TOWN OF GAINESVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY, SILVER SPRINGS, NEW YORK

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITES ACT**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a comprehensive federal civil rights statue signed into law in 1990. The legislation requires public libraries to improve physical accessibility and programming opportunities for people with mental or physical disabilities. For libraries, the basic principle becomes inclusion in all activities and services. The opportunity to participate should be available to all patrons regardless of age or of disability.

Section 35 105 of the ADA requires all state and local entities to evaluate current policies and practices, identifying and correcting any which do not meet the requirements of the regulations. Libraries must conduct a self-evaluation survey of their facility, services, and policies with an eye toward accessibility.

Physical barriers may be the most obvious impediment to public library use by those with disabilities. Steps to correct those which can be done readily must be taken, steps to correct others must be included in the long-range plan of service.

The ADA requires libraries to provide auxiliary aids or services, Public Library Systems are often able to provide member libraries with access to these materials or adaptive equipment, which might include taped books, large print books, Braille materials, or other methods of making visually delivered materials available to patrons with visual impairment or learning disability with promotions specifying manner that program is or can be made accessible to people with special needs.

The Library will use guidelines set forth in the American Disabilities Act to meet its objectives in servicing the public.

Adopted April 3, 1995, Town of Gainesville Public Library Board of Trustees

Reviewed March 25, 2024, Town of Gainesville Public Library Board of Trustees