

# Recognizing and Protecting the Civil Rights of People with Disabilities

Information Resource Center

Public Affairs Section

U.S. Embassy Jakarta

## U.S. Embassy Jakarta Mission Statement

Based on mutual respect and shared values, the U.S. Mission works with Indonesia to strengthen democracy, sustain the environment, promote prosperity, enhance understanding and ensure security for our people, our nations, and our region.

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## The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008

### Overview

The ADA recognizes and protects the civil rights of people with disabilities and is modeled after earlier landmark laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race and gender. The ADA covers a wide range of disability, from physical conditions affecting mobility, stamina, sight, hearing, and speech to conditions such as emotional illness and learning disorders. The ADA addresses access to the workplace (title I), State and local government services (title II), and places of public accommodation and commercial facilities (title III). It also requires phone companies to provide telecommunications relay services for people who have hearing or speech impairments (title IV) and miscellaneous instructions to Federal agencies that enforce the law (title V). Regulations issued under the different titles by various Federal agencies set

requirements and establish enforcement procedures. To understand and comply with the ADA, it is important to follow the appropriate regulations.

Under titles II and III of the ADA, the Board develops and maintains accessibility guidelines for buildings, facilities, and transit vehicles and provides technical assistance and training on these guidelines. The ADA Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) serve as the basis of standards issued by the departments of Justice (DOJ) and Transportation (DOT) to enforce the law. The building guidelines cover places of public accommodation, commercial facilities, and State and local government facilities. The vehicle guidelines address buses, vans, a variety of rail vehicles, trams, and other modes of public transportation. Regulations issued by DOJ and DOT contain stan-

dards based on ADAAG and also provide important information on which buildings and facilities are subject to the standards. It is important that the regulations be used along with the design standards they contain or reference.

### ADA Amendments Act of 2008

Amendments to the ADA signed into law on September 25, 2008, clarify and reiterate who is covered by the law's civil rights protections. The amendments took effect January 1, 2009.

The full text of the ADA of 1990, as amended, is accessible at: <http://www.access-board.gov/about/laws/ADA.htm#Text>

The ADA Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) is available at: <http://www.access-board.gov/adaag/ADAAG.pdf>

### Ide-ide Pokok

- The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) adalah undang-undang yang mengakui dan melindungi kesetaraan hak-hak sipil penyandang disabilitas di Amerika Serikat. Jenis-jenis disabilitas yang diakui ADA mulai dari kelompok dengan keterbatasan fisik yang mempengaruhi mobilitas, kekuatan, pendengaran, penglihatan dan kesulitan bicara, hingga ke penyakit-penyakit emosional/mental dan kesulitan/hambatan belajar.
- ADA Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) adalah seperangkat petunjuk yang mengatur standarisasi fasilitas umum serta infrastrukturnya dan transportasi umum agar bisa diakses oleh penyandang disabilitas. Fasilitas lainnya yang harus sesuai dengan ADAAG adalah kantor-kantor pemerintahan baik di tingkat pusat (federal) maupun negara bagian (state). ADAAG dikeluarkan oleh Departemen Kehakiman dan Departemen Transportasi

## 1990-2010: Americans with Disabilities Act Turns 20

By Louise Fenner, Staff writer of America.gov

Menurut ADA, penyandang disabilitas tidak boleh menerima perlakuan diskriminasi di bidang-bidang:

- Kesempatan kerja
- Layanan umum, seperti pendidikan, fasilitas kesehatan, transportasi dan tempat pemungkutan suara.
- Fasilitas komersial, seperti pertokoan, hotel, restoran, tempat rekreasi, teater/stadion
- Telekomunikasi



Seorang pengemudi bis umum menarik seorang penumpang berkursi roda naik ke dalam bis dengan melalui akses masuk yang landai. Sejalan dengan ADA, sebagian besar bus umum di Amerika Serikat bisa diakses oleh penyandang disabilitas

Berkat ADA, bus umum dan kereta api di Amerika Serikat dilengkapi oleh lift ataupun akses masuk yang landai untuk pengguna kursi roda. Di kedua alat transportasi ini, disediakan pula tempat duduk khusus bagi penyandang cacat, pegangan tangan, lantai anti licin dan informasi dalam huruf Braille. Call Center untuk keadaan darurat juga diperlengkapi dengan alat komunikasi untuk tuna rungu.

Washington — In 1990 with the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), disabled people in the United States won legal guarantees similar to those achieved in the civil rights movement a quarter of a century earlier.

The ADA “made a very big difference,” says Judith Heumann, the State Department’s special adviser on international disability rights.

“The value of this law was that it acknowledged that discrimination against disabled people in the United States was pervasive and systemic, and that the federal government needed to intervene,” said Heumann, a lifelong advocate for the civil rights of people with disabilities.

The ADA was signed on July 26, 1990, by President George H.W. Bush. The law “has a very broad effect,” Heumann said, “because it deals with the government and the private sector.” The ADA substantially mirrors the protections of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which made discrimination based on race, religion, gender and national origin illegal. The ADA prohibits discrimination based on disability in the areas of employment; public services, such as education, medical facilities, transportation and voting booths; public accommodations and commercial facilities, such as stores, hotels, restaurants, recreation areas, theaters and arenas; and telecommunications.

Thanks to ADA, city buses and trains in the United States have lifts or ramps for wheelchairs, priority seating signs, handrails, slip-resistant flooring and information stamped in Braille. Emergency call centers are equipped with telecommunications devices for the deaf

(TDDs), and federally funded public service announcements have closed captioning. Sidewalks have curb cuts (ramps), and public restrooms have special stalls for persons in wheelchairs. [...].

### Employment, Education Are Still Challenges

Although the ADA prohibits discrimination in job recruitment, hiring, promotions, training or pay, “one of the biggest areas we’re still trying to address is getting qualified disabled people jobs,” Heumann said.

She recently attended an event where the National Security Agency (NSA), a component of the U.S. intelligence community, was honored for its record of hiring people with disabilities. “Here was a government agency that had people in senior- to mid-level management positions who had the responsibility to recruit, hire and ensure that appropriate accommodations were made for the [disabled] employee,” Heumann said. The most important factor was NSA’s attitude, she said. “When qualified people came to them, they looked at the qualifications and they didn’t give reasons why not — they said, ‘Yes we can, and how do we do it?’” [...].

Although high schools and universities are more accessible than ever before, Heumann said, “The dropout rates [for disabled students] are still too high.”

As disabled people become integrated members of the community, she said, “the stigma of disability slowly disappears — but I think it’s fair to say that there really is a heavy stigma associated with disability. People are afraid of becoming like us. I think they really don’t know how they

would adjust [to being disabled], and I think that’s one of the barriers that exists.” [...].

### Everybody Benefits

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that there are more than 54 million people in the United States living with disabilities, and the United Nations — which adopted the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2006 — projects that some 650 million people throughout the world are disabled. They are the world’s largest minority. Eighty percent live in developing countries.

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton has said that “discrimination against people with disabilities isn’t only an injustice, it is a strain on economic development, a limit to democracy, a burden on families and a cause of social erosion.”

In the United States, said Heumann, “the removal of barriers has enabled disabled people to become a growing part of mainstream society.” And like any other group, “if disabled people are working, we have disposable income. It’s spent on restaurants, on travel, on doing what other people do.” [...].

“When you have more than 650 million disabled people in the world, many of whom are being denied opportunities based on discrimination,” Heumann said, “we can see that if we remove barriers and provide equal opportunities, it will help improve the economies of countries around the world.” [...].

Source: <http://goo.gl/xZiXr>

# UCP Wheels for Humanity, U.S. Department of State, and Yakkum Rehabilitation Center to Provide Wheelchairs and Disabled Sports Training in Yogyakarta, Indonesia

UCP Wheels for Humanity, the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs' SportsUnited Office at the U.S. Department of State, and the Yogyakarta Empowerment and Potential International Sports Project for Individuals with Disabilities (Project YEP) announced today a new effort that uses sports to bring people together and empower Indonesian youth with disabilities. From April 14-22, experts from the United States will partner with their Indonesian counterparts to train and work with students with disabilities, parents and guardians, teachers, and coaches on adaptive forms of basketball, volleyball, table tennis, badminton, and soccer.

Kicking-off the exchange in Yogyakarta April 14-16, the U.S. experts will collaborate with and train Indonesian teachers and coaches on ways to involve youth with disabilities in sports. Following these training sessions, they will travel to five school districts and conduct clinics with the youth, teachers, and coaches.

Following the initial exchange in Indonesia, the Yogyakarta School District is committed to provide weekly trainings in a host of sports activities in the five districts of Yogyakarta for 250 youth with disabilities.

## ABOUT UCP Wheels for Humanity

For 16 years UCP Wheels for Humanity (UCPW) has provided mobility to children and adults across the developing world. Its mission works in two ways: First, by refurbishing donated wheelchairs and rehabilitation equipment back to industry standards here in the U.S. UCPW partners with international health-care organizations and rehabilitation hospitals to identify those in greatest need to receive one of UCPW's 5,000 wheelchairs that are distributed each year. The wheelchairs and equipment are then shipped to partnering organizations in developing countries where world-class physical and occupational therapists along with rehabilitation specialists from the United States custom fit the wheelchairs to children and adults with disabilities. Second, through UCPW's Indonesia-based assembly center, Indonesians with disabilities identify recipients and provide wheelchairs, related services and empowerment to the disabled population across Indonesia. UCPW is funded solely through contributions and is a subsidiary of UCP of Los Angeles, Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties.

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## ABOUT Yakkum Rehabilitation Centre

The Yakkum Rehabilitation Centre is a non-governmental educational institution whose aim is to provide a comprehensive

rehabilitation program to people with physical disabilities to achieve maximum possible independence in order to return to life in the community. Established in 1982, their belief is that individuals with disabilities, if given the opportunity, can live worthwhile lives and contribute to Indonesian society. Their philosophy is that sports and recreation are crucial to the development, rehabilitation, empowerment, and integration of people with disabilities in Indonesia. Yakkum's programs aim to improve the psychological and social well-being of people with disabilities and support them in setting up an independent and inclusive life in the community.

## ABOUT the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs' SportsUnited Office

SportsUnited is the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs' premier sports exchange program at the U.S. Department of State. Under its International Sports Programming Initiative, public and private U.S. based non-profit organizations, 501(c)(3), may submit proposals to address one of four themes: Youth Sports Management, Training Sports Coaches, Sport and Disability, and Sport and Health. Since 2002, the office has awarded more than 80 grants to U.S. non-profits to conduct programs around the world.

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Read more about Sports United at: <http://exchanges.state.gov/sports/>

## Sports for People with Disabilities

- Olimpiade bagi atlet penyandang disabilitas, Paralympics, dilaksanakan pertama kali di kota Roma pada tahun 1960.
- Paralympics musim panas tahun 1960 diikuti oleh 400 atlet yang berasal dari 23 negara. Sedangkan Paralympics musim panas tahun 2008 di Beijing, diikuti oleh 3,951 atlet dari 146 negara.
- Paralympics musim panas berikutnya akan diadakan di London pada tahun 2012.
- Penyelenggaraan Paralympic selalu diadakan di tahun yang sama dengan penyelenggaraan Olimpiade musim panas dan musim dingin.
- Aktifitas fisik bagi penyandang disabilitas tidak hanya membantu mereka mendapatkan pekerjaan tapi juga membantu meningkatkan kinerja mereka di tempat kerja (HarrisInteractive Survei 2008 untuk Disabled Sports USA).
- Penyandang cacat yang aktif secara fisik merasakan kualitas hidup yang lebih baik secara fisik dan juga mental (HarrisInteractive Survei 2008 untuk Disabled Sports USA).
- Penyandang cacat yang aktif secara fisik juga lebih menikmati kegiatan bersosialisasi, memiliki jaringan dukungan yang lebih kuat dan lebih positif dalam memandang hidup (HarrisInteractive Survei 2008 untuk Disabled Sports USA).

Informasi lebih detail mengenai aktifitas olahraga bagi penyandang disabilitas bisa diakses di: <http://www.paralympic.org/IPC/> <http://www.dsusa.org/DSUSA-Srv09.pdf>

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 ☆ A person who is severely  
 ☆ impaired never knows his  
 ☆ hidden sources of strength  
 ☆ until he is treated like a nor-  
 ☆ mal human being and en-  
 ☆ couraged to shape his own  
 ☆ life. -- Helen Keller  
 ☆  
 ☆  
 ☆\*\*\*\*\*

**Disclaimer:** Books, articles, reports and websites described in this info package present a diversity of views in order to keep our users to keep abreast of current issues in the United States in particular and worldwide in general. These items represented the views and opinions of the authors and do not necessary reflect official U.S. Government policy.

## IRC Information Package

### eJournal: Disability & Ability

By U.S. Department of State. Bureau of International Information Programs; [America.gov](http://America.gov), November 2006

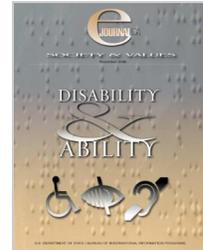
A disability can directly or indirectly limit a person's ability to engage in normal life experiences. The direct effects are fairly easy to identify—an inability to see, for example, affects personal mobility and the ability to read regular print or to watch television. But the indirect effects are sometimes less easily identified, or compensated for, and just as debilitating. A disability can make getting an education more difficult, so that some people with no intellectual or cognitive disability still may be less educated than others. Depending on the disability, and access to support, other indirect effects can include reduced mobility, limited social access, more diffi-

culty finding a job (or being able to get to work or to do the job physically), and difficulty taking care of health and fitness and nutritional needs. Recognizing that people with disabilities, as a group, tend to be less educated, have higher unemployment, and are frequently in poorer health—often for reasons not resulting directly from their disability—the United States has developed programs and legal protections to begin addressing these issues [...].

With support, people can overcome even severe disabilities while maximizing their abilities and lead fulfilling and productive lives. This journal presents some aspects of such efforts.

We hope you will enjoy reading about the Americans with Disabilities law and about the programs underway to help turn disabilities into abilities, from accommodation to technology and medical research. Opening opportunities and removing barriers to people with disabilities is a work in progress, but as you will see in some of these articles, the results can be truly inspiring.

Read more: <http://www.america.gov/st/health-english/2008/April/20080526231014SrenoD0.3198206.html#ixzz1JrS53miU>.



eJournal: Disability & Ability  
Jika berminat, anda bisa mendapatkan fotokopi dari eJournal ini tanpa dipungut bayaran, dengan cara email IRC di:  
[ircjakarta@state.gov](mailto:ircjakarta@state.gov)

## More Online Resources

### National Council on Disability

An independent federal agency that recommends policies to the president and Congress to enhance the quality of life for the disabled. Publishes reports, a newsletter, and a listserv. Link: <http://www.ncd.gov/>

**U.S. Census Bureau: Disability Reports**, briefs, and data on

disability and links to other sites with disability statistics are provided by the statistical arm of the U.S. Department of Commerce. Link: <http://goo.gl/SrrVB>

### ABLEDATA

ABLEDATA consists of a database of 19,000 "assistive technology products and rehabilita-

tion equipment available from domestic and international sources." Information is also provided on the companies that sell these products, though none are sold on the site. ABLEDATA is maintained for the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research of the U.S. Department of Education. Link: <http://www.abledata.com>



### PHOTO GALLERY

Playing tennis in a specially built wheelchair helped this doctor gain enough strength to resume his medical practice. (© AP Images). Get more photos at: <http://goo.gl/nDNiP>

### About the Information Resource Center (IRC)

The U.S. Embassy's Information Resource Center (IRC) in Jakarta is a specialized reference and research facility. Our goal is to provide you with accurate, up-to-date and authoritative information about U.S. society and policy materials, cover such topic as U.S. foreign policy, government, economics and trade, history, social and cultural issues.

The IRC collection includes an up-to-date reference collection, a periodicals section, and access to extensive online databases.

For details on reference and periodical collections, please check our online catalog at <http://69.63.217.22/U10086Staff/OPAC/index.asp>.

For all IRC information products, including this info package are available online at: <http://jakarta.usembassy.gov/infoproduct.html>

Information queries may be submitted to us by phone, fax, mail, and e-mail. You are also welcome to visit us by appointment for personal research assistance.

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Walk-in Visitors (by appointment only): Monday to Friday; from 07:30 to 16:00. We are closed on U.S. and Indonesian holidays (list of holidays is accessible at: <http://goo.gl/Y99he>)

This information packaged is compiled by the Information Resource Center (IRC) of the U.S. Embassy Jakarta for Disabled Sports Training Program in Yogyakarta, April 14-16, 2011