

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS & THE ADA



Did you know? **The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)** requires after school programs to **provide individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity** to participate in all programs and services. This means that after school programs:

- ✎ **Cannot exclude children with disabilities from their programs**, unless the child's presence would pose a direct threat, create an undue hardship, or require a fundamental alteration of the program;
- ✎ **Must evaluate your child individually** to assess whether it can meet their particular needs;
- ✎ **Must make reasonable modifications** to integrate children, parents, and guardians with disabilities into their programs;
- ✎ **Must provide appropriate auxiliary aids and services** needed for effective communication;
- ✎ **Must make their facilities accessible** to persons with disabilities;
- ✎ **Must train staff to administer daily medicines** required by children with disabilities; and
- ✎ **May not require parents to pay the cost of a reasonable modification** necessary for their child to fully participate in after school program activities.

This bulletin is intended to provide basic information regarding the ADA and after school programs. It is not a substitute for legal advice. If you have questions or would like assistance with specific issues, please contact Disability Rights Maine.



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