

## COUNTY OF ESSEX DEPARTMENT OF CITIZEN SERVICES

**DIVISION OF SENIOR SERVICES** 

Essex County Hall of Records – Room 102 465 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Newark, NJ 07102 973-395-8375 --- 973-395-8309 (Fax)

Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.

Essex County Executive

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## ESSEX COUNTY COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

## **REASONABLE MODIFICATION**

**Essex County Community Transportation Program** recognizes that disabilities are as diverse as the individuals they serve and recognizes the need to make reasonable modifications to its policies, regarding assistance offered to passengers who may require additional assistance to use its services.

Under Title II of the ADA, state and local governments are required to make reasonable modifications to policies, practices and procedures where necessary to avoid discrimination.

For those riders who require additional assistance, the **Essex County Community Transportation Program** will endeavor to accommodate all reasonable modification requests for such assistance by following procedures outlined below:

- 1. Riders must inform the **Essex County Community Transportation Program** of the need and specific type of additional assistance requested at the time ride reservation is made.
- 2. Reservationist will advise Dispatcher of the specific rider need/request. Dispatcher will log the information within the client information system and determine the resources required to accommodate rider.
- 3. The Dispatcher will evaluate the request and report to the Director of Transportation whether the request is reasonable to perform.
- 4. If the Director of Transportation deems the service requested to be unreasonable to perform or to repeat on a regular basis, he/she must cite specific reasoning to support the finding and inform the Director of Special Transportation Services.
- 5. If the **Essex County Community Transportation Program** concurs with the finding of the Director of Special Transportation Services, the rider must be so informed via phone call at least 48 hours before the requested/scheduled trip. The finding must also be communicated to the rider expeditiously by written correspondence.
- 6. Riders may appeal any such decisions by following established ADA grievance procedures. Complaints that a County program, service or activity is not accessible to persons with disabilities should be directed to the Director of Special Transportation Services

A Complainant may also file a complaint with the US Department of Transportation by contacting the Department at: US Department of Transportation, Office of Civil Rights,

Federal Transit Administration Office of Civil Rights Attention: Complaint Team East Building, 5th Floor – TCR 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

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