



July 26, 2020

Thirty years ago today, the Americans with Disabilities Act was signed into law — one of the most important pieces of civil rights legislation in our nation's history. Since then, we have made significant progress in breaking down the barriers that once prevented people with disabilities from accessing the services and other resources they deserve. Despite this progress, we know that more must be done to ensure that everyone has the opportunities and tools to succeed, especially as it relates to employment. Even prior to the challenging economic prospects brought about by the COVID-19 crisis, only 22.8% of the nearly 200,000 working-age Angelenos with disabilities were employed — an unacceptable fact that needs to be addressed holistically.

Although these are trying times, Los Angeles remains a city where dreams are found and won. I will continue to work with you to make yours real - by ensuring that every Los Angeles employment program allows people with disabilities to apply their talents and reach their full potential.

That is why I'm proud of the City's partnership with *RespectAbility*, *Unite-LA* and *Fiesta Educativa*, which produced this employment resource guide. I hope you will use it to grow and build upon your own professional strengths, and put them to work — so that we can create a better city of the future for all of us, together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "E. Garcetti", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Eric Garcetti  
Mayor