

Disability Rights in Housing

What is a disability?

A physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.

People with disabilities have the right to request a reasonable accommodation or modification, under the Fair Housing Act.

Reasonable Accommodations

A reasonable accommodation is a change in the landlord's policy that would allow a person with a disability to fully use and enjoy their home. The landlord is responsible for any accommodation costs.

Some examples of a reasonable accommodation:

- Allowing a tenant to move to a first floor unit because of mobility issues.
- A reserved parking space.
- Changes to the lease agreement.

Reasonable Modifications

A reasonable modification is a change in the house or apartment that would allow the tenant to use the home safely. The tenant is almost always responsible for the cost of the modifications.

Some examples of a reasonable modification:

- Grab bars in the bathroom
- A ramp installed at the entrance to the home
- Wider doorways that would allow for wheelchair access



The Maryland Department of Disabilities maintains a list of programs that can assist with payment for home modifications, and more information on your rights. Scan the QR code to visit the website:



If you have experienced discrimination in housing, please visit our website below and use our Fair Housing intake form, or scan the QR code below:



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