



Barriers and Access Considerations

Depending on the nature of your enterprise and the customers you desire to attract, you should give consideration to accessibility by certain groups. For example, if your activities lend themselves to observation, viewing, touching, and similar experiences that might attract elderly citizens, children, or people with disabilities, you will want to review this checklist for barriers that might inhibit their access to events or activities, and may be required for compliance with federal laws.

BUILDING ACCESS:

1. Do you have parking spaces clearly marked for disabled people? Do the spaces comply with Oregon law and with the Americans with Disabilities Act under federal law (ADA)?
2. Are the parking spaces near the main building entrance?
3. Are the door entrances greater than 32 inches?
4. Do door hardware require grasping, twisting or gripping that may be prohibitive for elderly, children, or disabled individuals?
5. Doors should have less than 8.5 pounds of pull for the audiences discussed here.
6. Do not use revolving doors unless other accessible doors are provided.

BUILDING CORRIDORS:

1. Are the hallways free of obstruction and at least 36 inches wide?
2. Is the floor surface hard, level, and not slippery?
3. Do obstacles (phones, fountains, etc.) protrude into the hall corridors and inhibit passing?
4. Are elevators provided for access to multilevel structures for disabled, elderly, etc.?
5. Interior doors should have 5 pounds or less of pull.

RESTROOMS:

1. Are restrooms in accessible locations?
2. Again, door hardware should not inhibit entrance. Handles that require twisting, grasping, gripping or pinching present difficulties.
3. Are the restrooms large enough for wheelchair turnaround (60" minimum)?
4. Are stall doors at least 32" clear?

OUTDOOR PATHS AND ACTIVITIES:

If you are trying to attract a general public audience with equal access to all people, your outdoor facilities should promote recognition of access needs.

1. Are pathways paved or constructed to provide a hard surface, level or gently sloped, and not slippery?
2. Are railings provided in necessary locations?
3. Are viewpoints designed to allow viewing from a seated or low position without presenting other dangers?

For detailed review standards, contact the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board at 1-800-872-2253, and/or obtain a copy of the ADA Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) for current specifications.