

The Fair Housing Act (FHA)

What is the Fair Housing Act?



The *Fair Housing Act*, amended in 1988, is a Federal law that prohibits discrimination based upon disability, race, color, national origin, religion, sex, and family status when a person is buying, renting, or trying to finance a home. The law covers both public and private housing, including providing for reasonable accommodations and modifications when individuals are renting.

How does this law help young adults with disabilities?

This law ensures that young adults with disabilities can live independently as a tenant. It provides accommodations at all stages of the rental process, from application, while living in the rental unit, and to prevent eviction. Examples of such accommodations can be applications written in large print or braille or a handicapped parking spot near the rental unit.



Why is this law important for me?



The Fair Housing Act is important for young adults with disabilities because they are more likely to face discrimination when they are looking for housing. Knowing their rights under this law will assist them in finding housing and access to related services. It will help them know where to seek assistance when they feel they are being discriminated against.

How can I find out more information about FHA?

You can find more information about *The Fair Housing Act* on these sites:

- "Housing Discrimination Under the Fair Housing Act", U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/fair_housing_equal_opp/fair_housing_act_overview
- "Fair Housing Act", The United States Department of Justice, <https://www.justice.gov/crt/fair-housing-act-2>
- "What Fair Housing Means for People with Disabilities", Judge David L. Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, https://secureservercdn.net/198.71.233.111/d25.2ac.myftpupload.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Fair-Housing-Guide_2018-Update.pdf



Independent Futures that Work is a project of the Alabama Parent Education Center
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