Human Resources Compliance Guide for Nonprofits





Introduction

Compliance is an essential aspect of Human Resources (HR) management in all sectors, including nonprofits. It helps in minimizing legal risks and maintaining a healthy, respectful, and productive working environment. This guide focuses on compliance in onboarding, recruiting, and managing employee handbooks in the nonprofit sector.



Onboarding

Onboarding is the process of integrating new employees into the organization and its culture. Onboarding is often confused with orientation. While orientation is necessary for completing paperwork and other routine tasks, onboarding is a comprehensive process involving management and other employees and can last several months. When implementing a formal onboarding program, employers should answer some key questions to determine the success of the onboarding process.

- When will onboarding start?
- How long will it last?
- What impression do you want new hires to walk away with at the end of the first day?
- What do new employees need to know about the culture and work environment?
- What role will HR play in the process? What about direct managers? Co-workers?
- What kind of goals do you want to set for new employees?
- How will you gather feedback on the program and measure its success?



Documentation

The importance of proper documentation during the onboarding process cannot be overstated. It ensures legal compliance and offers protection for both the organization and the employee. Here are the critical documents that need to be completed:

- 1. **Job Application Form**: This document should have been filled out during the recruitment process, but it's crucial to keep it on file. The application should contain the applicant's signature affirming that all the information provided is accurate.
- 2. **IRS Form W-4**: This form is used to determine the amount of federal income tax to withhold from the employee's paycheck. It must be completed and kept on file. Nonprofits, though often tax-exempt, still need to withhold income tax for their employees.
- 3. Form I-9, Employment Eligibility
 Verification: This U.S. Citizenship and
 Immigration Services form verifies the identity
 and employment authorization of individuals
 hired for employment in the United States.
- 4. **State Tax Withholding Form**: Depending on your state, you may need to withhold state income taxes from your employees' pay. Check with your state's taxation agency for specific forms or requirements.
- Benefit Enrollment Forms: If you offer benefits like health insurance, retirement plans, or flexible spending accounts, you'll need forms for employees to enroll in these programs.
- 6. **Emergency Contact Information**: This form gathers necessary information about who should be contacted if there's an emergency involving the employee.
- 7. **Acknowledgment of Receipt of Employee Handbook**: Employees should sign a statement acknowledging that they received the handbook, read and understood its contents, and agree to comply with the policies.
- 8. **Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs) or Confidentiality Agreements**: If employees will have access to confidential information, they should sign an NDA.
- 9. **Job Descriptions and Contracts**: These should outline the roles, responsibilities, and terms of employment.

All these documents must be stored securely to maintain confidentiality and should be easily accessible for reference or in case of audits. Always ensure to update the documents whenever there are changes in the information or when required by law.



Job Descriptions

Job descriptions play a crucial role during the onboarding process as they set clear expectations for the new employee, guide their work activities, and provide a basis for measuring job performance.

Here's what you need to include in a comprehensive job description:

- 1. **Job Title**: The title should accurately reflect the nature of the job and the duties that the employee will be performing.
- Department/Division: Indicate the department or division where the job is located within the organization.
 This helps the new hire understand where their role fits within the broader organizational structure.
- 3. **Reporting Structure**: Clearly indicate to whom the new hire will report and any positions that report to them. This helps in understanding the chain of command and their role within it.
- 4. **Job Purpose/Summary**: Briefly describe the main purpose of the job. This should provide a high-level overview of why the job exists and how it contributes to the overall mission of the nonprofit.
- 5. **Key Responsibilities and Duties**:
 List the primary job tasks and
 responsibilities. Be specific about what
 the employee is expected to do and the outcomes they are expected to achieve.
- 6. **Performance Expectations**: Indicate the standards or metrics that will be used to evaluate the employee's performance. This gives the new hire clear goals to strive for.
- 7. **Skills and Qualifications**: Outline the necessary skills, education, certifications, and experience required for the role. This can include both hard skills (like proficiency in a specific software) and soft skills (like communication or leadership abilities).
- 8. **Work Environment and Physical Requirements**: Describe the work setting and any physical demands of the job. For example, if the job involves lifting heavy items or standing for extended periods, these should be stated.
- 9. **Terms of Employment**: If applicable, specify whether the job is full-time, part-time, temporary, or permanent. Also, include the work schedule and any travel requirements.
- 10. **Equal Opportunity Statement**: Reiterate your organization's commitment to equal opportunity employment. This can help foster an inclusive culture from the start.



A well-crafted job description is not only a fundamental document during the onboarding process, but it's also a vital tool for recruitment, performance management, and career development. Remember, as duties and responsibilities evolve, job descriptions should be updated to reflect these changes.

Orientation

Orientation is a fundamental aspect of the onboarding process. It's an opportunity for new hires to familiarize themselves with the organization's culture, mission, values, expectations, and policies, thereby easing their transition into their new roles.

The welcoming of new employees is a collaborative effort that includes human resources (HR), the hiring department and other teams throughout your organization. Preparing for new hires and providing appropriate guidance and information during the first several days of employment can ensure success. This short-term orientation process is not a replacement for onboarding of employees to their specific role and department, which is a more detailed and longer process.

Here's a guide for conducting an effective orientation:

- Welcome and Introduction: Start the orientation with a warm welcome. Introduce new employees to the team, managers, and key people within the organization. This can be done in person or virtually, depending on the organization's structure.
- Overview of the Organization: Provide a comprehensive introduction to your nonprofit. This includes the mission, history, organizational structure, culture, values, and any key achievements. This will help new hires understand the big picture and how their roles contribute to the overall mission.
- 3. **Review of Job Role and Expectations**: Discuss their job description and performance expectations. This is an opportunity to clarify any doubts they might have about their roles and responsibilities.
- 4. **Policies and Procedures**: Review key organizational policies, procedures, and codes of conduct. This includes an overview of the employee handbook highlighting attendance, dress code, anti-discrimination, and harassment policies, among others. Also, explain how to report concerns or policy violations.





- 5. **Review of Benefits and Compensation**: Explain your organization's benefits package, including health insurance, retirement plans, paid time off, etc. Also, discuss the payroll schedule and the method of payment.
- 6. **Workplace Safety and Emergency Procedures**: If applicable, provide necessary safety training and outline emergency evacuation procedures.
- 7. **Tour of the Facility**: If your organization has a physical location, provide a tour. Show them important areas like their workspace, restrooms, lunchroom, emergency exits, etc.
- 8. **Training and Development Opportunities**: Discuss any available professional development or training opportunities. This could include webinars, workshops, conferences, or other resources relevant to their role.
- 9. **Mentor or Buddy System**: Assigning a mentor or buddy to new hires can be incredibly beneficial. This person can serve as a go-to resource for any questions or concerns and can assist with integrating the new hire into the team.
- 10. **Open Forum for Questions**: Always allow time for new hires to ask questions. This not only addresses their immediate concerns but also encourages open communication.

An effective orientation sets the tone for a positive employment experience. It not only aids in reducing initial confusion and anxiety but also increases job satisfaction and reduces turnover. Remember, orientation is an ongoing process and not just a one-day event. Continue to check in with new hires regularly during their initial weeks and months to ensure a smooth transition.

Training

Training is an integral component of the onboarding process as it helps new employees get up to speed with the necessary skills and knowledge to perform their roles effectively. Below are key areas to focus on when developing your onboarding training program:

- Role-Specific Training: This includes skills and knowledge related specifically to the job role. It might involve training on specific software applications, technical tools, client management, or any other skills critical for the role.
- Organizational Policies and Procedures Training: Provide thorough training on your
 organization's internal policies and procedures. This should cover all necessary aspects such as
 communication protocols, decision-making processes, handling of confidential information, and
 reporting systems, among others.





- 3. **Culture and Values Training**: This training should introduce new hires to the organization's culture and core values. It's essential for ensuring alignment and fostering a sense of belonging.
- 4. **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Training**: These sessions should aim to promote a diverse, equitable, and inclusive workplace. They should cover anti-discrimination and anti-harassment policies, along with your organization's commitment to fairness and respect.
- 5. **Compliance Training**: Depending on the nature of the nonprofit, there may be specific legal compliance requirements to consider. For instance, training may be required in areas such as data privacy, occupational safety and health, or dealing with vulnerable populations.
- 6. **Soft Skills Training**: Depending on the role and the organization, it may be beneficial to include training on soft skills such as communication, teamwork, problem-solving, or leadership.
- 7. **Training on Nonprofit-Specific Topics**: Depending on the nature of your nonprofit, there may be topics specific to your mission or the sector that new hires should be trained in. For instance, a nonprofit focused on healthcare may require HIPAA training.
- 8. **Mentorship Programs**: Consider establishing a mentorship program for new hires. A more experienced team member can provide guidance, share insights, and assist the new hire during their initial months.

The training should be interactive and engaging, making use of various learning methodologies such as e-learning modules, classroom training, workshops, role-playing, and simulations. Remember to provide regular feedback during training to help new hires improve and adapt. After training is completed, assess its effectiveness in equipping employees with the necessary knowledge and skills. You may use quizzes, surveys, or on-the-job observations for this evaluation.

It's important to remember that onboarding is a continuous process. Training should not be a one-off event, but rather an ongoing process that helps employees continually improve and adapt to changes in the organization or their role.





Recruiting

Non-Discrimination

Non-discrimination is a fundamental principle that guides recruiting processes in all organizations, including nonprofits. It ensures fairness, promotes diversity, and safeguards the rights of all job applicants. The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) enforces federal laws that make it illegal to discriminate against a job applicant or an employee because of the person's race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy, gender identity, and sexual orientation), national origin, age (40 or older), disability, or genetic information.

Here's how to ensure non-discrimination in your recruiting process:

Job Postings: Avoid discriminatory language in job postings.
 Focus on the skills, qualifications, and competencies needed for the job rather than personal characteristics that could potentially discriminate against some candidates. For instance, phrases like "recent graduates preferred" could be seen as discriminatory towards older applicants.



- 2. **Recruiting Channels**: Use diverse recruitment channels to attract a wide range of candidates. This includes job boards, social media, career fairs, colleges, and recruitment agencies.
- 3. **Application and Interview Process**: Make sure your application and interview process is accessible and does not disadvantage any group. Questions about age, marital status, children, religion, national origin, disabilities, or other personal characteristics that are protected under the law should be avoided.
- 4. **Selection Criteria**: Use objective selection criteria based on the requirements of the job. The criteria should be consistently applied to all applicants.
- 5. **Training for Interviewers**: Provide training for your interviewers to help them understand what they can and cannot ask during interviews, and to ensure they evaluate candidates objectively.
- 6. **Reasonable Accommodations**: If a job applicant has a disability, they have the right to request reasonable accommodations for the application process.
- 7. **Record Keeping**: Maintain accurate records of your recruitment process. This includes applications, interview notes, and the reasons for selection/non-selection of candidates. These records can provide evidence of non-discriminatory practices if required.
- 8. **Regular Review**: Regularly review your recruitment policies and practices to ensure they remain non-discriminatory.

Promoting non-discrimination in your recruitment processes helps create a diverse and inclusive workplace, which can foster innovation, improve decision-making, and enhance the reputation of your nonprofit organization.

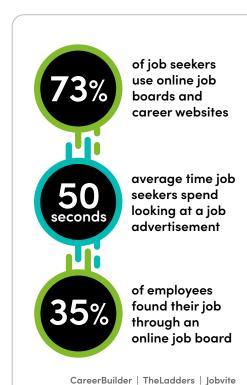


Job Advertisements

Creating effective job advertisements is a critical part of the recruitment process. A well-written job ad can attract high-quality applicants, saving you time and resources. Use this opportunity to reveal your organization's culture. Don't be afraid to add a little personality to the posting to capture the applicant's attention.

Here are some key elements to include:

- 1. **Job Title**: The job title should be specific and accurately reflect the nature of the job. It should match the type that job seekers would use when searching for opportunities.
- 2. **Organization Overview**: Give a brief introduction to your nonprofit organization, including its mission, values, and culture. Highlight any unique features or accomplishments that may attract potential applicants.
- 3. Job Description: Outline the key responsibilities and duties of the job. Make this detailed but concise, focusing on the most important aspects of the role. Take this one step further and define the ideal candidate. To achieve this, look at your best employees and define what makes them the best. Ask the hiring manager what the best employees do that's different than anyone else. Not only will this help to find the right skillsets but also helps in finding the right fit for the organization culture.
- 4. **Skills and Qualifications**: Clearly list the required and preferred skills, qualifications, and experiences. These may include education, technical skills, soft skills, certifications, and years of experience.



- 5. **Location**: Mention whether the job is remote, in-person, or a mix of both. If it's in-person, include the specific location.
- 6. **Type of Employment**: Specify whether the job is full-time, part-time, contract-based, temporary, or permanent.
- 7. **Compensation and Benefits**: While not always required, including a salary range can attract applicants who are comfortable with the stated compensation. Also, highlight benefits such as health insurance, retirement plans, professional development opportunities, etc.
- 8. **Application Process**: Clearly explain how to apply. Provide a direct link to the application form or the email address where resumes should be sent. State any documents that should accompany the application, like a cover letter or portfolio.
- 9. **Closing Date**: Include the application deadline if applicable.
- 10. **Equal Opportunity Statement**: Include a statement affirming that your organization is an equal opportunity employer. This communicates your commitment to fairness and inclusion.



Remember, the goal of a job ad is not just to attract a large number of applicants, but to attract the right applicants. The language and tone should reflect your organization's culture and appeal to the type of person who will succeed in the role. After the ad is live, monitor its performance and adjust as necessary to ensure you're reaching suitable candidates.

Background Checks

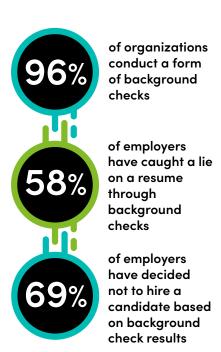
Conducting background checks is a critical part of the recruitment process, especially for nonprofits that often work with vulnerable populations. Background checks can help verify the information provided by a candidate, ensure a safe and secure workplace, and maintain the integrity of the organization. Here are some key points to consider:

- Consent: Before initiating any background check, obtain
 written consent from the candidate. This is a legal
 requirement under the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) in the United States. The request for
 consent should be clear and standalone; it cannot be hidden within another document like an
 employment application.
- 2. **Scope of the Background Check**: Depending on the role and the organization, background checks can include criminal history, credit reports, driving records, education and employment verification, and reference checks. Determine the appropriate

scope of the check based on job requirements. For instance, if the job involves driving, checking driving records would be appropriate.

- 3. **Use of Information**: Use the information gathered from a background check fairly and in compliance with the law. In the U.S, under the FCRA and EEOC guidelines, you cannot deny employment based solely on the findings of a background check without considering the nature and gravity of the offense, the time that has passed since the offense, and the relevance of the offense to the specific job.
- 4. **Provider Selection**: If you choose to use a third-party service to conduct background checks, make sure they comply with all relevant laws and guidelines. They should have a good reputation for accuracy and fairness and should ensure the privacy of the candidate's information.





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- 5. **Adverse Action Procedure**: If you decide not to hire a candidate based on the results of the background check (known as taking an "adverse action"), you are legally required to follow specific steps. This includes giving the candidate a pre-adverse action notice with a copy of the background report, waiting a reasonable time for them to respond, and then providing an adverse action notice if you decide not to hire them.
- 6. **Privacy**: Maintain the confidentiality of the information collected. Only those involved in the hiring process should have access to it, and it should be securely stored and eventually disposed of in compliance with privacy laws.
- 7. **Policy Development**: Develop a clear background check policy to ensure consistency and compliance. It should define when and how background checks are conducted and how the information is used.

By conducting background checks responsibly and legally, nonprofit organizations can make informed hiring decisions and ensure the safety and integrity of their operations.





Employee Handbooks

Policies

An employee handbook is a vital communication tool that outlines your organization's policies, procedures, and expectations. It's essential for orienting new hires and serving as a reference for all employees. It is also providing a means of protecting the organization against discrimination or unfair treatment claims. It is an easily accessible guide to the organization's policies and practices as well as an overview of the expectations of management.

Here are some key policies to include in your employee handbook:

- Welcome and Introduction: Start with a welcome message that introduces your organization's mission, values, and culture.
- 2. **Employment Policies**: Cover policies related to the employment relationship, including equal employment opportunity, anti-discrimination, and anti-harassment. Explain the classification of employees (e.g., full-time, part-time, exempt, non-exempt) and the at-will employment policy if applicable.
- 3. **Workplace Behavior**: Define the expected conduct in the workplace. This may include professional behavior, dress code, communication protocols, confidentiality, conflict of interest, and social media use.
- 4. **Compensation and Benefits**: Provide details about pay periods, overtime pay, benefits, and retirement plans.
- 5. **Work Hours and Attendance**: Outline expectations about work hours, attendance, punctuality, reporting of absences, flexible work arrangements, and policies on meal and rest breaks.
- 6. **Leave Policies**: Describe various leave policies including vacation, sick leave, paid holidays, family and medical leave, maternity and paternity leave, and any other leave provisions.
- 7. **Health and Safety**: Explain your organization's commitment to providing a safe and healthy work environment, emergency procedures, reporting of injuries or safety concerns, and any specific safety rules relevant to your nonprofit.
- 8. **Performance Evaluations and Employee Development**: Detail how and when performance reviews occur, the basis for promotions and salary adjustments, and available opportunities for training and development.





- 9. **Grievance Procedures**: Outline how employees can voice complaints or concerns, and how these will be resolved.
- 10. **Technology Use**: Provide guidelines on acceptable use of the organization's technology, including computers, email, internet, telephones, and cell phones. Include policies on data security and privacy.
- 11. **Termination of Employment**: Define procedures for voluntary and involuntary termination, including notice periods, exit interviews, and return of the organization's property.
- 12. **Acknowledgment of Receipt**: Include an acknowledgment page that the employee signs and returns, confirming they received the handbook and understand the policies.

Remember, an employee handbook should not only align with federal, state, and local laws but also with the specific needs and culture of your nonprofit. It's also a living document that should be reviewed and updated regularly to reflect any changes in law or organizational policies. Finally, consider having the handbook reviewed by a legal professional to ensure compliance with all applicable employment laws.





At-Will Statement

The at-will employment statement is a critical policy in an employee handbook for organizations in the United States. The doctrine of at-will employment means that either the employer or the employee can terminate the employment relationship at any time, for any reason or no reason, as long as the reason is not illegal (e.g., discrimination or retaliation).

Here's an example of how you might present this policy in an employee handbook:

At-Will Employment Policy

Please understand that your employment with [Organization's Name] is "at-will." This means that your employment relationship may be terminated at any time, with or without cause or notice, by you or by [Organization's Name].

No representative of [Organization's Name], other than the [designated official position, e.g., Executive Director], has the authority to enter into any agreement for employment for any specified period or to make any agreement contrary to the foregoing. Additionally, any such agreement entered into by the [designated official position] will not be enforceable unless it is in writing.

Nothing in this handbook is intended to change your at-will employment status or to be construed as a contract of employment, express or implied.

While we may choose to follow certain procedures outlined in this handbook, we reserve the right at all times to act in accordance with the at-will nature of the employment relationship.

This policy helps protect the organization from potential wrongful termination lawsuits. However, it should be implemented and enforced fairly and consistently, and it should not be used to justify unfair or illegal treatment of employees, such as discrimination or retaliation.

Finally, bear in mind that while at-will employment is a general principle in the U.S., certain states may have exceptions to this doctrine. Always consult with a legal professional to ensure that your at-will employment policy complies with all applicable laws in your location.



Acknowledgment Form

An employee handbook acknowledgment form is an important document that serves as proof that employees have received, read, and understood the policies outlined in the employee handbook. This form usually comes at the end of the handbook and typically includes a statement that the employee agrees to follow the policies. Here's an example of what the acknowledgment form might look like:

Employee Handbook Acknowledgment Form

I, [Employee's Name], acknowledge that I have received a copy of the [Organization's Name] Employee Handbook, dated [Date]. I understand that the handbook contains important information on the organization's policies, procedures, and my responsibilities as an employee.

I agree to read the handbook thoroughly, including any updates that may be distributed from time to time, and to abide by the rules, policies, and standards of conduct outlined within.

I understand that if I have any questions about the content or interpretation of this handbook, I will direct them to the [Appropriate department/individual] for clarification.

I understand that this handbook is not a contract of employment and does not provide any guarantees for future employment. I understand my employment with [Organization's Name] is at-will and can be terminated by either party at any time, with or without cause or notice, unless otherwise required by law.

I further understand that [Organization's Name] has the right to modify, interpret, or cancel any provisions of the handbook at any time at its sole discretion, with or without notice.

Employee's Signature:	Date:
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It is crucial to maintain a signed copy of this acknowledgment form for every employee in your records. If there is ever a dispute about whether an employee was aware of a policy, this signed acknowledgment can serve as evidence that they received and understood the employee handbook. Remember to have each employee sign a new form whenever the handbook is updated.

As always, be sure to consult with a legal professional to ensure your employee handbook, including the acknowledgment form, complies with all applicable laws and regulations.



Updates

Updating the employee handbook is a critical task for every organization. As laws change and the organization evolves, the handbook must be updated to stay current, accurate, and legally compliant. Here are some steps for updating your employee handbook:

- 1. **Regularly Review the Handbook**: Set a schedule for reviewing your handbook at least annually. However, you should also review and update it when there are significant changes in laws, regulations, or your organization's policies or procedures.
- 2. **Monitor Legal Changes**: Keep abreast of federal, state, and local laws related to employment. You may need to subscribe to legal updates or use the services of an employment law attorney.
- 3. **Solicit Feedback**: Ask for input from managers, supervisors, and employees who may have noticed areas in the handbook that are unclear, outdated, or missing information. Regular feedback can help identify any inconsistencies or discrepancies that may need attention.
- 4. **Review Organization Changes**: Reflect on any changes in your organization's operations, values, mission, or culture that should be updated in the handbook.
- Update Policies: Revise existing policies or add new ones as needed. This could include updates to policies on harassment, discrimination, remote work, technology use, health and safety, leave, and benefits, among others.
- 6. **Review with Legal Counsel**: Before finalizing, have the updated handbook reviewed by an employment law attorney to ensure all policies are legally compliant.
- 7. **Communicate Changes**: Distribute the updated handbook to all employees, ideally in a way that allows you to track who has received it. Highlight key changes and explain why they were made. This can be done through email, a staff meeting, or a one-on-one conversation.



- 8. **Acknowledgment of Receipt**: Just like the original handbook, have each employee sign an acknowledgment form stating they have received, read, and understood the updated handbook. Keep this form in their personnel file.
- 9. **Provide Training**: Depending on the nature of the updates, you may need to provide training to ensure employees understand the changes. This is especially important for major policy changes or legal updates.
- 10. **Maintain an Archive**: Keep old versions of your handbook on file. This can be important in the event of a legal dispute.

Regular updates help ensure that your handbook remains a useful and reliable resource for everyone in your organization. Remember, an outdated handbook can lead to misunderstandings, inconsistent practices, and potential legal issues.



Legal Review

Having an employment law attorney review your employee handbook is an essential step to ensure it complies with all applicable laws and protects both your organization and your employees. While it's not the only step to create an effective handbook, legal review can help you avoid potential legal problems down the line.

Here's what a legal review of an employee handbook might include:

- 1. **Compliance with Federal Laws**: The attorney will verify that your handbook complies with all applicable federal laws. These might include the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, and more.
- 2. **Compliance with State and Local Laws**: Laws vary by location, so the attorney will also check for compliance with state and local laws. For example, some states have specific requirements for meal breaks, paid leave, and overtime that differ from federal laws.
- 3. **Proper At-Will Disclaimers**: The attorney will review any at-will employment disclaimers to ensure they are properly written and do not inadvertently create an employment contract.



- 5. **Procedures for Reporting Complaints**: An attorney will review your procedures for reporting and investigating complaints to ensure they are fair, thorough, and legal.
- 6. **Clear Disclaimers**: The attorney will ensure your handbook includes a clear statement that it is not an employment contract and does not guarantee employment for any length of time.
- 7. **Review of Specific Policies**: The attorney will review specific policies, such as those related to leave, accommodations, discipline, and termination, to ensure they are compliant with all laws.
- 8. **Protecting the Organization's Rights**: The attorney will ensure the handbook does not inadvertently limit the organization's rights. For example, stating that employees will only be terminated for cause may limit the organization's at-will employment rights.

The attorney might also suggest adding certain policies or procedures that can help protect the organization from legal claims, even if they're not required by law. This could include policies on workplace privacy, technology use, or conflict of interest.

Finally, remember that laws change frequently, so regular legal reviews are necessary to keep the handbook up to date. Always consult with a qualified employment law attorney to ensure your employee handbook is legally sound and effective.





Summary

Onboarding, recruiting, and maintaining a compliant employee handbook are pivotal to the smooth operation of a nonprofit organization. A well-executed onboarding process sets the tone for a positive work experience, provides clear expectations, and supports new employees to be productive and engaged more quickly.

Recruiting, on the other hand, should always be conducted with fairness, transparency, and legal compliance, with a firm commitment to equal opportunity and non-discrimination. Background checks should be handled responsibly and ethically, with the candidates' rights and privacy in mind.

An employee handbook serves as a crucial communication tool that outlines the organization's expectations and policies. It's important for this document to be comprehensive, clear, up-to-date, and legally compliant. Regular reviews and updates are necessary to ensure it remains a valuable resource for everyone in the organization.

Onboarding, recruiting, and the employee handbook contribute significantly to creating a supportive work environment. They also protect your nonprofit from potential legal issues and help to uphold your organization's reputation.

As laws and best practices evolve, staying informed and proactive in these areas will help your nonprofit thrive and continue to serve its mission effectively.



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