

Hearing Loss Support Specialist Training

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CLASS IV: *Advocacy, Resources and the Law*

The ADA and Other Laws That Protect Americans with Hearing Loss

Introduction

Required Reading

1. *An Introduction to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008*. Brenda Battat
2. *Key Laws that Impact Access for Americans with Hearing Loss*, Brenda Battat
3. *Accessible Design for People with Hearing Loss*, Lise Hamlin
4. *Fact Sheet on the EEOC's Final Regulations Implementing the ADAAA*, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

Recommended Reading

1. *The ADA & the ADAAA*, U.S. Department of Justice
2. *ADA and ABA Accessibility Guidelines*, The United States Access Board
3. *The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 Titles I and V*, U.S. Equal Opportunity Commission
4. *It's the Law: A Review of the Laws that Provide Americans with Access for All*, Barbara Raimondo

Lesson 1: *Seeking and Maintaining Employment: The Rights and Responsibilities of People with Hearing Loss*

Introduction

Required Reading

1. *Success in the Workplace: Integrating the Employer's Perspective*, Brenda Battat
2. *Americans with Disabilities Act, A Guide for People with Disabilities Seeking Employment*, U.S. Social Security Administration, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division

3. *Employment Discrimination: How to Recognize It and What To Do About It*, Carole Anne-Jeanette Marasovic
4. *What Employers Want to Know About Assistive Technology in the Workplace*, Marcia Scherer and Barbara McGee
5. *Section 508 from the Hearing Loss Perspective*, David Baquis

Recommended Reading

1. *Putting You in the Employment Picture: Getting Along With Your Supervisors and Co-workers*, Brenda Battat
2. *Reporting Good News*, Liz Thompson
3. *Hiring Liz: A Person with a Hearing Loss*, Martin Rozenman
4. *Federal Agencies Overseeing Disability Discrimination*, U.S. Dept. of Labor

Lesson 2: Laws that Enhance Access to Telecommunications

Introduction

Required Reading

1. *Key Laws That Impact Telecommunications Access for People with Hearing Loss - An Outline of the Basics*, Brenda Battat
2. *Twenty-first Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010*, Lise Hamlin
3. *Telecommunications Access for People with Disabilities*, U.S. Federal Communications Commission

Recommended Reading

1. *The Telecommunications Act of 1934, Section 755: Speak Out! About Inaccessible Information and Telecommunication Technology (Part I): Information Technology Technical Assistance and Training Center*
2. *The Telecommunications Act of 1934, Section 713: Speak Out! About Inaccessible Information and Telecommunication Technology (Part II): Information Technology Technical Assistance and Training Center*
3. *A Hole in the Weather Warning Systems, Improving Access to Hazardous Weather Information for People With Hearing Loss*: Vincent T. Wood and Robert A Weisman

4. *Captioned Television: A brief history*: Excerpts from articles from the National Captioning Institute, Wikipedia, About.com.Deafness, and the Described and Captioned Media Program
5. *Hearing Aid Compatibility for Wireless Telephones*, U.S. Federal Communications Commission
6. *Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Hearing Aid Compatibility and Volume Control (HAC/VC)*, U.S. Federal Communications Commission

Lesson 3: Newborn and Infant Hearing Screening and Early Intervention

Required Reading

1. *Newborn Hearing Screening*, National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
2. *It's Important to Have Your Baby's Hearing Screened*, National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
3. *What Are the Communication Considerations for Parents of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children?*: National Institute of Deafness and Other Communication Disorders

Recommended Reading

1. *Historical Moments in Newborn Hearing Screening*, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
2. *When a Newborn Doesn't Pass the Hearing Screening, How Medical and Other Health Professions Can Help Increase the Number of Infants Who Return for a Follow-up Evaluation*, National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
3. *State Newborn Hearing Screening Laws*, Health Resources and Services Administration
4. *An Analysis of State Hearing Screening Rates*, Denise R. Green, Marcus Gaffney, Owen Devine, and Scott D. Gross

Lesson 4: Advocacy and Legal Rights for Access to Education

Required Reading

1. *Specialized Services for School Children*, Joan Marttilla

2. *Frequently Asked Questions About Section 504 and the Education of Children With Disabilities*, U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights
3. *The Hearing Aid Myth*, Brenda Battat and Donna L. Sorkin, NETAC Networks

Recommended Reading

1. *Communication Access in the Classroom*, Brenda Battat and Donna L. Sorkin
2. *Assessing the Acoustics in Your Child's Classroom, A Guide for Parents*: Mike Nixon
3. *Let the Word Be Heard, Be an Advocate for Good Classroom Acoustics*: Anne E. Seltz
4. *Making Your Education Happen: Taking the Initiative in Meeting and Dealing with the Challenges of Acquiring a College Education, (Parts I and II)*, Sara Laufer
5. *Letter in Response to Inquiry, "Is a hearing aid considered assistive technology for education purposes?"*, U.S. Dept. of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services
6. *Letter in Response to Inquiry on Responsibility for Family-owned Assistive Devices in Education*, U.S. Dept of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services
7. *Teaching Students Who Have Hearing Loss*, Brenda Battat

Lesson 5: State and Local Agencies that Provide Services for People with Hearing loss

Required Reading

State Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Programs, Hearing Loss Association of America

Recommended Reading

1. *Statewide Services for People Who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing: Clerc Center*, Gallaudet University
2. *State Listings of Telecommunication Equipment Distribution Program*, Hearing Loss Association of America

Lesson 6: *Coalitions, Promoting Accessibility for People with Hearing Loss*

Introduction

Required Reading

1. *Coalitions*, Brenda Battat
2. *Developing Advocacy Strategies*, Jim Schultz

Lesson 7: *The Process of Filing a Complaint for Inaccessible Products or Services*

Introduction

Required Reading

1. *How to Write Effective Comments in Response to FCC Proceedings*, Brenda Battat
2. *Tactics and Strategies: A Letter to a Stranger*, Janie Bowman and Peter Wright
3. *How to File a Complaint with a State or Federal Agency*. Hamlin, Lise (2014, July) Bethesda, MD: Hearing Loss Association of America, HLSST.

Recommended Reading

Useful Travel Resources, Brenda Battat & Scott Bally

Lesson 8: *Insurance Coverage for Hearing Aids, Candidacy and Coverage for Cochlear Implants, and Laws Governing the Sale of Hearing Aids*

Introduction

Required Reading

1. *What About [Cochlear Implant] Insurance?*, Debra Nussbaum
2. *Financial Assistance for Hearing Aids*, Hearing Loss Association of America

Recommended Reading

1. *State Consumer Protection Laws for Hearing Aids*, Hearing Loss Association of America

2. *State Hearing Health Insurance Mandates*, Hearing Loss Association of America

Lesson 9: Enforcing laws, The Need for Grassroots Involvement

Introduction

Required Reading

1. *Advocacy Works on Many Levels*, Brenda Battat and Scott Bally
2. *How to Be an Advocate ... One Day at a Time, 8 Things You Can Do in Everyday Life to Advocate for Yourself and Others with Hearing Loss*, Tim Creagan
3. *Advocacy Tips, Grassroots Lobbying*, Brenda Battat
4. *Contacting Elected Officials*: Elizabeth Thorp

Recommended Reading

1. *It's the Law*, Joseph J. Devanney and Diane Summers Devanney
2. *Pro-active by Choice, Reflections of an SHHH Member Presenting at the "Signs and Voices," Conference*: Maggie Casteel
3. *How to Advocate for Assistive Listening Devices in Your Neighborhood Theater*, Sharon McGinnis