

AGENCY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
Bill of Rights for Persons with Developmental Disabilities
Excerpted from 393.13, Florida Statutes, entitled "Treatment of persons with developmental disabilities"

The rights described in this subsection shall apply to all persons with developmental disabilities, whether or not such persons are clients of the agency.

- (a) Persons with developmental disabilities shall have a right to dignity, privacy, and humane care, including the right to be free from abuse, including sexual abuse, neglect, and exploitation.
- (b) Persons with developmental disabilities shall have the right to religious freedom and practice. Nothing shall restrict or infringe on a person's right to religious preference and practice.
- (c) Persons with developmental disabilities shall receive services, within available sources, which protect the personal liberty of the individual and which are provided in the least restrictive conditions necessary to achieve the purpose of treatment.
- (d) Persons with developmental disabilities shall have a right to participate in an appropriate program of quality education and training services, within available resources, regardless of chronological age or degree of disability. Such persons may be provided with instruction in sex education, marriage, and family planning.
- (e) Persons with developmental disabilities shall have a right to social interaction and to participate in community activities.
- (f) Persons with developmental disabilities shall have a right to physical exercise and recreational opportunities.
- (g) Persons with developmental disabilities shall have a right to be free from harm, including unnecessary physical, chemical, or mechanical restraint, isolation, excessive medication, abuse, or neglect.
- (h) Persons with developmental disabilities shall have a right to consent to or refuse treatment, subject to the powers of a guardian advocate appointed pursuant to s. 393.12 or a guardian appointed pursuant to chapter 744.
- (i) No otherwise qualified person shall, by reason of having a developmental disability, be excluded from participation in, or be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under, any program or activity which receives public funds, and all prohibitions set forth under any other statute shall be actionable under this statute.
- (j) No otherwise qualified person shall, by reason of having a developmental disability, be denied the right to vote in public elections.