



International Commission on Technology and Accessibility (ICTA)

Advancing the rights and inclusion of people with disabilities worldwide

Basic Recommendations for considering Persons with Disabilities during the COVID19 Pandemic

1. Always provide information in accessible formats so everybody can understand them.
2. Children with disabilities should receive information according to their age.
3. Preparedness and response plans, including public restrictions, must be inclusive of and accessible to women and girls with disabilities.
4. Persons with disabilities staying at home during quarantine face a higher risk of mental health issues, therefore, governments and other private or social agencies should consider providing adequate measures for stress and anxiety relief.
5. Persons with disabilities in need of health services due to COVID19 cannot be deprioritized on the ground of their disability.
6. Measures to lessen the impact on the economy persons with disabilities, their families and their organizations, should be considered, including:
 - Programs for funding civil society organizations to support their employers keeping to jobs.
 - Assistance for self-employed persons with disabilities.
7. Cash delivery mechanisms should be accessible for persons with disabilities.
8. Mobile phones with accessibility features and e-wallets must be promoted to reduce interaction and keep social distancing.
9. Deafblind persons rely on physical interaction with others to communicate, therefore special measures are needed during the pandemic, or even afterwards, some examples are:
 - It's necessary an extra precaution approach to infection control, along with limiting interactions if possible.
 - Sanitizing between interactions with different individuals who are deafblind.
 - Interpreters also need to take extreme sanitizing measures before and after interacting with them.
 - Promote development of innovative technological solutions for communication with deafblind persons, besides relying on touch-based technics.