


American with Disabilities Act Circular

Federal Transit Administration



The Collaborative served as prime contractor for the development of the Federal Transit Administration ADA Circular, published in November 2015. The Circular covers all aspects of the DOT ADA regulations applicable to FTA grantees, and includes chapters on facilities, vehicles, equivalent facilitation, fixed route service, demand responsive service, complementary paratransit, ferries, and other modes. The Circular also explains FTA’s oversight role, the complaint-resolution process, and how to effectively monitor for compliance. Included are examples of good practices transit agencies use to efficiently deliver compliant service.





U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

CIRCULAR

FTA C 4710.1

November 4, 2015

Subject: AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA): GUIDANCE

1. **PURPOSE.** This circular provides guidance to recipients and subrecipients of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) financial assistance necessary to carry out provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the U.S. Department of Transportation’s implementing regulations at 49 CFR Parts 27, 37, 38, and 39.
2. **CANCELLATION.** This is a new circular. It does not cancel any existing directive.
3. **SCOPE.** This circular applies to all assistance authorized by the Federal Transit Laws (49 U.S.C. Chapter 53) and all programs administered by FTA.
4. **AUTHORITIES**
 - a. Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
 - b. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended
 - c. 49 CFR Parts 27, 37, 38, and 39
 - d. Federal Transit Laws, 49 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.
5. **WAIVER.** FTA reserves the right to waive any requirements of this circular to the extent permitted by law.
6. **FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE.** In conjunction with publication of this circular, FTA published a notice in the *Federal Register* on October 5, 2015, addressing comments received during development of the circular.
7. **AMENDMENTS TO THE CIRCULAR.** FTA reserves the right to update this circular to reflect changes in other revised or new guidance and regulations that undergo notice and comment, without further notice and comment on this circular. FTA will post updates on our website at www.fta.dot.gov. The website allows the public to register for notification when FTA issues *Federal Register* notices of new guidance. Please visit the website and click on “sign up for e-mail updates” for more information.
8. **49 CFR § 37.15 REVIEW.** The General Counsel of the Department of Transportation has reviewed this document and approved it as consistent with the language and intent of 49 CFR Parts 27, 37, 38, and/or 39, as applicable.
9. **ACCESSIBLE FORMATS.** This document is available in accessible formats upon request. To obtain paper copies of this circular as well as information regarding these accessible formats, call FTA’s Administrative Services Help Desk, at 202-366-4865. Individuals with hearing impairments may contact the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 for assistance with the call.

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