

📌 FIND COVID-19 INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

📌 COVID-19 & POTENTIAL IMPACTS

Office of Civil Rights

- [Americans with Disabilities Act](#)
- [Equal Employment Opportunity](#)
- [Human Rights](#)
- [Mediation](#)
- [Section 504](#)**
- [Title VI Compliance](#)
- [Workplace Harassment](#)

Section 504

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act protects qualified people from discrimination because of their disabilities. It protects them while they are applying for or receiving health care, social and employment services. The law applies to employers and organizations receiving federal funds.

Section 504 prohibitions against discrimination apply to service availability, accessibility, delivery, employment, and the administrative activities and responsibilities of organizations receiving Federal financial assistance. A recipient of Federal financial assistance may not, on the basis of disability:

- Deny qualified individuals the opportunity to participate in or benefit from federally funded programs, services, or other benefits
- Deny access to programs, services, benefits or opportunities to participate as a result of physical barriers
- Deny employment opportunities, including hiring, promotion, training, and fringe benefits, for which they are otherwise entitled or qualified....

Additional information and prohibitions against discrimination based on disability can be found in the DHHS Section 504 regulation at 45 CFR Part 84 or please visit: <http://www.hhs.gov/civil-rights/for-individuals/disability/index.html>

Frequently Asked Questions

SECTION 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

What Is Section 504?

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is a national law that protects qualified individuals from discrimination based on their disability. The nondiscrimination requirements of the law apply to employers and organizations that receive financial assistance from any Federal department or agency, including the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). These organizations and employers include many hospitals, nursing homes, developmental centers and residential and day service providers.

Section 504 forbids organizations and employers from excluding or denying individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to receive program benefits and services. It defines the rights of individuals with disabilities to participate in, and have access to, program benefits and services.

Who Is Protected from Discrimination?

Section 504 protects qualified individuals with disabilities. Under this law, individuals with disabilities are defined as persons with a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities, are also covered. Major life activities include, caring for one's self, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, working, performing manual tasks, and learning. Some examples of impairments which may substantially limit major life activities, even with the help of medication or aids/devices, are: AIDS, alcoholism, blindness or visual impairment, cancer, deafness or hearing impairment, diabetes, drug addiction, heart disease, and mental illness.

In addition to meeting the above definition, for purposes of receiving services, education or training, qualified individuals with disabilities are persons who meet normal and essential eligibility requirements.

For purposes of employment, qualified individuals with disabilities are persons who, with reasonable accommodation, can perform the essential functions of the job for which they have applied or have been hired to perform. (Complaints alleging employment discrimination on the basis of disability against a single individual will be referred to the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for processing.) Reasonable accommodation means an employer is required to take reasonable steps to accommodate your disability unless it would cause employer undue hardship.

Social Media       

Online Services

- [Provider Claims Processing](#)
- [Home Inspections](#)
- [SIS \(Supports Intensity Scale\)](#)

Popular Resources

- [Protection from Harm](#)
- [Clinical Services](#)
- [Office of Licensure](#)
- [Quality Management](#)

Other Resources

- [HIPAA Information](#)
- [Planning & Policy Councils](#)
- [People Talking to People](#)
- [Report Fraud, Waste and Abuse](#)

External Resources

- [Guidelines of Primary Care - \(CAN\)](#)
- [Information on Dementia](#)
- [Disability Pathfinder](#)
- [IDDToolkit](#)

Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Brad Turner

315 Deaderick Street
Nashville, TN 37243
(615) 532-6530
PUBLICAFFAIRS.DIDD@tn.gov

