Do you have a disability?
If you have a disability, you have the same rights as others.

Please tell us if you have a disability so we can help you access human services programs and benefits.

What medical conditions may be disabilities?
A disability is a physical, sensory, or mental impairment that materially limits a major life activity.

Types of disabilities may include:
- Diseases like diabetes, epilepsy or cancer
- Learning disorders like dyslexia
- Developmental delays
- Clinical depression
- Hearing loss or low vision
- Movement restrictions like trouble with walking, reaching or grasping
- History of alcohol or drug addiction, although current illegal drug use is not a disability.

If you are asking for or are getting benefits through either a county human services agency or the Minnesota Department of Human Services, that office will let you know if you have a disability using information from you and your doctor.

What help is available?
If you have a disability, your county or the state human services agency can help you by:
- Calling you or meeting with you in another place if you are not able to come into the office
- Using a sign language interpreter
- Giving you letters and forms in other formats like computer files, audio recordings, large print or Braille
- Telling you the meaning of the information we give you
- Helping you fill out forms
- Helping you make a plan so you can work even with your disability
- Sending you to other services that may help you
- Helping you to appeal agency decisions about you if you disagree with them.

You will not have to pay extra for help. If you want help, ask your agency as soon as possible. An agency may not be able to accommodate requests made within 48 hours of need.

How does the law protect people with disabilities?
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act are federal laws, and the Minnesota Human Rights Act is a state law. Each gives individuals with disabilities the same legal rights and protections as people without disabilities, including access to public assistance benefits. You will not be denied benefits because you have a disability. Your benefits will not be stopped because of your disability. If your disability makes getting benefits hard for you, your county human services agency will help you access all of the programs that are available to you.
Discrimination is against the law
You have the right to file a complaint if you believe you were treated in a discriminatory way by a human services agency. You can contact any of the following agencies directly to file a civil rights complaint.

The Minnesota Department of Human Services, Equal Opportunity and Access Division, prohibits discrimination in its programs because of race, color, national origin, creed, religion, sexual orientation, public assistance status, age, disability or sex (including sex stereotypes and gender identity under any health program or activity receiving federal financial assistance). Contact the Equal Opportunity and Access Division directly:
Minnesota Department of Human Services
Equal Opportunity and Access Division
P.O. Box 64997
St. Paul, MN 55164-0997
651-431-3040 (voice) or use your preferred relay service

The Minnesota Department of Human Rights prohibits discrimination in public services programs because of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, disability, sex, sexual orientation, or public assistance status. Contact the Minnesota Department of Human Rights directly:
Minnesota Department of Human Rights
Freeman Building, 625 North Robert Street
St. Paul, MN 55155
651-539-1100 (voice)
800-665-3704 (toll free)
711 or 800-665-3529 (MN Relay)

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office for Civil Rights prohibits discrimination in its programs because of race, color, national origin, age and disability; in block grant complaints, religion and sex are included; and in medical program complaints, sex includes sex stereotypes and gender identity under any health program or activity receiving federal financial assistance, such as Medicaid and CHIP programs, hospitals, clinics, employers, insurance companies and state health insurance exchanges created under Title I of the Affordable Care Act. Contact the federal agency directly:
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Office for Civil Rights, Region V
233 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 240
Chicago, IL 60601
312-886-2359 (voice)
800-368-1019 (toll free)
800-537-7697 (TTY)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual’s income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish).

For any other information dealing with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) issues, persons should either contact the USDA SNAP Hotline Number at 800-221-5689, which is also in Spanish or call the State Information/Hotline Numbers (click the link for a listing of hotline numbers by State); found online at http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/contact_info/hotlines.htm.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
Attention. If you need free help interpreting this document, ask your worker or call the number below for your language.

This information is available in accessible formats for individuals with disabilities by contacting your county worker. For other information on disability rights and protections to access human services programs, contact the agency's ADA coordinator.