# The New Jersey Judiciary's Title I ADA Procedures for Employees and Job Applicants with Disabilities



The Judiciary ensures compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination and prohibits discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities in employment.

#### Relevant Provisions of the Judiciary Policy Prohibiting Discrimination Against Individuals with Disabilities

#### **Employees and job applicants**

The Judiciary is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination (NJLAD), and other applicable anti-discrimination statutes. In addition, the Judiciary will not discriminate against any job applicant or employee on the basis of a disability regarding the terms, privileges or conditions of employment. The Judiciary will not discharge an employee because of a disability, provided that the employee remains qualified and able to perform the essential functions of the job with or without reasonable accommodations.

#### Reasonable accommodations

The Judiciary will provide a reasonable accommodation for qualified employees and job applicants with a disability, provided that the accommodation does not fundamentally alter the nature of a Judiciary program, service, or activity, or impose an undue hardship upon the Judiciary, and that the individual is able to perform the essential functions of the job. A qualified employee or job applicant with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation by contacting the local Title I ADA coordinator listed in this brochure or at njcourts.gov.

#### Who is covered by Title I of the ADA?

Title I of the ADA applies to current employees and job applicants with a disability, who have a history of having a disability, or who are regarded as having a disability.

#### What is the role of the local Title I ADA coordinator?

The local Title I ADA coordinator:

- Receives and provides information,
- Facilitates discussion between an employee/job applicant with a disability and management about potential accommodations,
- Documents the communications regarding the accommodation(s) requested,
- Communicates the accommodation decision.

Both management and the individual with a disability are equally responsible to discuss and suggest accommodation options.

#### What is a reasonable accommodation?

For an employee, a reasonable accommodation is any modification made to the workplace environment or the manner in which the work is performed to enable the employee with a disability to perform the essential functions of the job. Determinations of reasonable accommodations are made on a case-by-case basis depending upon the employee's essential job functions and medical limitations. The Judiciary is not required to remove an essential function of a job as an accommodation.

Examples of reasonable accommodations for employees with disabilities may include:

- Making facilities readily accessible to and usable by an individual with a disability,
- Obtaining or modifying equipment or devices,
- Providing training materials in accessible formats,
- Restructuring a job by allocating or redistributing marginal job functions,
- Altering when or how an essential job function is performed,
- Providing part-time or modified work schedules,
- Reassigning an employee to a vacant equivalent position for which the employee is able to perform the essential functions.

The Judiciary will provide a reasonable accommodation to enable a job applicant to participate in all aspects of the job interview and hiring process. Reasonable accommodations for job applicants in the hiring process can include:

- Providing written materials in accessible formats, such as large print, Braille, or audiotape,
- Providing readers or sign language interpreters,
- Ensuring that recruitment, interviews, tests, and other components of the application process are held in accessible locations and formats,
- Providing or modifying equipment or devices,
- Adjusting or modifying application policies and procedures.

#### How do I request an accommodation?

Accommodations are requested by the individual with a disability. The request does not have to be in writing and no specific words need to be used. The employee or job applicant with a disability should advise the local Title I ADA coordinator that some type of assistance is needed to perform essential job functions or to participate in all aspects of the job interview and hiring process due to a medical condition. The local Title I ADA coordinators are listed in this brochure and at njcourts.gov.

# As an employee, will I be required to provide medical documentation?

You might be asked for specific medical documentation regarding the nature of your medical condition and how that disability limits your performance of the job. The Judiciary is committed to preserving confidentiality of your medical information.

# Will my supervisor be told what my medical condition is?

The local Title I ADA coordinator will not share your medical condition with your manager/supervisor, but may share your limitations, as needed, to determine a reasonable accommodation. Medical notes should not be provided to the employee's manager/supervisor, but should instead be given to the local Title I ADA coordinator.

#### I am a job applicant and will need an accommodation for the job interview and hiring process. How do I request an accommodation?

As soon as you realize that you will need an accommodation for some aspect of the hiring process, you should inform the local Title I ADA coordinator because advance notice to provide certain accommodations may be necessary. The Judiciary might request additional information or documentation in order to understand how an accommodation would enable you to participate fully in all aspects of the job interview and hiring process.

# I am an employee or a job applicant and I disagree with the accommodation provided or my request for an accommodation was denied. What do I do?

If you have new or additional information and your request for an accommodation was denied or if you disagree with the accommodation provided, you may provide that new or additional information to the local Title I ADA coordinator. If you do not have any new or additional information to provide, you may appeal a denial of an accommodation request to the Assistant Director, Human Resources, Administrative Office of the Courts, Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex, P.O. Box 966, Trenton, NJ 08625 or by calling 609-815-2712.

# What do I do if I think I have been discriminated against because of my disability?

You may file an internal EEO/AA complaint with the EEO/AA officer at the vicinage/county level or the Judiciary Chief EEO/AA Officer, Administrative Office of the Courts, Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex, P.O. Box 037, Trenton, NJ 08625 or by calling 609-815-2915. The Judiciary's internal EEO/AA complaint procedures do not in any way limit or replace other legal remedies that may be available, and you may choose to file a complaint with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission or with the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights. Retaliation against any individual who complains about discrimination, files a discrimination complaint or assists in the investigation of such complaints is prohibited. If you believe that the Judiciary has retaliated against you, you can file a complaint with the EEO/AA officer at the vicinage/county level or the Judiciary Chief EEO/AA officer at the central office.

#### **Local Title I ADA Coordinators**

#### Vicinage 1, Atlantic/Cape May

Human Resources Atlantic County Civil Court Building 1201 Bacharach Boulevard Atlantic City, NJ 08401-0964 609-402-0100 ext. 47041 Confidential fax: 609-826-7031

#### Vicinage 2, Bergen

Human Resources
Bergen County Justice Complex
10 Main Street, Suite 425
Hackensack, NJ 07601-3672
201-221-0700 ext. 25115
Confidential fax: 201-221-0656

#### Vicinage 3, Burlington

Human Resources Burlington County Courts Facility Room 704 49 Rancocas Road Mount Holly, NJ 08060 609-288-9500 ext. 38102 Confidential fax: 609-826-7066

#### Vicinage 4, Camden

Human Resources Camden County Hall of Justice 101 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street Camden, NJ 08103 856-650-9100 ext. 43120 Confidential fax: 856-379-2271

#### Vicinage 5, Essex

Human Resources Essex County Veterans Courthouse 50 West Market Street, Room 612 Newark, NJ 07102 973-776-9019 Confidential fax: 973-776-9470

#### Vicinage 6, Hudson

Human Resources Hudson County Administration Bldg. 595 Newark Avenue Jersey City, NJ 07306 201-748-4400 ext. 60522 Confidential fax: 201-356-2603

#### Vicinage 7, Mercer

Human Resources Mercer County 209 South Broad St, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Trenton, NJ 08650 609-571-4200 ext. 76036 Confidential fax: 609-376-0812

#### Vicinage 8, Middlesex

Human Resources Middlesex County Courthouse P.O. Box 964 New Brunswick, NJ 08903-0964 732-645-4300 ext. 88831 Confidential fax: 732-565-2932

#### Vicinage 9, Monmouth

Human Resources Monmouth County Courthouse 71 Monument Park Freehold, NJ 07728 732-358-8700 ext. 87070 Confidential fax: 732-358-5342

#### Vicinage 10, Morris/Sussex

Human Resources Morris County Courthouse P.O. Box 910 Morristown, NJ 07963-0910 862-397-5700 ext. 75090 Confidential fax: 973-848-7819

#### Vicinage 11, Passaic

Human Resources
Passaic County Courthouse
77 Hamilton Street
Paterson, NJ 07505
973-247-8007
Confidential fax: 973-424-6881/6884

#### Vicinage 12, Union

Human Resources Union County Courthouse 2 Broad Street Elizabeth, NJ 07207 908-787-1650 ext. 22550 Confidential fax: 908-659-5956

#### Local Title I ADA Coordinators (continued)

#### Vicinage 13, Somerset/ Hunterdon/Warren

Human Resources Somerset County Courthouse P.O. Box 3000, 40 N. Bridge St. Somerville, NJ 08876-1262 908-332-7700 ext. 13260 Confidential fax: 908-332-7707

#### Vicinage 14, Ocean

Human Resources Ocean County Justice Complex 120 Hooper Avenue, Room 240 P.O. Box 2191 Toms River, NJ 08754 732-504-0700 ext. 64026 Confidential fax: 732-435-8393

#### Vicinage 15, Cumberland/ Gloucester/Salem

Human Resources Cumberland County Courthouse 60 West Broad Street Bridgeton, NJ 08302 856-878-5050 ext. 15194 Confidential fax: 856-379-2250

#### **Central Office**

Human Resources Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex 25 Market Street, P.O. Box 966 Trenton, NJ 08625 609-815-2900 ext. 54839 Confidential fax: 609-815-2926

### Statewide Judiciary Assistance Person to the Local Title I ADA Coordinators

Counsel to the Administrative Director Justice Complex, PO Box 037 Trenton, NJ 08625 609-815-2900, ext. 52400

<sup>\*</sup>The Central Office includes the Supreme Court; the Superior Court, Appellate Division; The Superior Court Clerk's Office; the Tax Court; the Disciplinary Review Board; the Office of Attorney Ethics; the Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection; the Administrative Office of the Courts; and Probation Services.

## **NEW JERSEY JUDICIARY**

#### Stuart Rabner Chief Justice

Glenn A. Grant, J.A.D.

Acting Administrative Director
of the Courts

www.njcourts.gov





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