

Think Accessible Community Certification Criteria

The “Think Accessible” Community Certification Program marks the next step in Dutchess County’s commitment to ensuring that residents and visitors with disabilities can fully participate in all that their community offers. The “Think Accessible” Community Certification Program invites businesses and municipalities to evaluate their accessibility practices, implement improvements and earn certification at the Gold, Silver, or Bronze level based on established criteria.

Criteria

Do you have an accessible entrance?

- If your main entrance is not accessible, do you have signs to indicate where the accessible entrance is?

Is the interior of your facility accessible?

- Wheelchair wide aisles, wheelchair accessible bathroom, wheelchair accessible counter, etc.

Do you have an accessible website?

Do you offer curbside ordering/pick up, when applicable?

Do you offer accessible/effective communication?

- Large Print Documents, picture documents/menus, ASL interpreters, Braille signage, Loop hearing systems, other forms of communication, etc.

Have you completed an accessibility needs review/assessment?

- Such as Wheel the World, Taconic Resources for Independence Accessibility Review, etc.

Have you engaged in the Anderson Center’s Autism Supportive Environment training?

Have you engaged in any other type of accessibility/accommodations training for being accessible/inclusive and/or welcoming to individuals with disabilities?

Do you have sensory-friendly hours/sensory-friendly programs/adaptive programs and/or inclusive programs?

Do you have any new employee training or orientation that is related to disabilities and/or accommodations for people with disabilities?

Certification Levels

Gold Certification: A municipality or business has met 7 or more criteria

Silver Certification: A municipality or business has met 5 or more criteria

Bronze Certification: A municipality or business has met 3 or more criteria

For more information, contact All Abilities Program Director Dana Hopkins at **845-486-3434** or dhopkins@dutchessny.gov.