

Americans with Disabilities Act: Some Key Definitions

Auxiliary aids and services includes—

- (1) Qualified interpreters on-site or through video remote interpreting (VRI) services; notetakers; real-time computer-aided transcription services; **written materials; exchange of written notes;** telephone handset amplifiers; **assistive listening devices; assistive listening systems;** telephones compatible with hearing aids; closed caption decoders; **open and closed captioning, including real-time captioning;** voice, text, and video-based telecommunications products and systems, including text telephones (TTYs), videophones, and captioned telephones, or equally effective telecommunications devices; videotext displays; **accessible electronic and information technology; or other effective methods of making aurally delivered information available to individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing;**
- (2) Qualified readers; taped texts; **audio recordings;** Brailled materials and displays; **screen reader software; magnification software;** optical readers; secondary auditory programs (SAP); large print materials; **accessible electronic and information technology; or other effective methods of making visually delivered materials available to individuals who are blind or have low vision;**
- (3) Acquisition or modification of equipment or devices; and
- (4) Other similar services and actions.

Public entity means—

- (1) Any State or local government;
- (2) **Any department, agency, special purpose district, or other instrumentality of a State or States or local government;** and
- (3) The National Railroad Passenger Corporation, and any commuter authority (as defined in section 103(8) of the Rail Passenger Service Act).

Qualified individual with a disability means—

An individual with a disability who, with or without reasonable modifications to rules, policies, or practices, the removal of architectural, communication, or transportation barriers, or the provision of auxiliary aids and services, meets the essential eligibility requirements for the receipt of services or the participation in programs or activities provided by a public entity.