

Last Revision Date: September 2024

Developer/Reviewer: ADA Coordinator

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide procedures to ensure full compliance with the public notification provisions of Title II of the ADA, as specified by II-8.4000 "Notice to the Public" in the Department of Justice Title II Technical Assistance manual.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all citizens accessing Sedgwick County facilities, programs and/or services, including Sedgwick County employees.

3. Policy Statement

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Sedgwick County will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs, or activities.

Employment: Sedgwick County does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices and complies with all regulations promulgated by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission under Title I of the ADA.

<u>Effective Communication</u>: Sedgwick County will generally, upon request, provide appropriate aids and services leading to effective communication for qualified persons with disabilities so they can participate equally in Sedgwick County's programs, services, and activities, including qualified sign language interpreters, documents in Braille, and other ways of making information and communications accessible to people who have speech, hearing, or vision impairments.

<u>Modifications to Policies and Procedures</u>: Sedgwick County will make all reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy all of its programs, services, and activities. For example, individuals with service animals are welcomed in Sedgwick County offices, even where pets are generally prohibited.

Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a program, service, or activity of Sedgwick County, should contact the:

Sedgwick County ADA Coordinator 100 N. Broadway, Suite 130, Wichita, Kansas 67202 Phone: (316) 660-7056 / Fax: (316) 941-5132 TDD: Kansas Relay at 711 or 800-766-3777

as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event. Please include the name, location, date and time of the service or program, your contact information and the type of aid, service, or policy modification needed.

The ADA does not require Sedgwick County to take any action that would fundamentally alter the nature of its programs or services, or impose an undue financial or administrative burden.

Complaints that a program, service, or activity of Sedgwick County is not accessible to persons with disabilities should be directed to the Sedgwick County ADA Coordinator and may be filed using the County's ADA Grievance Procedure by using the online form located on the ADA page of the Sedgwick County website.

Sedgwick County will not place a surcharge on a particular individual with a disability or any group of individuals with disabilities to cover the cost of providing auxiliary aids/services or reasonable modifications of policy, such as retrieving items from locations that are open to the public but are not accessible to persons who use wheelchairs.

4. Procedures

Each County Department or facility shall display an 8.5 by 11 inch poster in an accessible public location, at or near the department entrance or front counter. The content for the poster will include the policy statement above and will be provided by the Sedgwick County ADA Coordinator.

The Sedgwick County ADA Coordinator shall publish the above policy statement in order to provide information on Title II requirements to applicants, participants, beneficiaries, and other interested persons.

Methods of approved publication include handbooks, manuals, and pamphlets that are distributed to the public to describe a public entity's programs and activities; the display of informative posters in service centers and other public places; newspaper notices; or the broadcast of information by television or radio. In providing the notice, a public entity must comply with the Title II requirements for effective communication, including alternate formats, as appropriate.

For additional information, or to receive this document in alternate format, please contact the Sedgwick County ADA Coordinator.