



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

May is Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) month! The month of May was chosen for two reasons: the first Japanese immigrant arrived in the U.S. on May 7, 1843, and Asian Americans were a huge part in helping to finish the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869. Every year, we take this month to reflect on how our Asian American friends have shaped this country and to celebrate their beautiful cultures.

As with many celebratory months, AAPI started as only a week until 1992 when former president George H.W. Bush signed to have every May recognized as the official Asian-American Pacific Islander month.

Throughout history, AAPI individuals have made significant contributions to every aspect of society, from science and technology to arts and literature. As we celebrate AAPI Heritage Month, let us not only embrace the cultures and histories within the AAPI community, but also recommit ourselves to fighting against discrimination and mistreatment.

