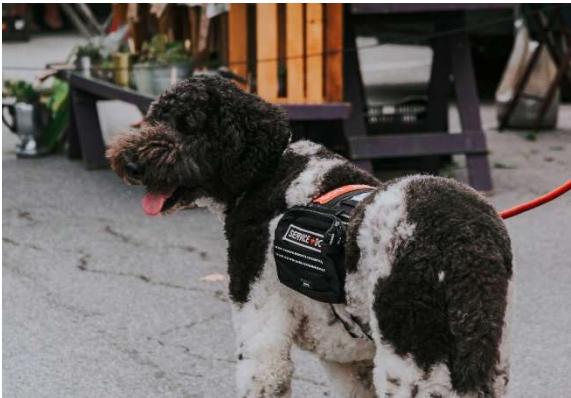


## What are Places of Public Accommodation?

- Public resorts
- Places of accommodation, assemblage, or amusement
- Public schools
- Private institutions open to the public for an event or gathering
- Places of patronage, including government offices, stores, shopping malls, theaters, libraries, hospitals, and transit facilities.



### UNDER RCW 49.60.215, A PLACE OF PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION CANNOT:

- Refuse or withhold entrance.
- Charge a different rate or offer different terms and conditions of service.
- Prohibit entrance of a service animal.
- Make any inquiry in connection with prospective employment that is discriminatory.

The Washington Law Against Discrimination does not require structural changes, modifications, or additions to make any place accessible to a person with a disability except as otherwise required by law. Behavior or actions constituting a risk to property or persons can be grounds for refusal and shall not constitute an unfair practice.



### Protected Classes in Public Accommodation include:

- Race/Color
- National Origin
- Citizenship/Immigration Status
- Creed
- Sex/Pregnancy
- Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity
- Veteran/Military Status
- The presence of any sensory, mental or physical Disability-Actual or Perceived
- Use of a Service Animal
- HIV or Hepatitis C

The Washington State Human Rights Commission (WSHRC) has no jurisdiction over certain services or entities, including, but not limited to:

- Police actions
- Decisions of courts, city, and county commissioners, or other administrative or licensing agencies
- Internet sites
- Denial of public benefits
- Child support
- Court ordered visitation
- Prison and jails and their inmate programs
- Child or adult protective services
- Native American tribes
- The federal government



The Washington State Human Rights Commission works to prevent and eliminate discrimination through complaint investigation, alternative dispute resolution, and education, training and outreach activities.

## Complaint Process

Everyone has an obligation to comply with the law and a right to seek redress when harm occurs. Complaints alleging violations of RCW 49.60 must be filed within six months of the date of harm, with the exception of pregnancy discrimination cases, which must be filed within one year. Complaints may be resolved during an investigation subject to agreement between the parties and the WSHRC. To obtain additional information about the complaint process, visit our website or contact one of our offices to speak with an intake officer.



## FAIR APPLICATION OF THE LAW

The Washington State Human Rights Commission is a neutral, fact-finding law enforcement agency; it does not act as an advocate for any party during an investigation, but advocates for the law in the interest of preventing and eliminating discrimination.

## Washington State Human Rights Commission Locations

### HEADQUARTERS

711 S. Capitol Way, Suite 402  
P.O. Box 42490  
Olympia, Washington 98504-2490  
360-753-6770

### SPOKANE

Rock Pointe Plaza III  
1330 N. Washington Street, Ste 2460  
Spokane, Washington 99201

### YAKIMA

1205 Ahtanum Ridge Dr., Suite C  
Union Gap, WA 98903

### WENATCHEE

519 Grant Rd  
East Wenatchee, WA 98802



If you need additional information, have additional questions, or wish to have training for your organization, please contact the WSHRC at 360-753-6770 or 800-233-3247. Additional information on this and other civil rights issues can be found on our website at

[www.hum.wa.gov](http://www.hum.wa.gov)

# Washington State Human Rights Commission



## Discrimination in Places of Public Accommodation

*The Mission of the Washington State Human Rights Commission is to prevent and eliminate discrimination through the fair application of the law, the efficient use of resources, and the establishment of productive partnerships in the community.*