

ARTICLE 9: ADA POLICY

Leon Valley Public Library agrees with the American Library Association (ALA) that libraries play a catalytic role in the lives of people with disabilities by facilitating their full participation in society. Libraries should use strategies based upon the principles of universal design to ensure that library policy, resources and services meet the needs of all people.

9.01 THE SCOPE OF DISABILITY LAW

Providing equitable access for persons with disabilities to library facilities and services is required by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ([Attachment 17](#)), applicable state and local statutes and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). The ADA is the Civil Rights law affecting more Americans than any other. It was created to eliminate discrimination in many areas, including access to private and public services, employment, transportation and communication. Most libraries are covered by the ADA's Title I ([Attachment 18](#)), Title II ([Attachment 19](#)) and Title III ([Attachment 20](#)). Most libraries are also obligated under Section 504 and some have responsibilities under Section 508 ([Attachment 21](#)) and other laws as well.

9.02 LIBRARY SERVICES

The Leon Valley Public Library must not discriminate against individuals with disabilities and shall ensure that individuals with disabilities have equal access to library resources. To ensure such access, the Leon Valley Public Library may provide individuals with disabilities with services such as extended loan periods, extended reserve periods, library cards for proxies, books by mail, remote electronic access to library resources, and other services as possible within the scope of the library's regular funding and staffing.

9.03 FACILITIES

The Leon Valley Public Library will provide accessible parking, clear paths of travel to and throughout the facility, entrances with adequate, clear openings and automatic doors, accessible tables and public service desks, and accessible public conveniences such as restrooms, drinking fountains, and public telephones. Other accommodations will be made based on the need of the community and adequate funding.

9.04 COLLECTIONS

Library materials must be accessible and available to individuals with disabilities in a variety of formats and with accommodations, as long as the modified formats and accommodations are “reasonable,” do not “fundamentally alter” the library’s services, and do not place an “undue burden” on the library.

Within the framework of the library’s mission and collection development policy the library collection should include materials with accurate and up-to-date information on the spectrum of disabilities, disability issues, and services for people with disabilities, their families, and other concerned persons