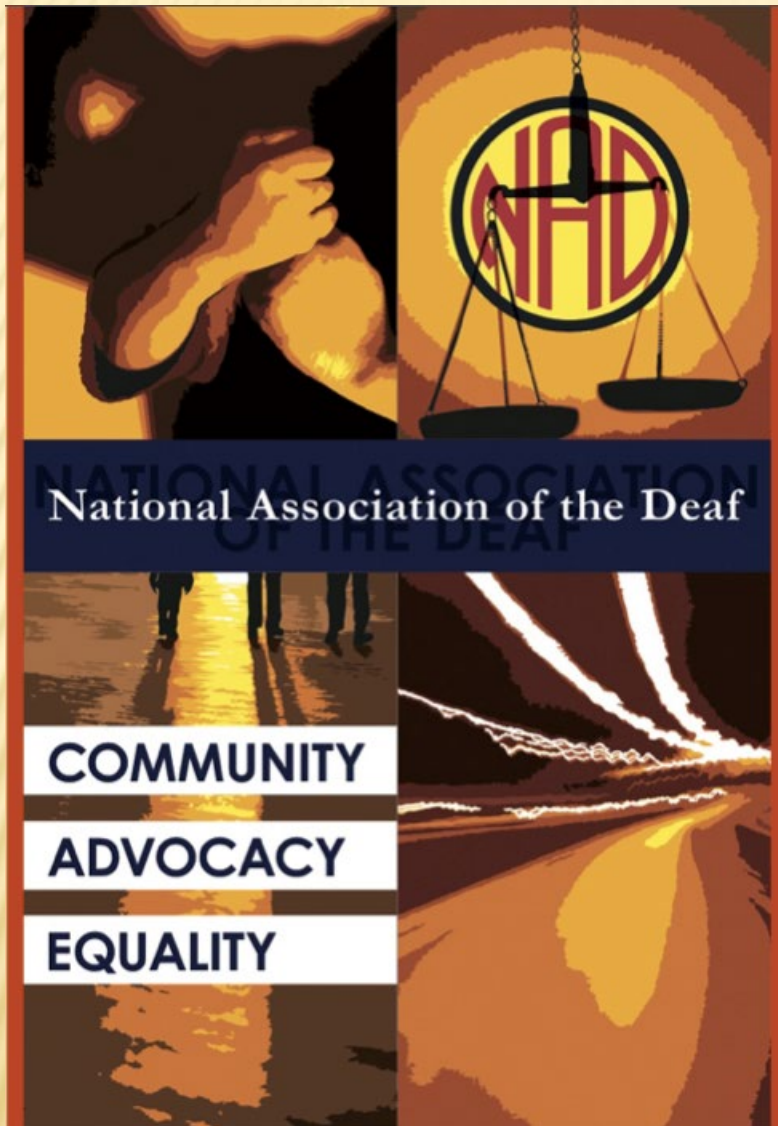


Accessing Afterschool Programs



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Knowledge Is Power

- To invoke rights, you need first to know and understand them
- Knowledge is a tool – in and out of court
- Few people know of ADA rights; most need to be educated
- Equip your child to be a self-advocate

Important Laws to Know

- Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504)
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
 - *May* apply to afterschool programs.
 - Section 504 and the ADA can apply in addition to the IDEA.

The ADA and Section 504

- Apply to nearly every aspect of public life:
 - Programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance (Section 504)
 - State/local governments and all their programs, services, and activities (Title II)
 - Places of public accommodation (Title III)
- Must show you're "qualified":
 - Meet essential eligibility requirements
 - With or without reasonable accommodations

Effective Communication

- Required under both ADA and Section 504
- Must provide the auxiliary aids and services necessary to achieve effective communication.
- Effective communication = communication that is as effective as communication with others.

Auxiliary Aids and Services

- Must provide auxiliary aids and services, such as
 - Qualified interpreters
 - Real-time captioning (CART),
 - Assistive listening devices, or
 - Other auxiliary aids or services, when necessary to communicate effectively with people who are deaf or hard of hearing
 - Both Title II and Title III expect the provider to consult with the deaf or hard of hearing person
- Cannot charge a deaf/HOH person for the costs of auxiliary aids and services

HYPOTHETICAL #1

Your child would like to enroll in an afterschool job training program. Your child requires CART for all group discussions. What can you do?

HYPOTHETICAL #2

Your child would like to enroll in the school's track and field team.

- 1) Your child uses an FM system. The coach refuses to use it, what can you do?
- 2) Your child does not wear their hearing aid/cochlear implant when competing or training. How can you ensure communication is effective?

HYPOTHETICAL #3

You would like to enroll your child in the school's after-school daycare program. Your child uses sign language but communicates well in written English. What does your child need for effective communication?

HYPOTHETICAL #4

You have enrolled your child in a school-subsidized after-school tutoring program. The school district does not want to provide qualified sign language interpreters for your child to participate. What can you do?

CONTACT US

Visit...

National Association of the Deaf
8630 Fenton Street, Suite 820
Silver Spring MD, 20910

Call...

301.587.1788 V/VP
301.587.1791 FAX

Write ...

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Interact ...

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Advocacy Letters

- <https://www.nad.org/resources/advocacy-letters/>
- Or search “NAD Advocacy Letters”

Other NAD Resources

- <https://www.nad.org/parents/>
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