

***If you are disabled, it is illegal to discriminate...***

*In the sale or rental, or to otherwise make unavailable or deny a dwelling.*

*In the terms, conditions, or privileges of the sale or rental.*

*In the provision of services or facilities in connection with such dwelling.*

It is unlawful to...

Make an inquiry to determine if an applicant for a dwelling, or a person intending to reside in the dwelling, or any person associated with that person has a handicap. Unless situation meets one of the exceptions provided for in the law and regulations.

Refuse to permit at the expense of the disabled person, reasonable modifications of the existing premises, if the modifications will allow for full enjoyment of the dwelling. Refuse to make reasonable accommodations in rules, policies, practices, or services, when such accommodations may be necessary to afford a disabled person equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling unit, including public and common use areas.

All properties built after March 13, 1991, are required to be in compliance with design and construction requirements of the Federal and Texas Fair Housing Acts.



**EQUAL HOUSING  
OPPORTUNITY**



**Greater Houston  
Fair Housing Center, Inc.**

**P.O. Box 292  
Houston, Texas 77001-0292**

**Phone: (713) 641-3247  
Fax: (713) 862-0909**



**Facebook.com/HoustonFairHousing  
www.HoustonFairHousing.org**

**Fair Housing!  
It's The Law!**

**Housing  
Discrimination is  
ILLEGAL!**

**Know  
Your  
Rights!**



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## Housing Discrimination is Illegal!

According to Federal Law, it is unlawful to intimidate, threaten or interfere with any person in their pursuit or enjoyment of rights protected by the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968.

This act was amended by the Federal Fair Housing Amendment Act of 1988 to make it illegal to discriminate in housing based on these factors:

- RACE
- COLOR
- NATIONAL ORIGIN
- RELIGION
- SEX
- FAMILIAL STATUS (Families with children under the age of 18, or who are expecting a child)
- HANDICAP / DISABILITY (If you or someone in your house has a disability)

### **KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!**

Discrimination based on the reasons listed above is prohibited in the rental, sale, financing, appraisal and insurance of housing. This means more than an outright refusal to deal with you. It means you should not be treated differently in any way for any reasons listed above. If you have any questions regarding your rights under the Fair Housing Act, contact us for further information.

## AFFH: The Duty to AFFIRMATIVELY FURTHER FAIR HOUSING

From its inception, the Fair Housing Act (and subsequent laws reaffirming its principles) not only prohibited discrimination in housing related activities and transactions but also imposed a duty to affirmatively further fair housing (AFFH). The rule is designed to help program participants better understand what they are required to do to meet their AFFH duties and enables them to assess fair housing issues in their communities and then to make informed policy decisions.

For purposes of the rule, affirmatively furthering fair housing “means taking meaningful actions, in addition to combating discrimination, that overcome patterns of segregation and foster inclusive communities free from barriers that restrict access to opportunity based on protected characteristics...The duty to affirmatively further fair housing extends to all of a program participant’s activities and programs relating to housing and urban development.”

For purposes of the rule, meaningful actions “means significant actions that are designed and can be reasonably expected to achieve a material positive change that affirmatively furthers fair housing by, for example, increasing fair housing choice or decreasing disparities in access to opportunity.”

## THE MANY FACES OF HOUSING DISCRIMINATION

*“We don’t rent to your kind.”*

*“You’re just not the kind of person we want here.”*

*“Only five people can rent a three (3) bedroom apartment under our rules.”*

*“Congratulations on the new baby, but since you’re in a one bedroom you’ll need to move into a two bedroom unit.”*

*“I’m sorry but we’ll have to charge a pet deposit for your guide dog.”*

*“We have a separate waiting list for people in wheelchairs.”*

*“Families with children can only live in the back of the complex.”*

**Eligibility:** Must be a resident of the Greater Houston metropolitan area. (Counties: Harris, Fort Bend, Brazoria, Galveston, Chambers, Liberty, Montgomery, Waller)

**Fees:** None

**Procedure:** Call (713) 641-3247 for an initial phone interview and/or schedule an appointment.



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