

TITLE II ASSURANCE – PUBLIC ACCOMODATIONS

The Southern Oklahoma Development Association (SODA) assures that no qualified person with a disability shall, solely by reasons of their disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity administered by the SODA.

Specifically, the following discriminatory actions are prohibited:

1. In providing any aid, benefit, or service, SODA will not directly or through contractual, licensing, or other arrangements, on the basis of disability:
 - a. Deny a qualified person with a disability the opportunity to participate in or benefit from the aid, benefit or service.
 - b. Afford a qualified person with a disability an opportunity to participate in or benefit from the aid, benefit, or service that is not substantially equal to that afforded persons who do not have a disability.
 - c. Provide a qualified person with a disability with an aid, benefit or service that is not as effective in affording equal opportunity to obtain the same result, to gain the same benefit, or to reach the same level of achievement as persons without disabilities.
 - d. Provide different or separate aid, benefits, or services to persons with disabilities or to any class of persons with disabilities unless such action is necessary to provide the aids, benefits or services that are as effective as those provided to persons without disabilities.
 - e. Aid or perpetuate discrimination against a qualified person with a disability by providing financial or other assistance to an agency, organization, or person that discriminates on the basis of disability.
 - f. Deny a qualified person with a disability the opportunity to participate in conferences, planning or advising opportunities.
 - g. Otherwise limit a qualified person with a disability in the enjoyment of any right, privilege, advantage or opportunity enjoyed by others receiving an aid, benefit, or service.
2. For purposes of these assurances, aids, benefits, and services, to be equally effective, are not required to produce the identical result or level of achievement for disabled and nondisabled persons but must afford persons with disabilities equal opportunity to obtain the same result, to gain the same benefit, or to reach the same level of achievement, in the most integrated setting that is reasonably achievable.
3. Even if separate or different aids, benefits or services are available to persons with a disability, SODA will not deny a qualified person with a disability the opportunity to participate in the programs or activities that are not separate or different.

4. SODA will not directly or through contractual or other arrangements, utilize criteria or methods of administration:
 - a. That have the effect of subjecting qualified persons with a disability to discrimination on the basis of disability.
 - b. That have the purpose or effect of defeating or substantially reducing the likelihood that persons with disabilities can benefit from the objectives of the program or activity, or
 - c. That yield or perpetuate discrimination against another recipient of federal funds if both recipients are subject to common administrative control or are agencies of the same state.
5. In determining the site or location of a facility, SODA will not make selections:
 - a. That have the effect or excluding persons with disabilities from denying them the benefits of, or otherwise subjecting them to discrimination under any program or activity, or
 - b. That has the purpose or effect of defeating or substantially impairing the accomplishment of the objectives of the program or activity with respect to persons with disabilities.
6. As used in these assurances, the aid, benefit or service provided under a program or activity includes any aid, benefit or service provided in or through a facility that has been constructed, expanded, altered, leased or rented, or otherwise acquired, in whole or in part, with Federal financial assistance.

FUTURE EFFECT OF ASSURANCES

Recipients of federal financial assistance and transferees of property obtained by a recipient with the participation of federal financial assistance are bound by the above assurances under the following circumstances:

1. When federal financial assistance is provided in the form of a conveyance of real property or an interest in real property from the U.S. Department of Transportation, the instrument of conveyance shall include a covenant running with the land binding the recipient and subsequent transferees to comply with the requirements for so long as the property is used for the purpose of which federal financial assistance was provided or for a similar purpose.
2. When federal financial assistance is used to purchase or improve real property, these assurances shall obligate the recipient to comply with the requirements and require any subsequent transferee of the property, who is using the property for the purpose for which federal financial assistance was provided, to agree in writing to comply with the requirements. The obligations of the recipient and transferees shall continue in effect for as long as the property is used for the purpose for which federal financial assistance was provided or for a similar purpose.

3. When federal financial assistance is provided in the form of, or is used to obtain, personal property, these assurances shall obligate the recipient to comply with the requirements for the period it retains ownership or possession of the property, or the property is used by a transferee for purpose directly related to the operations of the recipient.
4. When federal financial assistance is used for purposes other than to obtain property, these assurances shall obligate the recipient to comply with the requirements for the period during which the federal financial assistance is extended to the program or activity.

NOTICE

SODA will take appropriate initial and continuing steps to notify participants, beneficiaries, applicants, and employees, including those with impaired vision or hearing and unions or professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with SODA that it does not discriminate on the basis of disability using the notice in Appendix A (Public Notice).

Methods of initial and continuing notification may include the posting of notices, publication in newspapers and magazines, placement of notices in agency publications and distribution of memoranda or other written communications.

EFFECT OF STATE OR LOCAL LAW

The obligation to comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is not obviated or affected by any State or local law.



Executive Director

Southern Oklahoma Development Association

Date: August 4, 2023