The information provided here is for informational and educational purposes and current as of the date of publication. The information is not a substitute for legal advice and does not necessarily reflect the opinion or policy position of the Municipal Association of South Carolina. Consult your attorney for advice concerning specific situations.

From Paper to Practice

Building Better Handbooks and Job Descriptions for Effective HR Management





South Carolina has few state-level employment regulations, so the way you create your employee handbook is entirely at the discretion of your organization.

False.

### **SC Requirements**

Disclaimer: <a href="SC Legislation Section 41-1-110">SC Legislation Section 41-1-110</a> requires:

- Underlined, capital letters
- Must be the first page of the document
- Signed by the employee

Employees only need to access the handbook during their onboarding process.

False.

### **Defining the Purpose and Scope of Handbooks**

### Comprehensive Company Guide

 Handbooks provide detailed information on company policies, procedures, and employee expectations.

### Clarifying Purpose and Scope

 Clearly defining handbook purpose ensures employees understand their roles and organizational standards. If it's not in the handbook, it's not a rule.

It depends.

### **Employer Discretion**

No law or policy

Policy language ("may" vs. "will")

### Consistency

• Hot Stove Rule

#### Documentation

• Why did you do what you did?

### Review policies regularly

• Do they still reflect reality?

### **Employer Discretion**

Situation	Employer Has Discretion
Federal/State Law (ADA, FMLA, etc.)	No
Written Company Policy	Maybe (if policy allows)
Employment Contract	No
Areas Not Covered by Law/Policy	Yes

# Job Descriptions are required when determining the essential functions of a position.

It depends.

### **Job Descriptions & Compliance**

# Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

- Essential Functions
- Words matter (Walk vs. Move)

### Anti-Discrimination

- Objective Criteria
- Pay Equity

#### **OSHA**

Job-specific safety requirements

Job descriptions should rarely change.

It depends.

### **Conducting Job Analysis**

Identify: position responsibilities, work environment, tools & equipment, reporting relationships, education requirements

Methods: interviews, questionnaire, observations



# Questions?



## **Stephanie Dillon**

Lead HR Advisor stephanie.dillon@letscatapult.org (704) 522-8011 Book an appointment with me.



