



People with Disabilities

Housing Opportunities Made Equal (HOME) is a private, nonprofit fair housing agency serving the greater Cincinnati area. HOME's mission is to eliminate unlawful discrimination in housing. HOME advocates and enforces housing regulations for all protected classes and promotes stable, integrated communities.

The Fair Housing Act

Fair Housing means you are free to choose where you live regardless of your race, color, religion, country of origin, sex/gender, family status, or disability. All housing types are covered, and everyone involved (realtors, landlords, agents) must abide by the law and not discriminate against you.

Discrimination

Housing providers may break the law if they:

- refuse to rent or sell.
- steer you to specific properties or units.
- require things not requested of others.
- charge additional fees or deposits.
- deny access to amenities or services.
- deny reasonable accommodation or modification requests.



Disability

Under Fair Housing laws, a *disability* is any physical or mental impairment that substantially limits at least one major life activity. Disabilities may be visible or invisible to others. **People with disabilities are entitled to full use and enjoyment of their homes just like everyone else!** Because they have different abilities, people with disabilities may sometimes need different policies, procedures, or tools from what other residents need. Treating them “just like everyone else” isn’t always fair and may be illegal depending on the situation.

Changes That Can Help

If you aren’t able to use and enjoy your home due to a disability, you can request a change. Changes to housing policies or procedures are called **accommodations**. As long as the change is reasonable, the housing provider must approve the change. Some examples of reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are:

- reserved parking spot near unit
- visual smoke alarms or doorbells
- caregiver access to laundry or mail
- assistance animals (no fees)
- extra notice or time
- payment due date change



If you need an accommodation, you must ask for it. The housing provider might need some documentation if the disability isn’t obvious, but your housing provider can’t ignore your request and can only deny the request for specific reasons. They also cannot punish you for making a request or contacting our office. (That is called retaliation and it’s illegal.)

If you need help requesting an accommodation, please contact HOME. Services are FREE.

Questions? Concerns?

Contact HOME

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