

RI Governor's Commission on Disabilities

Mission: To coordinate compliance with the ADA and other federal and state disability-rights laws in the State of Rhode Island.

Our Programs:

Technical Assistance: ADA Compliance and Rights – 1,870 Technical Assistance Contacts

Accessibility Monitoring: State properties, renovations, polling places and open meetings locations

Civil Rights Complaints: GCD has a hearing process for complaints about physical access

Advocacy: Education for the public about disability rights, advocacy for state legislation, Olmstead planning

Livable Homes Grant: Provides 50% of the cost up to \$4,500 of a disability-related home renovation needed for someone to remain in their home.



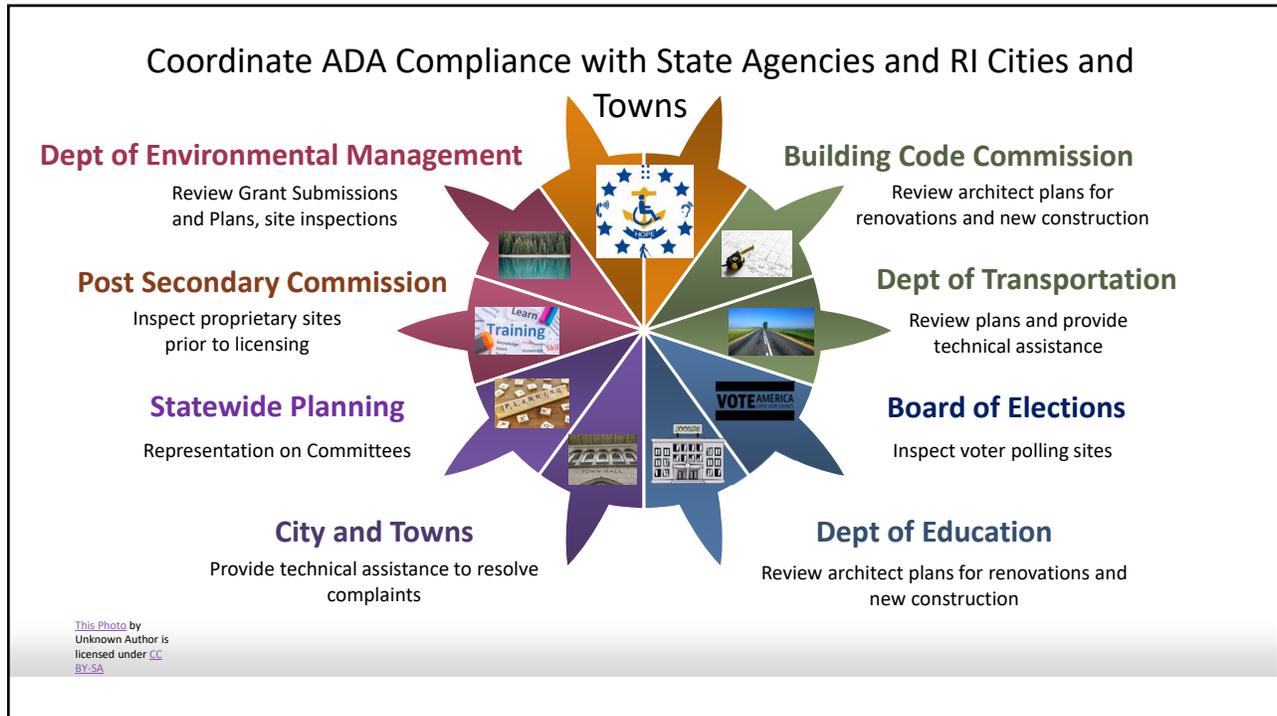
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The Governor's Commission on Disabilities coordinates the state's ADA compliance with federal and state laws

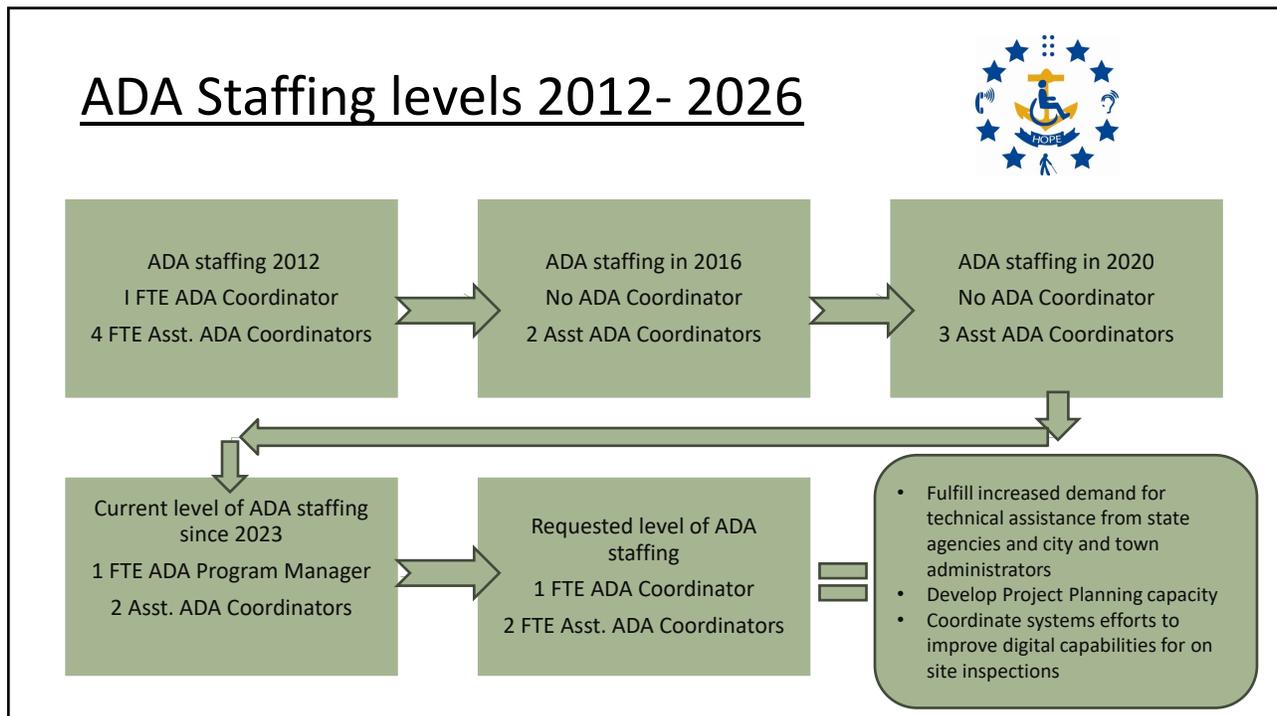


- Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. Chapter 126 as amended by the ADA Amendments Act of 2008, Public Law 110 through 325, 122 Stat. 3553 (2008) [Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, As Amended | ADA.gov](#)
- R.I. Gen. Laws 37-8-15 Public Building Access for People with Disabilities;
- R.I. Gen. Laws 37-8-15 Public Buildings-Accessibility of leased or rented facilities for people with disabilities; webserver.rilegislature.gov/statutes/title37/37-8/37-8-15.HTM
- R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-87 Civil Rights of People with Disabilities, as amended, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability by public (state and local government) entities; webserver.rilegislature.gov/Statutes/TITLE42/42-87/INDEX.HTM and
- R.I. Gen. Laws 42-46-6 Open Meetings Act. webserver.rilegislature.gov/statutes/title42/42-46/42-46-2.HTM
- Federal Voting Rights Acts. [The Americans with Disabilities Act and Other Federal Laws Protecting the Rights of Voters with Disabilities | ADA.gov](#)

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Public Outreach Initiative

- We work to inform people about their rights under the federal and state disability rights laws as well as educating the general public about disability rights and philosophy.
- We wanted to ensure that we expanded our outreach to underserved communities.
- As a result of self assessment, we decided to combine two existing part-time contract positions into one that focused on public outreach. We also noted that our agency needed the ability to communicate with the public in Spanish.
- We also formed partnerships with three organizations- Progreso Latino, East Bay CAP and Asthenis Pharmacy to expand our outreach with underserved communities

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Livable Homes by the Numbers

State FY	# of Grants Paid	Livable Homes Total Cost (Grants + Admin)	Amount Paid in Grants	Average payment amount
2022	171	501,259	459,037	2,579
2023	182	548,178	502,292	2,760
2024	221	686,086	645,294	2,920
2025	259	820,224	780,715	3,014
2026 Q1+Q2	140	457,560	438,926	3,136
Open Award Letters, pending (construction not completed):			17	\$ 59,728.00
Open Reimbursement claim form pending (awaiting verification of construction):			34	\$101,026.00

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Funding Deficits

Projected Need	Projected 2027 Deficit
ADA Coordinator	8,500
Outreach Coordinator	8,000
Mileage	2,250
State Fees	3,000
Training	4,000
Livable Homes	250,000
TOTAL	275,750