

Get Help Today

Call the Fair Housing Hotline

Illegal housing discrimination can happen to anyone. If you feel you may have been a victim of discrimination, know that you have rights.

Oahu

808.527.8024

Neighbor Islands

866.527. FAIR

(866.527.3247)

All services are provided free of charge.

There are no income eligibility requirements.

Funding for this brochure was provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Fair Housing Initiatives Program.

FAIR HOUSING ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM
THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF HAWAII
924 Bethel Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i

The Fair Housing Enforcement Program

Reasonable Accommodations and Modifications for Persons with Disabilities



Enjoying and Using your Home

Tel: 808.527.8024

Need an exception to a rule or change a building feature?

TERMS:

An exception to a rule or policy

Example: A landlord allows a service animal, even though there is a “no-pets rule.”

Fair Housing calls this a reasonable accommodation.

A physical change to the home

Example: Doorways are widened to allow wheelchair access.

Fair Housing calls this a reasonable modification.

These changes are for disabled persons.

Disability

- physical or mental
- really limits a main activity, like walking, breathing, or sleeping.
- does not include current substance addictions.

Examples: multiple sclerosis, blindness, or someone who uses a wheelchair

FAQ:

Do I qualify for a reasonable accommodation or modification?

The 4-Step Test:

- (1) Am I disabled?
- (2) Is my request connected to my disability?
- (3) Do I need my request to use or enjoy my housing?
- (4) Is my request possible for my landlord?

How do I ask my landlord for a reasonable accommodation or modification?

You, or someone for you, may write a letter or talk to your landlord. Your landlord may ask you to prove important information, or may suggest other ideas.

What if I make a request, but I never get an answer?

No answer could be the same as denying your request. It might be against fair housing law.

Who pays for a reasonable modification?

The tenant usually pays for any costs involved with a reasonable modification.

How Can We Help You?

The Fair Housing Enforcement Program assists people who believe they have been a victim of illegal housing discrimination. Our services include:

- Answering fair housing questions
- Assistance with filing a formal complaint with a government agency
- Advice about how to assert your fair housing rights
- Informational materials
- Referrals to other organizations that can help you with your housing needs
- Educating the community about fair housing rights

Please feel free to call our hotline, even if you are not sure that what happened to you is against the law.

Oahu: 808.527.8024
Neighbor Islands: 866.527.3247

THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY
OF HAWAII

924 Bethel Street
Honolulu, HI 96813
Tel: 808.536.4302
Fax: 808.527.8088
www.legalaidhawaii.org