

Division of Developmental Disabilities

NOTICE AND REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The Division of Developmental Disabilities is seeking public comment on proposed changes to the **Provider Policy Manual Chapter 24, Americans with Disabilities Act**. This policy previously consisted of a brief statement and has been expanded to provide better clarification of expectations for the Division's Qualified Vendors in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. New sections include:

Reasonable Modifications

Provides guidance for the QV to develop ADA policies and processes that support compliance with the ADA, including:

- Provision of information to Responsible Persons on how to make a request for a Reasonable modification to the QV.
- How requests made to the QV shall be tracked, to include how the QV responds.
- What to do when the QV determines a request is not reasonable.
- Requirement that the QV designate one staff person to coordinate ADA concerns, when the QV employs 50+ employees.

Communication Support

• Provides guidance on how QVs are expected to provide support to Members who need communication aids and supports.

Accessibility of Programs and Services

 Advises QVs to ensure Division Members are not excluded from any program, service, or activity because existing buildings and facilities are inaccessible.

Mobility

 Discusses permitting use of wheelchairs and manually-powered mobility aids, such as walkers, crutches, canes, braces, or other similar devices designed for use by Members with mobility disabilities

New Construction and Alteration of existing facilities

Overviews guidance for making facilities physically accessible.



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Staff Training

Directs QVs to provide ADA training for staff.

Supplemental Information

- Includes some information on the relationship between Title III and II of the ADA.
- Also provides additional resource information.

Dates: Public comment will be open for 30 days beginning June 26, 2024 and closing July 26, 2024. Comments must be received no later than July 26, 2024, 11:59 pm, Arizona time.

Instructions: (Complete instructions are located on the Division's <u>webpage</u>)

- The policy may be viewed by clicking here.
- Comments may be submitted online by clicking here.
- Use the line numbers to reference specific comments.
- Do not include any information that you consider confidential or inappropriate for public disclosure.

If access to the online form is not available, comments can be submitted by email to the DDD Policy Unit at DDDDpolicy@azdes.gov.

- Submit your comments, along with your full name, mailing address, and phone number.
- If you represent an organization, include the organization's name.

For further information contact the DDD Policy Unit at DDDpolicy@azdes.gov.