

COMMISSION ON DISABILITY (COD)

COD was established in 1989 in recognition of the City's commitment to expand equal opportunities and to provide the full extent of municipal services to all persons with disabilities. COD advocates for people with disabilities and investigates issues of non-compliance with the ADA, holds public hearings on critical issues, identifies priority issues to be addressed, and makes recommendations to the Mayor and City Council. COD meets the second Wednesday of each month. Meeting schedule, agendas, and minutes can be obtained at disability.lacity.org/about/commission-disability.

FOR DETAILS, CONTACT:

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As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities.



CITY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY

EQUITY THROUGH ACCESS

The Department on Disability, on behalf of the city of Los Angeles, is committed to ensuring full access to employment, programs, facilities and services; through strategic management and partnership education, advocacy, training, research and improved service delivery; for the benefit of persons with disabilities, providers of essential resources and policymakers.

DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY

In 1990 the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) greatly expanded civil rights protections for persons with disabilities. Together, the ADA and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 require local governments to provide accessibility to public accommodations including public sector employment, buildings, facilities, programs, social services, and transportation.

An office of disability was created in the Mayor's Office in 1975 as a response to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and in 1998 was renamed the Department on Disability (DOD) by the Mayor and City Council as the first City department of its kind in the nation.

DOD is committed to ensuring full access to employment services, programs, facilities, and services. The department can help you navigate City programs like Accessible Parking Zones (Blue Curb Program) and the Access Request Program. Our services also include a Durable Medical Equipment (DME) Program, Disability Mediation Program, Emergency Preparedness Program, and Auxiliary Aids and Services.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS

Sign Language Interpreters (SLI), Communication Access Real-Time Transcription (CART) services, materials in alternative formats, and other accommodations may be provided upon request. To request SLI and/or CART services for a City of LA sponsored event or meeting, visit disability.lacity.org/requesting-sli-cart-services and submit the online form. The Department needs five (5) or more business days to process each SLI and CART request.



DIVISIONS

DOD is composed of five divisions and a Commission serving Angelenos, City Elected Officials and Departments, and the City of Los Angeles.

DISABILITY ACCESS SERVICES DIVISION (DASD)

DOD coordinates and monitors the City's compliance with the ADA, and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

DASD provides a wide range of services including:

- Ensuring that all City of Los Angeles programs, services, activities, and facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities;
- Providing reasonable workplace accommodations for City employees with disabilities;
- Providing reasonable accommodations to persons with disabilities who utilize City programs, services, and facilities;
- Advocating for persons with disabilities facing discriminatory treatment;
- Providing information about the rights and obligations of people with service animals and emotional support animals;
- Providing general information on landlord and tenant rights and obligations under fair housing law;
- Engaging and educating on emergency preparedness and response to improve resiliency for people with disabilities; and
- Offering accessibility evaluations of planned or existing facilities, and the planned or existing programs, services, and activities conducted therein.

- Supporting small business entities by providing accessibility guidance for physical features and services offered.
- Develop accommodation options and assist with policy solutions for City departments including for internal employee concerns and for public service issues.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH, REFERRAL AND EDUCATION (CORE)

CORE creates ongoing collaborative relationships to promote referrals to social services that may include, but are not limited to: housing, emergency shelter, accessible transportation, employment, job training. Community education, events, and outreach activities are coordinated throughout the year to inform the public on disability related matters and resources to enhance independent living. Additionally, CORE provides assistance to residents in need of durable medical equipment for in-home use at no charge.

AIDS COORDINATOR'S OFFICE (ACO)

The ACO was established in 1989 in the Mayor's Office to provide a coordinated response through the development of strategies and policies to protect persons with HIV/AIDS. It was moved to DOD in 2000.

The ACO established Los Angeles as the first city in the nation to develop a coordinated policy to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS and to protect persons living with HIV/AIDS in City employment.

Services provided include:

- Innovative research into HIV/AIDS risk behaviors, prevention modalities, and social determinants of health;
- Developing and managing contracts with community-based organizations to provide HIV/AIDS education and prevention — including HIV

testing, the distribution of educational materials to high risk groups, and harm reduction through clean syringe exchange;

- Providing capacity building and technical assistance to organizations to enhance service provision;
- Hosting seminars and public forums to educate the community and providers on relevant issues affecting people with HIV; and
- Implementing and overseeing Los Angeles' AIDS policy, including advising the Mayor and City Council on AIDS issues.
- Pro-bono legal services for individuals with disabilities who are homeless or at risk for homelessness.

ACCESSIBLE COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION (ACD)

The Accessible Communications Division is responsible for the dissemination of consistent and accessible messages across print, broadcast, and social media for the Department. Additionally, this division provides training and technical assistance on digital accessibility and assistive technologies to City officials and departments as required by the ADA and Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION (ASD)

ASD provides general administrative oversight to DOD, ensuring that operations are organized, effective, and compliant with City, state, and federal requirements. This division manages and controls DOD's budget development and accounting functions, serves as the personnel department liaison, and provides administrative support for the Commission on Disability.