

## No faith-based hiring with tax dollars

Maureen Fiedler | Oct. 16, 2009 NCR Today

My fellow NCR Today blogger Michael Sean Winters argues that faith-based institutions should be able to [show preference for people of their own faith in hiring](#). [1] But he omitted one very crucial phrase: "with public money."

What *The New York Times* editorial (with which he disagrees) was discussing was not hiring in general, but hiring people for social service programs funded by public tax dollars under the Faith-based and Community Partnerships Program. These dollars cannot be used for anything that proselytizes, or promotes a religion anyway, or the whole program would run afoul of the First Amendment.

So, if one is hiring a drug counselor, or someone to run a soup kitchen or a job-training office, it's a neutral job -- religiously speaking -- and there is no reason to discriminate on the basis of religion. In fact, since such salaries are paid with tax dollars, there is every reason not to discriminate.

---

**Source URL (retrieved on 07/20/2017 - 21:55):** <https://www.ncronline.org/blogs/ncr-today/no-faith-based-hiring-tax-dollars>

**Links:**

[1] <http://ncronline.org/blogs/ncr-today/nytimes-wrong-faith-based-hiring>