

## Disability Etiquette Facts

### FOSTERING SUCCESSFUL RELATIONSHIPS WITH INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

When it comes to establishing positive relationships with any individual, having a level of etiquette when communicating with a person is important. The same applies to interacting and communicating with individuals with disabilities. Simple etiquette can go a long way in building relationships and trust, and establishing a level of professionalism with individuals. A few examples of etiquette practices in interacting with individuals with disabilities include:

- Assume that people with disabilities can perform tasks for themselves.
- **Visual Disability:** As you approach the person, state your identity.
- **Auditory/Hearing Disability:** Always use a normal volume of voice; don't shout.
- **Mobility Disability:** Keep a wide, clutter-free route through the place of business.
- **Verbal Communication Disability:** Avoid completing the person's thoughts or sentences.
- **Learning/Cognitive Disability:** If the person does not understand what you are saying, repeat the information or rephrase it in another way.



For more on etiquette tips,  
Read the Disability Etiquette  
Fact Sheet at

[https://ep.vccurrtc.org/resources/  
content.cfm/1375](https://ep.vccurrtc.org/resources/content.cfm/1375)