



RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
Executive Department
**GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON
DISABILITIES**

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RULES AND REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO

**Chapter C Coordinating Compliance by State Agencies with Laws Protecting the
Rights of Individuals with Disabilities**

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Compilers Notes:

Red or Blue text indicates a link to an endnote or web link, move **⌨** to colored text and click to open.
All forms references are available on line at www.disabilities.ri.gov

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I. STATUTORY AUTHORITY

RI GL 42-51-6(3) Governor’s Commission on Disabilities - Duties¹.

II. DEFINITIONS

- A. “The Commission” shall mean the [Governor’s Commission on Disabilities](#)².
- B. “State agency”³ is defined in RI General Law 42-51-9(3)

III. PROCEDURE

- A. The State of Rhode Island has developed a uniform procedure for ensuring compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- B. The State Coordinating Committee on Disability Rights has been formed to identify areas where the most efficient methods for compliance are through systemic change rather than at the departmental or agency level. This committee will review the recommendations from working groups that will conduct periodic self-evaluations of all services, activities, and programs of state government and state agency employment practices.
- C. Each self-evaluation working-group shall review all operations of the state agencies and departments represented on the working group. Any areas of potential non-compliance found shall be described in detail on ADA/504 Action Plan GCD Form C. The report shall also include recommended steps to bring about conformance with the ADA Self Evaluation and Compliance Plan for the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

The Commission’s Chairperson, Executive Secretary or designee shall issue directives and instructions to ensure the full implementation of the self-evaluation and compliance plans.

V. FORMS

The Commission’s staff shall prepare and revise the forms referenced above, as necessary.

VI. ENDNOTES

These endnotes are the text of several general laws and are provided for clarification and are not part of the regulation. They are subject to revision, as amended by the General Assembly.

¹ **RIGL 42-51-6(3) Governor’s Commission on Disabilities – Duties**

(3) Coordinating compliance with federal and state laws protecting the rights of individuals with disabilities by state agencies;

RIGL 42-51-9. Governor’s Commission on Disabilities - Definitions.

(2) "Federal and state laws protecting the rights of individuals with disabilities" means, but is not limited to, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 USC § 12101 et seq.; title V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 USC § 794; R.I. Const., art. I, § 2; the provisions of chapter 87 of title 42 and §§ 23-6-22, 37-8-15, 37-8-15.1 and 42-46-13.

Governor’s Commission on Disabilities Regulation: Chapter C Coordinating Compliance by State Agencies with Laws Protecting the Rights of Individuals with Disabilities

(4) "Coordinating compliance" means the authority to:

- (i) Issue guidelines, directives, or instructions that are necessary to effectuate compliance with federal and state laws protecting the rights of individuals with disabilities;
- (ii) Establish a grievance procedure to promptly and equitably resolve complaints of noncompliance with federal and state laws protecting the rights of individuals with disabilities involving state agencies, including the power to investigate possible discrimination and eliminate unlawful practices by informal methods of conference, conciliation, and persuasion;
- (iii) Initiate complaints against any state agency that willfully fails to comply with federal and state laws protecting the rights of individuals with disabilities to the appropriate state or federal agency; and
- (iv) Develop, make periodic revisions to, and oversee the implementation of a transition plan for the removal of environmental and communication barriers in state-owned facilities.

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³ RIGL 42-51-9(3) **Governor's Commission on Disabilities - Definitions.**

"State agency" means any department, division, agency, commission, board, office, bureau, council or authority, either branch of the Rhode Island general assembly or any agency or any committee thereof, or any other agency that is in any branch of Rhode Island state government and which exercises governmental functions.