

Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program



The Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program (ADAP) is part of the nation's federally-funded protection and advocacy (P&A) system. ADAP provides legal services to Alabamians with disabilities to protect, promote and expand their rights.

ADAP is part of the [National Disability Rights Network \(NDRN\)](#).

ADAP's mission is to provide quality, legally-based advocacy services to Alabamians with disabilities in order to protect, promote and expand their rights.



Polling Site Survey Ready: Help ADAP Protect the Right to Vote!

ADAP needs volunteers to complete a short survey on the physical accessibility of their own polling sites on the day of the upcoming primary election, Tuesday, March 1, 2016.

Volunteers will complete the questionnaire based on visual inspection of their own polling sites while they are voting on March 1. Volunteers can use an [on-line version](#) and complete it via their smartphones or use a [paper survey](#) and mail it back to ADAP.

The survey consists of 18 yes/no questions that focus on the availability of accessible parking, access within the polling site, and the availability of an AutoMARK machine, an accessible voting machine.

Download the [on-line version](#) or [paper survey](#) today and be ready for March 1! For more information, contact ADAP by [email](#) or at (205) 348-4928.



Alabama Legislature - Regular Session 2016

Read a [summary](#) of pending state legislative measures ADAP is following for their impact on persons with disabilities.

Treatment Discoveries Possible with Volunteers like You: The University of Alabama Intellectual Disabilities Participant Registry



If you or someone in your family has an intellectual disability, consider joining The University of Alabama Intellectual Disabilities Participant Registry.

“The Registry matches children and adults with intellectual disabilities to UA research studies,” says Eric Cooks, Registry Coordinator. “For example, UA doctoral candidate Gayle Graham Faught is looking right now for youth with Down syndrome to help with research she’s doing on attention and short term memory as she hopes to identify ways to improve language therapy opportunities.”

All studies served by the Registry are low-risk to participants, not-for-profit, approved for research ethics, and voluntary. Participating in the Registry gives you (or your child) the opportunity to work with researchers who are seeking to learn more about intellectual disabilities and how to meet its special challenges. UA’s Registry is currently enrolling children and adults who have any type of intellectual disability, including Down syndrome, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, and Fragile X Syndrome. To learn more, visit the Registry’s [website](#). Cooks and other Registry staff can be reached at 205-348-4253 or by [email](#).



Words Matter:

“The Mentally Ill” versus “People with Mental Illness”

In a first-of-its-kind study, researchers found that participants showed less tolerance toward people who were referred to as "the mentally ill" when compared to those referred to as "people with mental illness." To read more about this study, conducted at The Ohio State University, click [here](#).



ADAP PAIMI Council Member Ben Arthur: Artist, Poet, Musician and Author

ADAP PAIMI Council, Ben Arthur is an artist, poet, musician and author from Montgomery, Alabama. His paintings and pen and ink drawings have been displayed across Alabama, including in the State Capitol. Ben's achievements include his 2006 book, "A Simple Twist of Fate," and

an award-winning song called "Lifetime." Read more [here](#).

Understanding Your Rights to Your Health Care Information under HIPAA



The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) protects the privacy and security of your identifiable health information and establishes an array of individual rights with respect to health information. Check out the easy-to-navigate U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services [website](#) to learn more about your rights under HIPAA.

Closed Captions to Be Available for Airline Passengers on In-Flight Entertainment Systems



Deaf and hard of hearing airline passengers will soon have closed captioned, on-demand in-flight entertainment videos. The National Association of the Deaf (NAD), a non-profit civil rights organization of, by, and for deaf and hard of hearing individuals, and Gogo LLC, the global leader in providing broadband connectivity solutions and wireless entertainment to the aviation industry, have reached a historic agreement for Gogo to make closed captioning available for 100 percent of programming content sourced by Gogo and streamed through its on-demand in-flight entertainment service, Gogo Vision. Read more [here](#).

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