

## **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT**

**Relative Information:** The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was enacted in 1990. The purpose of the ADA is to provide a clear and comprehensive mandate for the elimination of discrimination against individuals with disabilities, to dispel stereotypes and assumptions about disabilities, and to assure equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency for disabled persons.

As a result of the ADA, local governments must make programs, services, facilities, and activities equally available to disabled individuals as defined by the ADA. Facilities must be made accessible to the disabled. Employers must provide equal employment opportunities for qualified individuals with disabilities provided they can perform the essential functions of the job. Employers are required to make "reasonable accommodations" for the known physical and mental limitations of qualified disabled applicants and employees and for public access to services and facilities.

**Policy Statement:** It is the policy of the Board of Directors to adhere to all applicable laws, regulations, and guidelines of the ADA related to employment, facilities, access, and the delivery of services and programs.