Policy II.B.3 Affirmative Action It is the policy of Erie County Community College to take affirmative action to recruit and to employ members of protected groups. Under Federal Executive Order 11246 as amended, protected minority groups are defined as African Americans, Asian Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Native Americans. All women are designated a protected group. The protected groups are those groups of persons who have historically been most disadvantaged by discriminatory practices, including practices formerly sanctioned by law.