

ADA Website Compliance For Therapists

What Actually Applies (Quick Reference Guide)

ADA Website Law:

What Therapists Are Misunderstanding

MYTH

There is a new ADA law in April 2026 that requires all therapists to fix their websites.

REALITY

The April 2026 rule applies to **state and local governments, not private practices.**

However, it establishes a clear accessibility standard that is increasingly being used to evaluate all websites.

No hard deadline for therapists. But the risk is **already increasing.**



What Actually Changed

In 2024, the Department of Justice finalized a rule requiring state and local governments to meet specific website accessibility standards by April 2026. This rule applies to public entities under ADA Title II, not private practices.

What This Means for Therapists

Therapists are not subject to a new ADA website deadline in April 2026. However, accessibility expectations are becoming more clearly defined and are increasingly being used to evaluate websites across industries.



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Practical Tips for Therapists

- Do not assume your website is compliant just because it was built by a platform or designer. It usually is not. Accessibility and privacy still require review.
- Be cautious about what information your website collects. Even basic contact forms may include protected health information.
- Clearly explain how clients can contact you and what methods are secure or not secure.
- Focus on usability first. If someone cannot easily read, navigate, or complete a form on your site, that is where to start.
- Make small improvements over time. You do not need to fix everything at once to reduce risk.

Who This Rule Applies To

This rule applies to state and local government entities under ADA Title II. It may extend to private organizations only when they are contracted to provide services as part of a government program.

What to Do Next

Review how your website collects and handles information. Identify areas where accessibility or privacy may be limited. Focus first on high-risk areas such as contact forms and communication methods.

Where Risk Shows Up

- Contact forms collecting protected health information
- Unsecured or unclear communication methods
- Missing required disclosures (such as Notice of Privacy Practices)
- Assuming website templates or EHR platforms are compliant

Based on U.S. Department of Justice ADA guidance (2024)

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