**Dots and Dashes**

**September 15, 2025**

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# **Today Is the Last Day to Register for the Audio Description Institute**

Registration is OPEN for the Audio Description Project’s 26th Audio Description Institute, taking place virtually September 22–26, from 1 to 5 p.m. Eastern time. There are only a few spots left. Registration closes tonight at 11:59 p.m. Eastern.

[**Click here to register now!**](https://4eqo4f5ab.cc.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001G43udn-x5143ZfCYw1J1UggsesI3Lotc3fdN0UFEcNvkDPjcmO7-NQJaYz5YT-ls-CZccC6501V9zU5pUE4bMy8jSq0wGeiJYjHW4blMBVwcbxnaru1kOnpCehXT6G8zfCKO1Xx9EP-nS6BmIa8G0MDC5oMd7upsevWSbPeDR522vWLK5wPbP3xZa2MnFsPtDOo7Hghi15oVir49ZR0h9p9--znybc9vxt_vj17_H8g=&c=wOWfpyrVY5HTRqQIc_0PHeOKmQD81agGuNH5WzUaiZWUoQPCtHwkuw==&ch=SvpXrygwu2OdSx7IyLU78XJ5VR26Qcmlw0jAL9vmD1RRijvXYR8p4Q==)

# **Justice Department Sues Uber for Denying Rides to Passengers with Service Dogs, Wheelchairs**

WASHINGTON, Sept. 11, 2025 — Yesterday, the Justice Department filed a lawsuit against Uber Technologies Inc. for discriminating against passengers with disabilities, including those who use service animals and mobility devices such as stowable wheelchairs. Uber is the largest provider of ride-hailing services in the United States. The lawsuit seeks $125 million for individuals who have been subject to discrimination and previously submitted complaints to Uber or the Department.

The lawsuit, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, alleges Uber violated Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which prohibits discrimination based on disability by private transportation companies like Uber. The ADA also requires Uber to allow service animals to accompany individuals with disabilities in vehicles and to provide rides to, and assist, riders with stowable wheelchairs and mobility devices.

The Department’s civil complaint alleges that Uber and its drivers routinely refuse to serve individuals with disabilities; impose impermissible surcharges by charging cleaning fees for service animal shedding and cancellation fees to riders whom Uber has unlawfully denied service; and refuse to reasonably modify Uber’s policies, practices, or procedures, where necessary, to avoid discriminating against riders with disabilities, including by denying individuals with mobility disabilities the option to sit in the front seat when needed. Due to Uber’s ride denials, individuals with disabilities have experienced significant delays, missed appointments, and have been left stranded in inclement weather.

Read the full press release at [**https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-sues-uber-denying-rides-passengers-service-dogs-wheelchairs**](https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-sues-uber-denying-rides-passengers-service-dogs-wheelchairs).

# **Advocacy Update**

On this week’s Advocacy Update, Claire speaks with two experts on library services and potential federal funding cuts to such services. The experts outline how the programs are run and advise listeners on how they can help advocate for ongoing library services. This episode is truly timely, as September is National Literacy Month. You can access the podcast at [**https://acb.org/advocacyupdate**](https://acb.org/advocacyupdate).

# **Tell Congress to Keep Bookshare Free for All Students**

Bookshare is a book distribution program that has served people with disabilities for over 20 years. It serves students with multiple disabilities across the country for no fee. It has been funded through the Education, Technology, Media, and Materials Program (Ed Tech). Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), children are ensured access to accessible education materials in an accessible format.

For many years now, accessible materials for students have been provided by Bookshare. The Ed Tech program provides funding to procure the materials from Bookshare. The budget proposed by Congress will eliminate this funding. What the proposed budget would do is to split the program into a separate, fifty-state model, where each state provides the books on a state-by-state basis. Such a model will be detrimental for students with disabilities.

Please follow the link below to reach out to Congress to tell them to fund Bookshare services for students.

[**https://speak4.app/lp/ey01ss2s/?ts=1757949671**](https://speak4.app/lp/ey01ss2s/?ts=1757949671)

# **Note to All Affiliate Presidents**

Please assist us in keeping affiliate information current and relevant on the ACB National website, [www.acb.org/affiliates](http://www.acb.org/affiliates).

Email updated information to Hannah Park, [hpark@acb.org](mailto:hpark@acb.org), and include “affiliate page” in the subject line.

We recommend the following information be shared for inclusion on your respective affiliate page:

Name of affiliate

Banner or logo (if applicable)

President's name and city and state

President's contact information (phone number and email)

Administrative office information (if applicable)

Brief purpose statement (30 words or less)

Affiliate website link

Links to social media accounts (if applicable)

NOTE: It is very important affiliate websites be kept current and relevant to your organization as this is where we, through our ACB website, will be sending prospective members to learn about your affiliate.