

Protect Equal Housing



What is the Equal Access Rule and Why is it Important?

The Equal Access Rule (EAR) ensure U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funded services are not denied based on sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status. The rule was originally issued to ensure family members, such as fathers, teenage boys, and grandparents could access the same shelter as their family. It was updated to address barriers faced by transgender and gender nonconforming persons. The EAR protects universal access, whether it's a family at a shelter or a transgender person seeking life-saving resources.

What is President Trump Trying to Do and How Can We Fight Back?

On April 28, 2026 HUD released its proposal to officially repeal the EAR. Before that can happen federal law requires a public comment period in which individuals and organizations can make their case for or against the EAR. The public comment period for the EAR opened on April 28th and will close on June 29th. During that time, we need to flood the Administration with pro-EAR comments so we can prove there is strong support for the rule, the transgender and non-binary community, and the broader LGBTQ+ community.



How Can You Join the Effort to Protect the Equal Access Rule?

We need you to submit a comment in support of the Equal Access Rule before June 29th and help raise awareness about the comment period. There are several steps you can take to help:

- Submit a comment in support of the Equal Access Rule before June 29th via the [EAR Comment Portal](#) and encourage others to do the same.
- Visit the [EAR Advocacy Toolkit](#) for resources on drafting and submitting a comment, tools to raise awareness about the comment period, and general information about the EAR.
- Join the coalition of advocates and sign up for [EAR Advocacy Alerts](#) to stay informed.

Please contact Josh Dubensky at jdubensky@sageusa.org if you have questions.