

FAIR HOUSING

FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH DISABILITIES



The right to reasonable accommodation and modification in housing exists under federal and Oregon civil rights laws for individuals with disabilities who meet certain legal requirements



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Informational video on fair housing and reasonable accommodations



Disability under the Fair Housing Act

Under the Fair Housing Act, disability is defined as any physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. These activities could include: walking, speaking, hearing, seeing, breathing, working, learning, performing manual tasks, and caring for oneself.



Examples of disabilities might include:

Speech and hearing impairments, autism, multiple sclerosis, cancer, heart disease, sickle cell anemia, diabetes, HIV, developmental disabilities, mental illness (depression, schizophrenia, anxiety), drug addiction, and alcoholism.



FHCO Disability Guide



Accommodations FAQ

Examples of reasonable accommodations or modifications might include:

- Assigning an accessible parking space for a person with a mobility impairment
- Permitting a tenant to transfer to a ground-floor unit
- Adjusting a rent payment schedule to accommodate when an individual receives income assistance
- Adding a grab bar to a tenant's bathroom
- Permitting an applicant to submit a housing application via a different means (paper vs. email vs. fax)
- Permitting an assistance animal in a "no pets" building for a person who is deaf, blind, has seizures, or has a mental disability.

Unless the disability is evident, you must provide verification of your disability to the housing provider from a qualified individual who can verify you meet the definition of disability as defined by the fair housing act and that the accommodation or modification is needed for equal access or enjoyment to housing.

A request for a reasonable accommodation or modification may be denied if providing the accommodation or modification would impose an undue financial and administrative burden on the housing provider, be a direct threat to residents or property, or it would fundamentally alter the nature of the housing provider's program.

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