

## **804 - Accessibility**

Date Policy Approved: March 23, 2017 by DeSoto Parish Library Board of Control

### **Accessibility Statement**

DeSoto Parish Library, in compliance with state and federal laws and regulations that include the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504), does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission or access to, or in the administration of, its programs, services, and activities for the public.

All locations are wheelchair accessible. In accordance with these laws, the DeSoto Parish Library will make reasonable accommodation to the known physical and mental limitations of people with disabilities in order to provide an equal opportunity to enjoy and participate in the Library's programs, services, and activities available to the public. The Library will not retaliate against any individual who has complained of or opposed a violation of the ADA or of Section 504.

An individual who feels aggrieved need not exhaust his or her administrative remedies at the local level before filing a complaint with the state or federal agency. Individuals who need auxiliary aids for effective communication or any other reasonable accommodation are invited to make their needs known to library director. The director can be reached at 318-872-6100.

### **Home Delivery Service**

The library provides home delivery service of books and other library materials to older adults, people with disabilities and other patrons who are unable to come to the library, or arrange for a family member, friend, or other assistant to come for them. Please contact any library location if you wish to inquire about this service.

### **Assistive Technology**

The DeSoto Parish Library is committed to providing easy access, adaptive technology, and other resources to individuals with disabilities.

The Library has recorded books on tape, playaways, and CD's for children and adults, large print titles, and Overdrive, a program for downloading audible books to laptops, ipads, and other playback devices. The Library also provides headphones for use with computers and other devices.

## Computer Workstation for our Patrons with Disabilities

Mansfield library has a computer which has special software for our patrons with disabilities. These include MAGic which is a screen magnifier for patrons with low vision, JAWS which is a screen reader for patrons who have visual impairments, and Dragon Naturally Speaking which allows patrons to read into a microphone and transcribes the words into a Word Document. The workstation is in a quiet area of the library to allow for privacy and is spacious for our patrons in wheelchairs or those with walking aids.

This workstation may be used by all patrons, but patrons who require the special software will get preference for this computer. Please see a librarian if you have any questions.

## Animals

Only Service Animals are allowed in the library in accordance with the applicable requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Other animals are not allowed.