to plan participants. Gives protection and guarantees to employees covered by private pension and welfare plans. Sets standards for employee participation, funding methods and establishes fiduciary responsibilities.
11	<b>Equal Pay Act of 1963</b>	EEOC	All employers subject to the FLSA	Prohibits pay differentials based on sex. This means that employers must pay equal wages for work that requires equal skill, effort, and responsibility and is performed under similar working conditions.
12	<b>Executive Order 11246</b>	DOL (Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs)	Employers with government contracts more than \$50,000 and over 50 employees	Prohibits discrimination in all terms, conditions, and privileges of employment against applicants and employees. Requires affirmative action to ensure equal employment opportunities without regard to race, sex, color, religion, or national origin.
13	<b>Fair Credit Reporting Act</b>	Federal Trade Commission	All employers	Employer must comply with all the notice, disclosure, and consent requirements to obtain and use investigative consumer credit reports in making an employment decision.
14	<b>Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA)</b>	DOL (Wage and Hour Division)	All employers	Employer must pay prevailing minimum wage and overtime

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## Title search: Chart of Federal Employment Laws

Also available as part of the eCourse

[The Basics of "At Will" Employment, Discrimination and Harassment, and Retaliation](#)

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the  
2018 Essential Employment Law session

"Texas is an "At Will" State... So Why Worry?"