

# Des Moines Human Rights Commission

IT IS OUR MISSION  
TO ADVANCE  
JUSTICE AND EQUALITY  
FOR ALL PEOPLE IN  
DES MOINES

## YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS



### What is a public accommodation?

A public accommodation is any business that obtains or solicits customers from the general public. Unlawful practices include withholding, segregation or denial of services, privileges or facilities of public accommodations .



Public Accommodations must offer:

## EQUAL ACCESS & EQUAL SERVICE



It is against the law to discriminate against an individual in public accommodations because of a person's:

- Race
- Color
- Creed
- Sex
- Sexual Orientation
- National Origin
- Ancestry
- Religion
- Physical or Mental Disability



# DES MOINES HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

*We're here to help you.....  
our service is  
**FREE***

### *What can the Commission do for you?*

- **Filing:** The Commission will assist you in the preparation and filing of a complaint. The complaint must be filed within **300 days** of the most recent discriminatory incident.
- **Mediation:** The Commission will attempt to resolve your complaint before investigation, if both parties agree to mediation.
- **Investigation:** If mediation fails, the Commission will conduct an impartial investigation.
- **Conciliation:** If the Commission finds that you were the victim of illegal discrimination, it will attempt to negotiate a settlement and obtain a remedy for you.
- **Litigation:** If an appropriate remedy cannot be obtained, the Commission may proceed to a public hearing or assist you in taking the matter to court.

**If you feel you have experienced discrimination  
or would like more information  
about your rights, please contact the**

### **DES MOINES HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

Argonne Armory Building  
602 Robert D. Ray Drive  
Des Moines, IA 50309-1881

**PHONE: (515) 283-4284**

(515) 283-4081 (TDD)

**EMAIL: [RUSimms@dm.gov](mailto:RUSimms@dm.gov)**

**WEBSITE: [www.dm.gov](http://www.dm.gov)**

We Educate, Receive, Investigate, and Resolve  
discrimination complaints in the areas of:  
**Employment, Public Accommodations,  
Municipal Practices, and Housing**