

Tri-County Accessibility Plan for Programs in Pre 1977 Facilities

The term “*existing facility*” refers to any facility in existence or in the process of construction on or before June 3, 1977, the effective date of the regulation. The term “new construction” means groundbreaking that took place after the effective date of the regulation. “Facility,” as defined in the Section 504 regulation, includes all or any portion of buildings, structures, equipment, roads, walks, parking lots, laboratories, and other real or personal property or interest in such property.

For an existing facility like Tri-County, the regulation requires that the recipient’s program or activity, when viewed in its entirety, be readily accessible to persons with disabilities. This standard does not require that every facility or part be accessible, as long as individuals with disabilities have access to the programs and services contained in those facilities.

The Tri-County School District will provide accessibility to programs through alternative methods that may include redesign or relocation of equipment, reassignment of classes and services, and provision or assignment of aids (e.g., use of “reach extenders” to access controls on light switches, assistance in retrieving library materials.) Rooms and furniture will be rearranged if necessary to provide accessibility.

The Pre 1977 area of the Tri-County building consists of mostly elementary classrooms with normal elementary lessons. The gym in that area is accessible and the classrooms are interchangeable if need be. The Tri-County building is all at one level so transitions between classrooms and other areas of the building are level.

Priority consideration will be given to offering the programs or activities in the most integrated setting appropriate. In meeting the objective of program accessibility, Tri-County will not isolate or segregate students from other students in the district.