



## A Challenge for the Able and the Disabled - Act and Action

A Guide to Disability Rights Laws <http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/cguide.htm>

### ADA Accessibility Guidelines for Buildings and Facilities

In 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act became law. It has presented challenges and changes not only for the disabled, but for everyone.

Census Bureau Facts For Features Report on ADA.

[http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/facts\\_for\\_features\\_special\\_editions/](http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/facts_for_features_special_editions/)

Use the Guide to Disability Rights Laws. Create a survey tool of your school building, school athletic facilities, a public park or a community owned ball field.

Evaluate - How well is the facility adapted to the needs of a disabled person?

#### **Assess**

Create a physical plant survey. You may focus on one kind of disability or be general. (Visual impairment, hearing, intellectual, physical)

Get permission from a facilities supervisor before actually conducting the inspection. Offer the report to the person in charge of the facility when you have completed it.

Conduct the inspection. Rate how well the physical setting has been adapted to meet the needs of the disabled.

#### **Action**

Report to the person in charge of the facility when you have completed it.

In the case of a school, report your findings to the student body and the administration.

Is there an action the students can take to remedy a problem?

Create a student action plan. Set a **SMART goal** - (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Results oriented, Time related.)

"The power of the Web is in its universality. Access by everyone regardless of disability is an essential aspect."  
[Tim Berners-Lee](#), W3C Director and inventor of the World Wide Web