

Elkhart Human Relations

# Newsletter

[www.elkhartindiana.org/fair-housing](http://www.elkhartindiana.org/fair-housing)

September 2023

## Accessible Parking Spaces

### What is a reasonable accommodation?

A reasonable accommodation (RA) is a change, exception, or adjustment to a rule, policy, practice, or service that may be necessary for a person with a disability to have an equal opportunity to use or enjoy a dwelling, including public and common use spaces.



### Requesting an RA

- A reasonable accommodation can be requested verbally or in writing
- A request for a reasonable accommodation can be made at anytime
- If the person already has an accessible parking placard or if the disability is obvious or known to the housing provider and there is a connection between the disability and the request for a reserved parking space, then the accommodation should be approved.
- A person is not required to pay extra fees or deposits as a condition of receiving a reasonable accommodation

## Report Housing Discrimination

Elkhart Human Relations  
201 South Second Street  
Elkhart, IN 46516  
574-294-5471 Ex 1014  
Relay Indiana 711  
[human.relations@coei.org](mailto:human.relations@coei.org)



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## Reasonable Accommodation/ Modification Verifications

An accommodation must be related to a person's disability. Housing providers must generally grant requests for an accommodation/modification if they meet certain criteria.

A person with a disability is protected if they;

- have a physical and/or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities
- have a record of such an impairment, or
- are regarded as having such an impairment.

Examples of covered disabilities include:

- Chronic mental illness
- Hearing, mobility, and visual impairments
- Cancer
- AIDS/HIV
- Developmental disabilities
- Alcoholism or past drug abuse

## What can the Landlord ask me?

The housing provider is entitled to receive confirmation that:

- **The tenant is a person with a disability as defined within the Fair Housing Law, and**
- **The requested accommodation/modification is necessary because of their disability to fully use and enjoy their housing.**

Verifications letters should include **both** of the above statements.

A housing provider is **not permitted** to ask a person with a disability any questions about the nature or extent of their disability.