



Understanding Your Rights during COVID-19

North Carolina issued a document on the rights of people with disabilities. This document is for the Covid-19 crisis. You can find the document [here](#).

This paper explains what North Carolina said. This paper is for self-advocates and family members. **You may want to print a copy of this paper.** You may want to keep it with you. You could show it if you or a loved one need to go to the hospital.

Medicaid and Rehabilitation Act Protections during COVID-19:

- All Medicaid providers must comply with disability laws. This includes hospitals, doctors, and others who provide health services.
- All Medicaid providers must provide **reasonable accommodations**.
- All Medicaid providers must make sure **individuals with cognitive or intellectual disabilities** have support for decision-making and treatment. These individuals may need to have a caregiver with them in the ambulance or the hospital. This should be allowed. **Caregivers should wear protective gloves and masks. Caregivers must do what doctors and hospitals say.**
- Three other documents explain rights for individuals and families.
 1. The United States government reminded healthcare providers they must not discriminate. They must not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, disability, age, gender, or religion. You can read this document [here](#). You may want to print this document and keep it with you.
 2. The CDC recommends **allowing visitors who are essential for a patient's physical or emotional well-being and care**. This applies to people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities. You can find this document [here](#).
 3. You can find an agreement between the United States and another state requiring hospitals to allow access to some support persons for people with disabilities [here](#).