

ACCESSIBLE HOUSING IN DC

WHAT ARE YOUR RIGHTS?

In Washington, DC, housing providers and landlords must comply with the Fair Housing Act and DC Building Code. The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in housing on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, natural origin, familial status and disability.

DOES THIS APPLY TO ME?

YES IF...

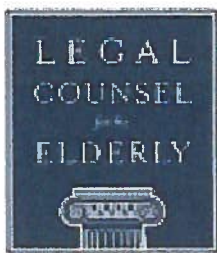
- You live in a building that has at least four units, and
- The building was ready for first occupancy after March 31, 1991, and
- The building has an elevator

Buildings without elevators are subject to the below requirements on the ground floor only.

IF YOU ANSWERED YES BASED ON THE ABOVE CRITERIA, YOUR HOUSING PROVIDER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FOLLOWING:

- Doors must be wide enough for wheelchair passage
- Bathroom walls must be sturdy enough to allow installation of grab bars
- Kitchens must have enough room for a wheelchair to access appliances and sink
- All walking routes must not be blocked by stairs or have ramps that are too steep
- Bathrooms should fit a wheelchair when the door is closed
- Bathrooms should have the accessibility for a person in a wheelchair to use the toilet, sink and shower
- Electrical outlets must be placed at accessible heights for a person in a wheelchair
- Laundry rooms, lobbies and other public amenities must be wheelchair accessible
- Thermostats must be placed at accessible heights for a person in a wheelchair





WHAT IF MY HOUSING PROVIDER HAS NOT FOLLOWED THESE REQUIREMENTS?

You can file a complaint via mail or online.

To file a complaint by mail, send a letter to the following address:

The Office of Disability Rights
441 4th Street NW, Suite 729N
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 724-5005

To find out more and to file a complaint online, go to the following website to complete the ADA Complaint/Assistance Form:

odr.dc.gov

If you believe you have been denied housing based on your disability, you may file a complaint with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) within one year of denial at the following web address:

hud.gov

This flyer is informational only and is not a substitute for legal advice.

