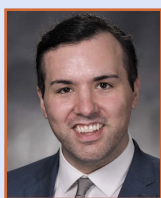


Celebrate Diversity

#MOCelebratesDiversity



Each month, the Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) celebrates the diversity of our state's workforce. We look forward to providing content that embraces the differences that make us better together. Check us out [here](#)!



Pride Month

By Austin Kerns

June is LGBTQ Pride Month. The celebration traces its history back to the Stonewall Uprising in June of 1969. The Stonewall Uprising, referred to by many as “Stonewall,” is remembered as a first spark of the modern LGBTQ civil rights movement. Today, Pride Month serves not only as the LGBTQ community’s month of celebration, but also as a time of remembrance and a call to action. For some, it is a time for community and visibility; while for others, it is a time for inner reflection and quiet remembrance.

You may be asking yourself – should I call the community LGBT, LGBTQ, LGBTQIA+, or Queer? For many non-LGBTQ people, engaging and being supportive can be awkward if they don’t feel confident in the terminology. There’s no single “correct” term. Oftentimes, usage is simply a matter of personal preference or generational terms. Other times, it’s a matter of attempting to be as inclusive as possible. How many of you have seen the term “LGBTQIA2+?” Like with other communities, the language is always changing. Asking respectfully and listening to your LGBTQ colleagues is always a great course of action.

Inclusive efforts are still being made to eliminate biases and discrimination towards members of the LGBTQ community. Local, state and federal actions have led to gains in civil rights. Pride Month is a great time to learn more about the LGBTQ community and how to increase inclusiveness.

- *For team members wanting to learn more and contribute to a more inclusive workplace:* [Understanding and Supporting LGBTQ+ Employees](#)
- *For LGBTQ team members:* [Being Openly LGBT at Work](#)

Practicing allyship is a way to support the diverse members of our families, the workplace, friends, and in our communities. Becoming an ally is a learning process. Here are a few trainings to get started:

- *Learn how to grow as an ally:* [Becoming an Ally to All](#)
- *Learn how to practice allyship:* [Inclusive Mindset for Committed Allies](#)

Want to learn more? Check out the OEO’s Diversity Celebrations [here](#).