

INMATES WITH DISABILITIES
NOTICE OF RIGHTS UNDER THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Deaf, hard of hearing, legally blind, and several visually impaired inmates have the right to receive "reasonable accommodations" to make programs more usable.

THE RIGHT TO REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS

"Reasonable Accommodations" may include:

- Qualified Sign Language Interpreters TTY/TDD Telephone Amplifiers
- Closed Captioning Sound Amplification Systems Hearing Aids
- Magnifiers Notification Systems Visual Smoke Detector
- Large Print

Inmates may ask for services or changes in policies not on this list.

Deaf, hard of hearing, legally blind and several visually impaired inmates can get accommodations and other services at designated facilities where needed in:

- ♦ Programs ♦ Medical ♦ Mental Health ♦ Dental ♦ Counseling ♦ Community Supervision
- ♦ Orientation ♦ Grievance ♦ Disciplinary Proceedings ♦ Special Events



HOW TO ASK FOR A REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION

Deaf, hard of hearing, legally blind, and severely visually impaired inmates must ask for accommodations and other services, including an interpreter, in person or in writing. Forms will be provided.

In _____ Correctional Facility, ask _____ or any other DOCCS or OMH staff.

Requests to DOCCS or OMH will be decided in 5 work days. If a DOCCS request is denied, the inmate can request review by the Superintendent. The Superintendent or designee may meet with the inmate within 24 hours and will decide within 1 week. If an OMH request is denied, the inmate can request review by the OMH Satellite Unit Chief or the New York Psychiatric Center Unit Chief. The Unit Chief may meet with the inmate within 1 day and will decide within 3 days. Forms will be provided to ask for reviews of denials.

GRIEVANCES

Inmates whose requests for reasonable accommodations are denied or modified, or who believe they were discriminated against by DOCCS or OMH because of their disabilities, have the right to file a grievance in person or in writing under the "Inmate Grievance Program." OMH grievances are made to the Central New York Psychiatric Center for Community Services or the Incident Review Committee. Decision will be made within 5 work days. Deaf or hard of hearing inmates can ask for help in filing the grievance, including the help of a sign language interpreter.