# **Dots and Dashes**

# **August 1, 2022**

# **ACB MAPS Program Seeking Mentors and Mentees**

Now through August 15, 2022, we encourage you to apply to become a Mentee/Explorer or a Mentor/Guide by clicking on the appropriate Google Form link below. You may also copy and paste the link into your browser. For the full details, visit <https://acb.org/2022-mentoring-program>.

For the Mentee/Explorer Application, go to

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdth5yM6ri_7r5puUX7fIjGAzEiAsJinihX4NGZKHqLHb03wQ/viewform?usp=sf_link>.

To access the Mentor/Guide Application, visit

<https://forms.gle/Uax6sUudt4jKzvur9>.

# **2022 ACB Scholarship Recipients**

Meet ACB’s 2022 scholarship recipients! We have featured this year’s scholarship recipients in a series of videos:

* [Video 1](https://youtu.be/3t5KWkVJF_I)
* [Video 2](https://youtu.be/FY3udpo_cvk)
* [Video 3](https://youtu.be/R-p0VXkn8Oo)
* [Video 4](https://youtu.be/dD6IlTCGtKI)

View our full list of 2022 scholarship recipients at: [www.acb.org/2022-scholarship-recipients](http://www.acb.org/2022-scholarship-recipients). Learn more about ACB Scholarships by visiting: [www.acb.org/scholarships](http://www.acb.org/scholarships).

# **Accessibility of Web Information and Services of State & Local Governments**

ACB commends the U.S. Department of Justice for adding an ADA Title II NPRM to their agenda for 2023. This is a critical step to ensure online accessibility for all aspects of society and everyday life. We urge the Administration to complete online accessibility rule-makings under ADA Titles II and III, and Section 504 of the Rehab Act by the end of 2024. Read the rule: [http://ow.ly/I8yr50K7vcm](http://ow.ly/I8yr50K7vcm?fbclid=IwAR1y65yLm5vC70XfYVbJxkL0iCn200rsEGBv4nZBi7aLMC5_-nFgD837o_s).

# **Accessible Federal Technology for People with Disabilities, Older Americans, and Veterans**

ACB thanks Chair Senator Bob Casey and Ranking Member Senator Tim Scott for their leadership to ensure the federal government is serving all constituents and employees with accessible federal technology, whether people with disabilities, older Americans, and/or veterans. We are glad that ACB and PCB member Jule Ann Lieberman was a witness and part of this important conversation: <https://tinyurl.com/ycksdty>.

# **Accessible COVID Testing Updates: How to Order & Supplemental Testing Instructions**

On June 23, 2022, the Biden-Harris Administration launched a new initiative to expand the availability of testing options that are more accessible for people who are blind or have low vision. Through the initiative, blind and low-vision users have been able to order Ellume COVID home tests, which are more accessible than other options.

Supplies of these tests are becoming limited, so people are asked to order these tests only if they do not have a way to use the other types of tests, such as assistive technology or a trusted family member or friend who can assist (in person or via video call).

In addition, to help ensure that the more accessible tests are reserved for blind/low-vision users, they are no longer available for order through the online system. To order the more accessible tests, please call [1-800-232-0233](tel:1-800-232-0233).

If you are able to use the other types of tests, you can [order them online](https://covidtests.gov/) or by calling [1-800-232-0233](tel:1-800-232-0233).

More information about this update is available on the [webpage for the Administration on Community Living](https://acl.gov/covid19/tests-people-who-are-blind-or-have-low-vision), including new [supplemental testing instructions](https://acl.gov/node/8716) to provide greater context for users who are blind and low vision.

# **DOJ and HHS Issue New Guidance on Non-Discrimination in Telehealth**

New guidance was issued on July 29 by the Justice Department and the Department of Health and Human Services on the protections in federal non-discrimination laws, including the ADA, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 1557 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, requiring that telehealth be accessible to people with disabilities and limited English proficient persons. These laws work in tandem to prohibit discrimination and protect access to health care. Read more at <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-and-hhs-issue-guidance-nondiscrimination-telehealth-week-32nd-anniversary>.

# **NLS Patron Engagement Section Launches Virtual Programs**

NLS’ newly formed Patron Engagement Section will be hosting a virtual Monthly BARD Review on Zoom. This program will occur the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. Eastern. Each Review will last for one hour and will discuss a predetermined topic about a component of BARD usage or a specific BARD product. There will be time afterward for questions.

To join the August 11 session, visit [https://loc.zoomgov.com/j/1611161911?pwd=bVh5ejFsWFBlL21KY0VqaHlRMUlSQT09](https://loc.zoomgov.com/j/1611161911?pwd=bVh5ejFsWFBlL21KY0VqaHlRMUlSQT09 ), or call in by telephone at 1-669-254-5252 (meeting ID 161 116 1911).  
For information on upcoming Patron Engagement Section programs, visit [www.loc.gov/nls/about/services](https://www.loc.gov/nls/about/services).

# **Access Board Discontinues Toll-Free Number**

The U.S. Access Board discontinued its technical assistance toll-free 800 phone number, but it continues to offer technical assistance via (202) 272-0080, extension 3, and by email at [ta@access-board.gov](mailto:ta@access-board.gov) from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern weekdays. Accessibility specialists are available to answer questions on accessibility as it relates to the built environment, outdoor sites, streets and sidewalks, transportation vehicles and vessels, information and communication technology, and medical diagnostic equipment.