



Definition of a Handicapped Person  
7 CFR Subtitle A, Section 15b.3 Definitions

- (i) “Handicapped person” means any person who has a physical or mental impairment, which substantially limits one or more major life activities, has a record of such an impairment, or is regarded as having such an impairment.
- (j) “Physical or mental impairment” means (1) any physiological disorder or condition, cosmetic disfigurement, or anatomical loss affecting one or more of the following body systems: Neurological; musculoskeletal; special sense organs; respiratory, including speech organs; cardiovascular; reproductive; digestive; genitourinary; hemic and lymphatic; skin; and endocrine; or (2) any mental or psychological disorder, such as mental retardation, organic brain syndrome, emotional or mental illness, and specific learning disabilities. The term “physical or mental impairment” includes, but is not limited to, such diseases and conditions as orthopedic, visual, speech, and hearing impairments; cerebral palsy; epilepsy; muscular dystrophy; multiple sclerosis; cancer; heart disease; diabetes; mental retardation; emotional illness; and drug addition and alcoholism.
- (k) “Major life activities” means functions such as caring for one’s self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working.
- (l) “Has a record of such impairments” means has history of, or has been misclassified as having, a mental or physical impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.
- (m) “Is regarded as having an impairment” means (1) has a physical or mental impairment that does not substantially limit major life activities but that is treated by a recipient as constituting such limitation: (2) has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits major life activities only as a result of the attitudes of others towards such impairments, or (3) has none of the impairments defined in paragraph (j) of this section but is treated by a recipient as having such impairment.

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