

3.3 Inclusion Procedure

The Oak Brook Park District is committed to implementing the intent and spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act. We believe in the inclusion of all persons of differing abilities within programs and events. To facilitate opportunities for people with and without disabilities to engage in leisure pursuits together, the Oak Brook Park District provides inclusion support services. To the Oak Brook Park District inclusion means that individuals with disabilities are welcome to participate in the same recreation programs and activities as their non-disabled peers. Reasonable accommodations are provided to enable an individual's successful participation in a program. These services include, but are not limited to; adapted activity equipment and / or supplies, an enhanced staff/participant ratio (two weeks advance notice), accessible transportation when transportation is part of an activity or program (two weeks advance notice), and health services and medication dispensing that do not require medical training.

To ensure the requested accommodation, patrons should notify the specific facility where the program is provided at least two weeks in advance for accommodations and indicate needs on program registration form.

The same minimum requirements which apply to a person without a disability also apply to a person with a disability. These include:

- Meeting the age and registration requirements of the program.
- Following the rules of conduct (with or without reasonable accommodation).
- Voluntary participation: recreation programs and activities are voluntary in nature. Participation will be encouraged and aided, but not forced.
- Level of participation: with or without reasonable accommodations, the participant will engage in scheduled activities for the majority of the program time.
- Ability to use a consistent form of communication to indicate basic needs and follow simple directions.
- Ability to tolerate and function, with assistance, as a member of a larger social group (12 or more people).

Inclusion services do not include the following:

- Provision of a separate area or alternate activities for a significant portion (more than 25%) of the scheduled program.
- Exception to minimum compliance with the program's rules and regulations, with or without accommodations, established for the safety of all program participants and staff.
- Hiring, selection, or guaranteed assignment of a specific staff member.
- Individualized therapy within a program.
- Provision and/or purchase of personal custom devices.

Where inclusive services are not recommended or minimum requirements are not met non inclusive recreation services are also available. The Park District utilizes Gateway Special Recreation for non inclusive programming for its participants in order to provide recreation for all abilities and needs.

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