

Disability Accommodations in California Courts



The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires all state and local government agencies to provide reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities.

Rule 1.100 of the California Rules of Court spells out how the courts in our state meet the ADA requirements for court activities, programs, and services.

Here are answers to common questions about disability accommodations at court.

1. Who has the right to get an accommodation?

Any court user with a disability can ask for an accommodation. The disability must limit at least one major life activity such as:

- Walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, or breathing;
- Caring for oneself; or
- Doing a manual task.

The accommodation must be for a court service, program, or activity, including going to court to:

- Testify,
- Appear in a case, or
- Serve on jury duty.

2. What kinds of accommodations does the court provide?

There are many different kinds of accommodations. However, the court must give a "reasonable" accommodation under the circumstances. The kind of accommodation depends on the needs of the person with the disability.