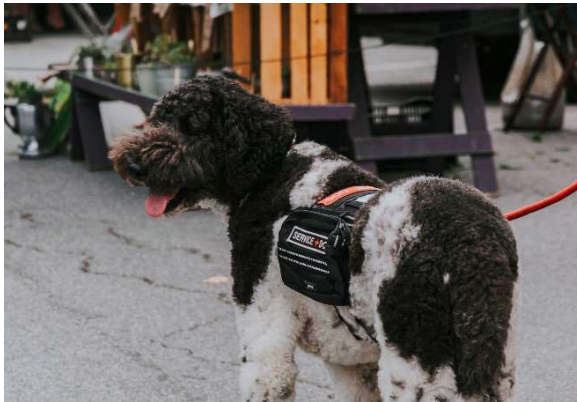


WHAT ARE PLACES OF PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION?

- "Place of public accommodation" is short for "place of public resort, accommodation, assemblage, or amusement" See WAC 162-26-040(2).
- Any place the public gathers, which includes schools, government offices, stores, theaters, libraries, hospitals, and transit facilities, and other examples listed in RCW 49.60.040(2).
- Privately owned spaces open to the public.
- Excludes religious organizations or distinctly private fraternal organizations...



UNDER RCW 49.60.215 UNFAIR PRACTICES OF A PLACE OF PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION INCLUDE:

- Refusing entrance or denying equal access or treatment
- Charging a different rate for goods or services
- Denying access to a service animal
- Providing or offering different terms or conditions ...

The Washington Law Against Discrimination does not require structural changes, modifications, or additions to make any place accessible to a person with a disability except as otherwise required by law. Behavior or actions constituting a risk to property or persons can be grounds for refusal and shall not constitute an unfair practice.



PROTECTED CLASSES IN PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION INCLUDE:

- Race/Color
- National Origin
- Citizenship/Immigration Status
- Creed
- Sex/Pregnancy
- Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity
- Veteran/Military Status
- The presence of any sensory, mental or physical Disability-Actual or Perceived
- Use of a Service Animal
- HIV or Hepatitis C
- Breastfeeding

The Washington State Human Rights Commission (WSHRC) has no jurisdiction over certain services or entities, including, but not limited to:

- Police actions
- Decisions of courts, city, and county commissioners, or other administrative or licensing agencies
- Internet sites
- Denial of public benefits
- Child support
- Court ordered visitation
- Prison and jails and their inmate programs
- Child or adult protective services
- Native American tribes
- The federal government



The Washington State Human Rights Commission works to prevent and eliminate discrimination through complaint investigation, alternative dispute resolution, and education, training and outreach activities.

Filing a Complaint

Everyone has an obligation to comply with the law and a right to seek redress when harm occurs. Complaints alleging violations of RCW 49.60 must be filed within six (6) months of the date of alleged harm. Complaints may be resolved during an investigation subject to agreement between the parties and the WSHRC. To obtain additional information about the complaint process, visit our website or contact one of our offices to speak to an Intake Investigator. Please let us know if you need an interpreter or reasonable accommodation.



Fair Application of the Law

The Washington State Human Rights Commission is a neutral, fact-finding agency; it does not act as an advocate for any party during an investigation, but advocates for the law in the interest of preventing and eliminating discrimination.

Washington State Human Rights Commission Locations

HEADQUARTERS

711 S. Capitol Way, Suite 402
PO Box 42490
Olympia, Washington 98504-2490
360-753-6770

SPOKANE

Rock Pointe Plaza III
1330 N. Washington Street, Ste
2460 Spokane, Washington 99201
1-800-233-3247

YAKIMA

1205 Ahtanum Ridge Dr., Suite C

Union Gap, WA 98903

WENATCHEE

519 Grant Rd
East Wenatchee, WA 98802

If you need additional information, have additional questions, or wish to have training for your organization, please contact the WSHRC at 360-753-6770 or 1-800-233-3247.

Additional information on this and other civil rights issues can be found on our website at

www.hum.wa.gov



WASHINGTON STATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



DISCRIMINATION IN PLACES OF PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS

The Mission of the Washington State Human Rights Commission is to prevent and eliminate discrimination through the fair application of the law, the efficient use of resources, and the establishment of productive partnerships in the community.