

APTD/OAA law change POSITION UPDATE:

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“The recent legislative changes to New Hampshire statute RSA 167:27, effective January 1, 2014, provided NH municipalities the option to decide whether or not they would assist individuals/households receiving cash assistance from APTD or OAA with local welfare assistance under RSA 165. Correspondence from the Disabilities Rights Center communicates their belief that municipalities who do not assist individuals or households receiving APTD/OAA cash benefits, but that are otherwise financially eligible for local welfare, may be in violation of the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) laws.

After a number of meetings and communication regarding this matter, **the NHLWAA recommends that municipalities change their guidelines to remove any reference disqualifying or prohibiting APTD or OAA recipients from applying for local welfare assistance** and plan for possible budget implications accordingly. Recipients of APTD and OAA should be treated the same as all other applicants, and be provided an application and evaluated for financial eligibility in accordance with all remaining provisions your guidelines.”