Words to Know
accessible
When people with disabilities can easily use something. We can easily get around somewhere. We feel like we belong there.

accommodations
Changes that make things easier for people with disabilities. They help us get the same things as non-disabled people.

Air Carrier Access Act
A law about what rights people with disabilities have in airplanes. It was passed before the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
A law in the United States that gives people with disabilities rights. It is called “the ADA” for short.
ADA Amendments Act
A list of changes to the ADA that made the ADA better. It changed the law in 2008.

ADA Notification Bills
Ideas for new laws that would make people with disabilities wait before starting ADA lawsuits.

communication
How we show others what we want and need.

Civil Rights Laws
Laws that make sure people get treated fairly.
Discrimination
When someone gets treated unfairly because of who they are.

effective communication
Communication that is accessible to us. It lets you share what you think, and understand what other people say.

enforce
Making sure that people follow the law.

interactive process
When you talk with your job about your disability. You work together to decide what accommodations you will get.
lawmakers
People who make laws. They work for the government.

lawsuit
When you bring someone to court. You tell the court that person broke a law, then the court decides if that person broke the law.

legal rights
Rights that the law gives you. The government needs to make sure you get these rights.

local governments
The people who run cities and towns. For example, New York City has a local government.
**Olmstead**
A big court case about the ADA and living in the community. It says that people with disabilities have a right to live in the community.

**organ transplant**
When a doctor takes an organ, like a heart, from one person. Then, they put that organ in a different person.

**paratransit**
Public transportation for people with disabilities. It makes sure we can get to the same places as everyone else.

**Protection & Advocacy Agency (P&A)**
Places that help people with disabilities fight for our rights. They make sure states follow disability laws.
public places
Parts of the community that are open to everyone. Restaurants and stores are examples of public places.

reasonable accommodations
Accommodations that make sense for your job. It also means the accommodations are things your job can do.

recovering
When someone with a substance use disorder stops taking drugs.

Rehabilitation Act
A law for the United States government. It does a lot of the same things as the ADA.
state governments
The people who run each state. For example, California has a state government.

substance use disorder
When someone takes a lot of drugs. Their body feels like it needs the drugs to stay alive. So they keep taking the drugs, even if they want to stop.

Supreme Court
The biggest court in the United States. They have the final say on how laws work.

telecommunications
Tools people use to talk or listen to each other, like phones and TV.
titles

1. Different parts of a law.

2. 

transgender

When your gender is different than people thought when you were born.