

# Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

## Requirements for Assistive Listening

### Why?

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), more than 5% of the world's population experience disruptive or severe hearing loss. Assistive listening products help solve common sound problems caused by distance, background noise, reverberation, or poor room acoustics.

### What?

The ADA prohibits discrimination by requiring accessibility in a variety of public and private buildings, including new construction, or renovations to buildings and facilities. Essentially, owners of public facilities must provide people with disabilities accommodation equal to those available to the general public.

Excerpts from the ADA law regarding assistive listening:

1. ADA—216.10 "In each assembly area where audible communications are integral to the use of the space, an assistive listening system shall be provided."

2. ADA—106.5 "Assembly Area: A building or facility, or portion thereof, used for the purpose of entertainment, educational or civic gatherings, or similar purposes.

**For the purposes of these requirements, assembly areas include, but are not limited to:**

- Classrooms • Lecture Halls • Courtrooms • Public Meeting Rooms • Public Hearing Rooms • Legislative Chambers • Motion Picture Houses • Auditoria • Theaters • Playhouses • Dinner Theaters • Concert Halls • Centers for the Performing Arts • Amphitheaters • Arenas • Stadiums • Grandstands • Convention Centers

**Assistive Listening System (ALS)** is an amplification system utilizing transmitters, receivers, and coupling devices to bypass the acoustical space between a sound source and a listener by means of an induction loop (hearing loop), radio frequency (RF), infrared (IR), or other direct-wired equipment.

**How?** Number of required assistive listening receivers based on seating capacity:

Capacity of Seating in Assembly Area*	Minimum Number of Required Receivers	Minimum Number of Hearing-Aid Compatible Required Receivers
50 or less	2	2
51 to 200	2, plus 1 per 25 seats over 50 seats*	2
201 to 500	2, plus 1 per 25 seats over 50 seats*	1 per 4 receivers*
501 to 1,000	20, plus 1 per 33 seats over 500*	1 per 4 receivers*
1,001 to 2,000	35, plus 1 per 50 seats over 1,000*	1 per 4 receivers*
2,001 and over	55, plus 1 per 100 seats over 2,000*	1 per 4 receivers*

\*Or fraction thereof

**Did you know?** Failure to comply with ADA Assistive Listening requirements can result in large fines!

**For assembly areas with a seating capacity between 1-50, consider this all-in-one, portable system:**



## ListenTALK Portable ADA Kit 2

Meet ADA requirements with this easily transported assistive listening solution.

- Takes less than a minute to set-up and use
- Simple user interface (no channel surfing)
- Easily portable

Visit [www.listentech.com/assistive-listening/compliance-systems](http://www.listentech.com/assistive-listening/compliance-systems)  
for more assistive listening options

For details on compliance, visit [www.listentech.com/legislative-compliance](http://www.listentech.com/legislative-compliance)



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