



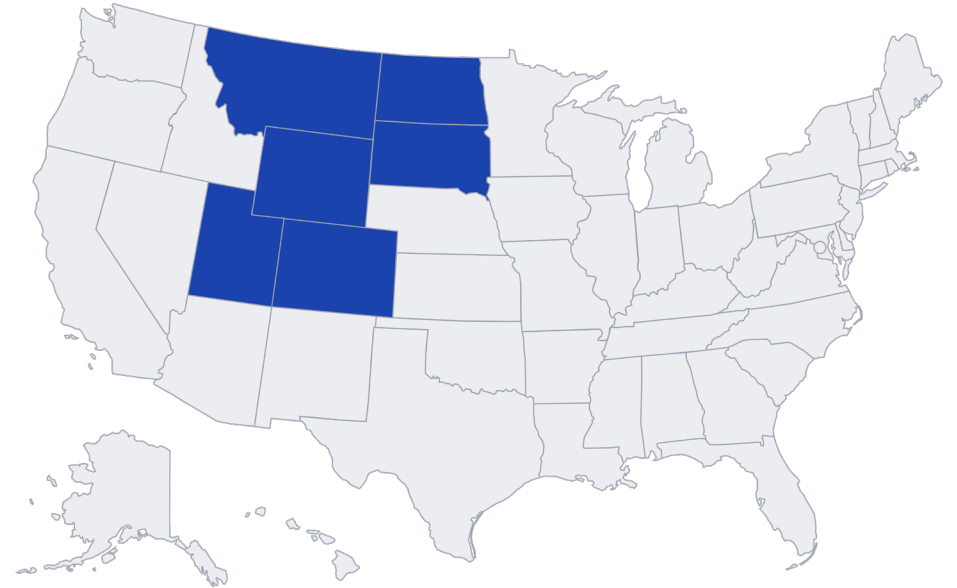
**ROCKY MOUNTAIN  
A D A C E N T E R**

*C O • M T • N D • S D • U T • W Y*

# **Introduction to the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design and Barrier Removal**

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Rocky Mountain ADA Center

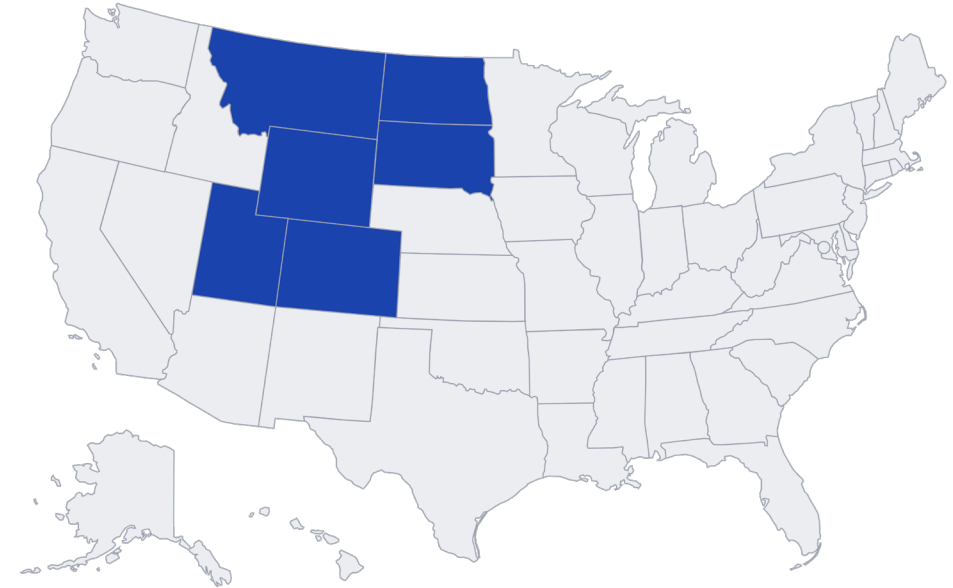




# Disclaimer

Information, materials, and/or technical assistance are intended solely as informal guidance and are neither a determination of your legal rights or responsibilities under the ADA, nor binding on any agency with enforcement responsibility under the ADA.

The Rocky Mountain ADA Center, operated by Meeting the Challenge, Inc., is funded under a grant from the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR grant number 90DPAD0009-01-00) to provide technical assistance, training, and materials to Colorado, Utah, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming on the Americans with Disabilities Act.



Technical Assistance

Refer & Network

Conduct Research

Provide Training

Publish & Share Materials

Social Media

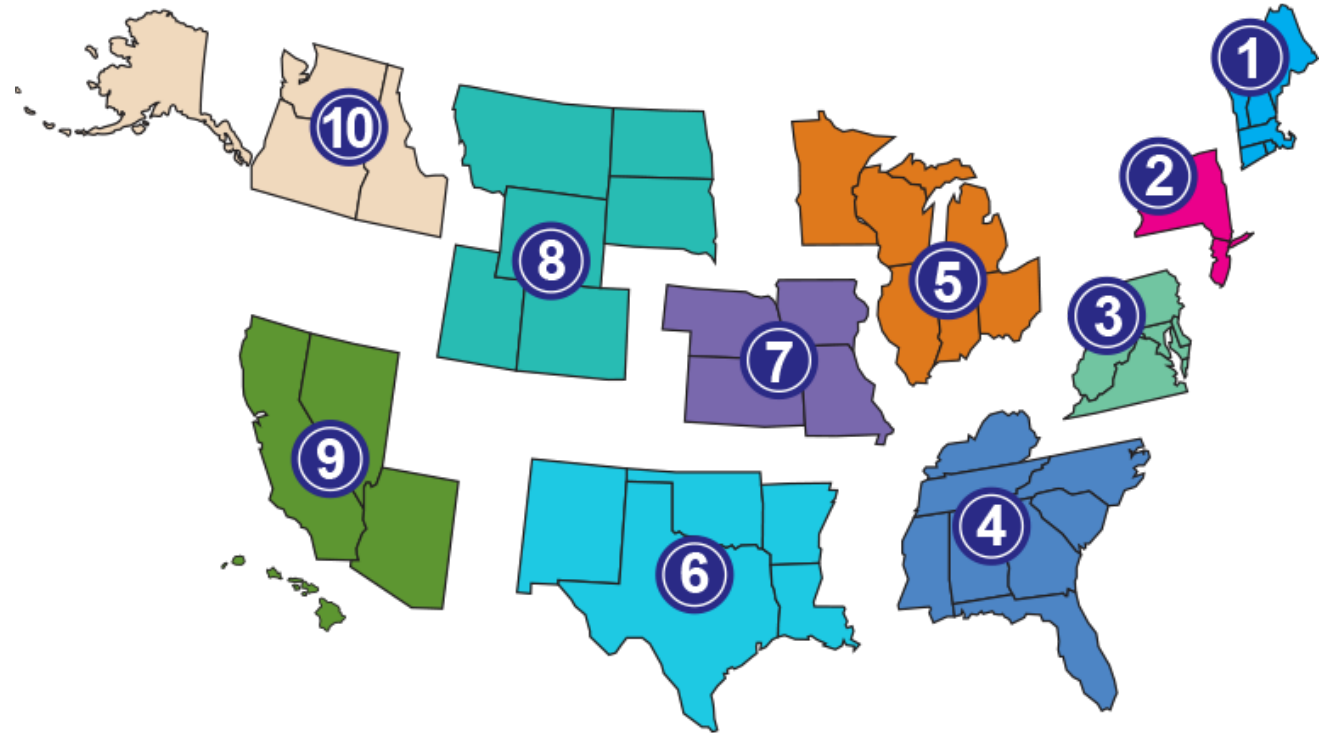


## Contact Information

Regional ADA Centers

1-800-949-4232

[www.adata.org](http://www.adata.org)



# Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

**Civil Rights Law** = Legal guarantee for all citizens, regardless of identity and/or circumstances

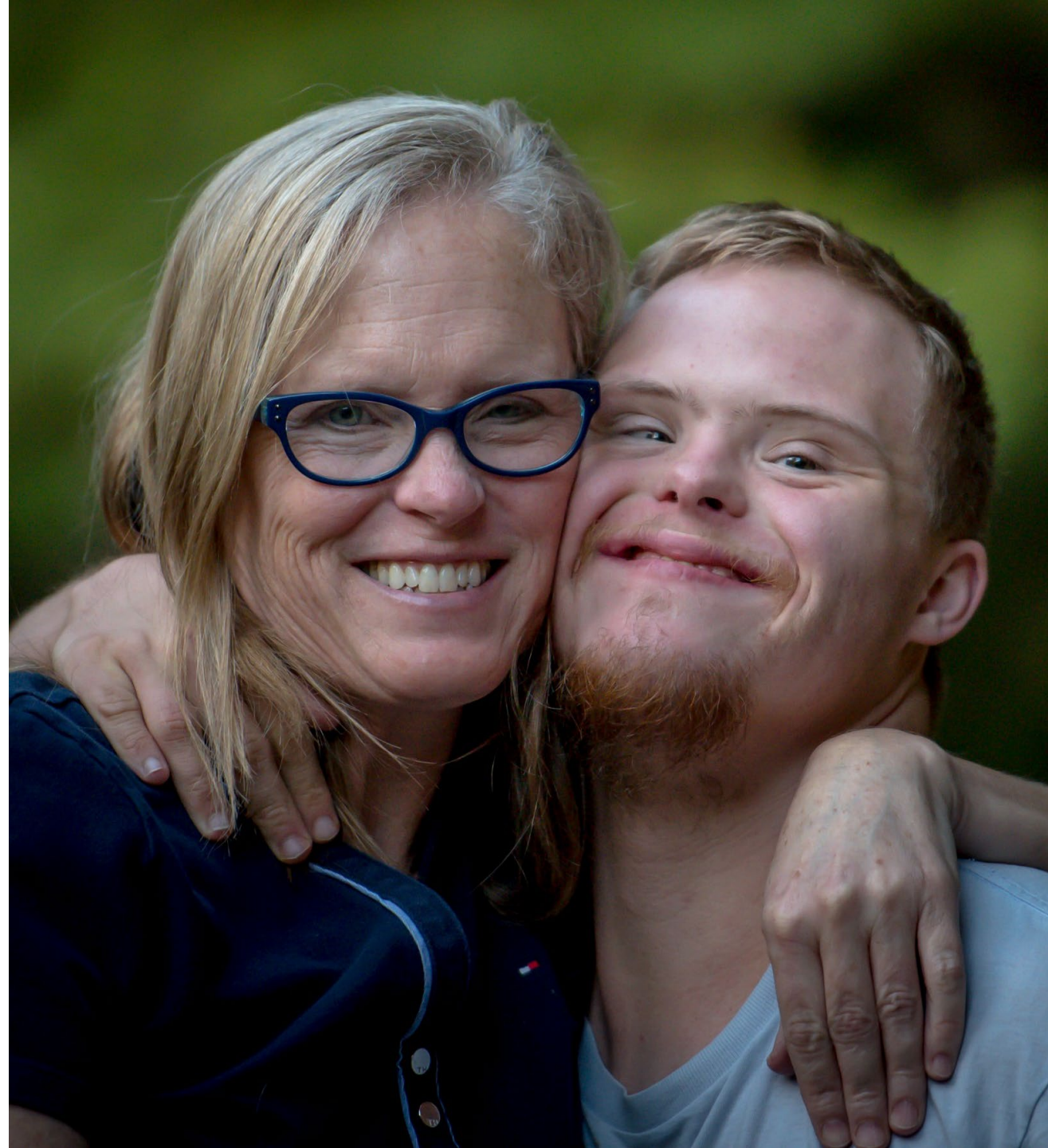
- Signed into law on July 26, 1990
- Promises equal treatment
- Prohibits discrimination
- Descriptive rather than prescriptive
- “It depends”



# ADA Definition of Disability

A physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more **major life activities**. The ADA also prohibits discrimination against:

- Those with a record of such an impairment
- Those regarded as having such an impairment
- Someone based on their association with a person with a known disability

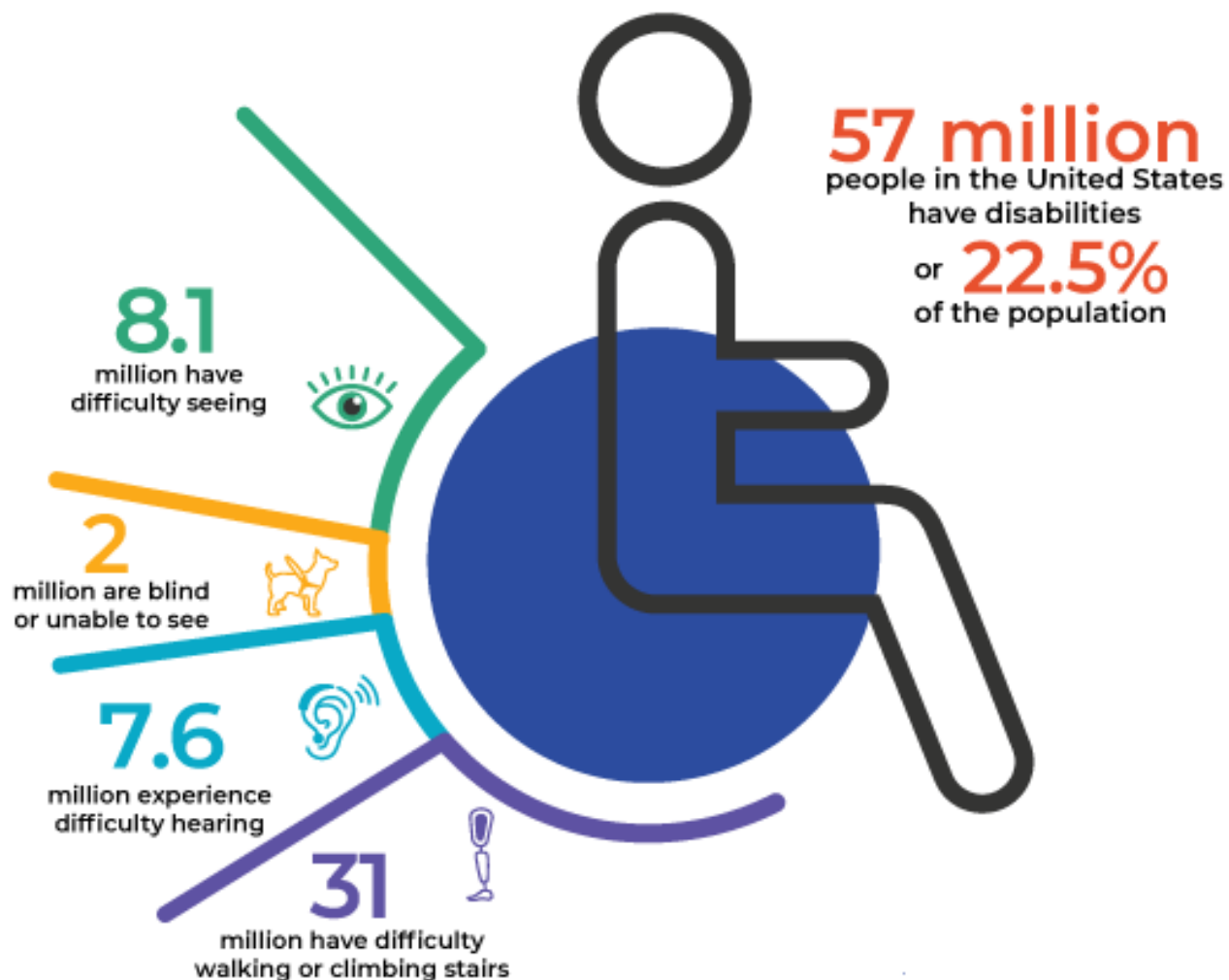




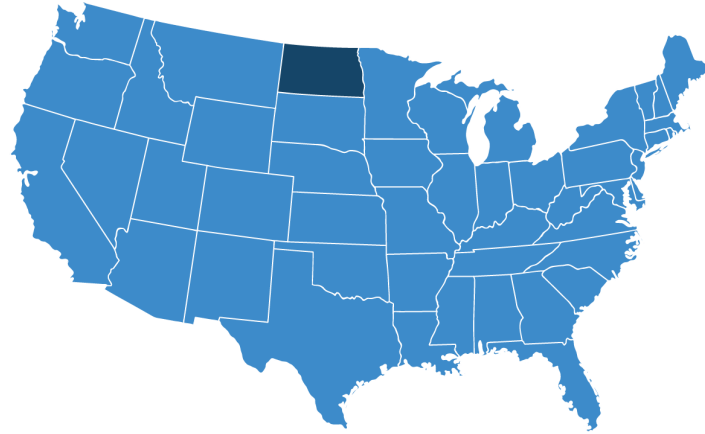
# Learning Objectives

- Understand the **importance of physical accessibility** and **physical accessibility requirements**
- Overview the **2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design**
- Discuss **common barriers** to physical access and strategies for **removing** those barriers

# American Disabilities



# NORTH DAKOTA DISABILITY FACTS



**80,000+**

North Dakotans  
have disabilities,

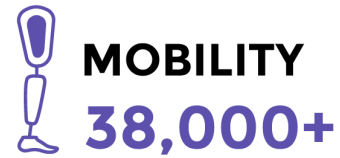
or **11%**

of the population.



Number of people with  
cognitive/learning disabilities.

.....



Number of people with  
physical disabilities.

.....



Number of people with  
visual disabilities.

.....



Number of people with  
hearing disabilities.

.....



# Social Model of Disability

“I use the term ‘disabled people’ quite deliberately, because I subscribe to what’s called the social model of disability, which tells us that we are more disabled by the society that we live in than by our bodies and our diagnoses.”

– Stella Young

Comedian, Advocate, Writer



**How do I ensure physical accessibility? What are the standards and requirements of physical accessibility under the ADA?**

# 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design

- Published on September 15, 2010 by the DOJ
- Also called the “2010 Standards,” “ADA Standards,” or “Standards”
- Set the **minimum requirements** for qualifying facilities to be readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities
- Studied and scrutinized by the United States Access Board prior to adoption
- The Standards do not serve as building code, but rather as physical representation of civil rights

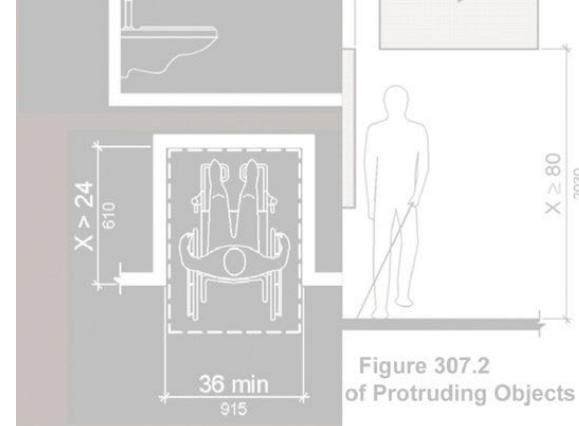


Figure 307.2  
of Protruding Objects

## 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design

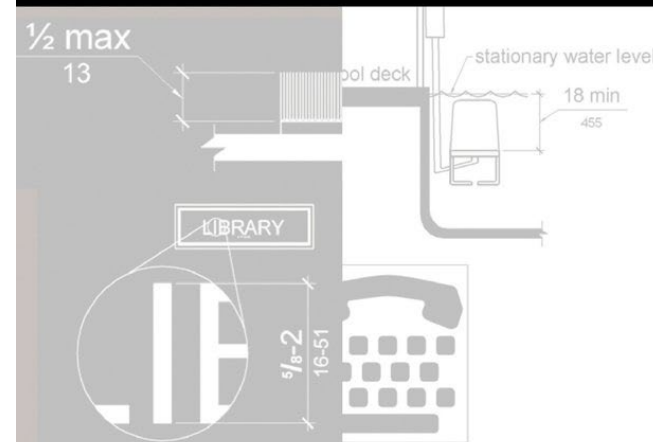


Figure 703.2.5  
Height of Raised Character

Figure 703.7.2.2  
International Symbol of TTY

# 2010 Standards: Chapters

- 1:** Application and Administration (Rationale)
- 2:** Scoping Requirements (Scoping)
- 3:** Building Blocks (Technical)
- 4:** Accessible Routes (Technical)
- 5:** General Site and Building Elements (Technical)
- 6:** Plumbing Elements and Facilities (Technical)
- 7:** Communication Elements and Features (Technical)
- 8:** Special Rooms, Spaces, and Elements (Technical)
- 9:** Built-In Elements (Technical)
- 10:** Recreation Facilities (Technical)

# What came before the 2010 Standards?

- ADA signed into law in 1990
  - First iteration of Standards published in 1991
- Revised (and current) Standards published in 2010
  - Use of the 1991 Standards was permitted until March 15, 2012

# Who must follow the Standards?

- Entities/facilities that falls under Title II or Title III of the ADA
- **Title II:** All programs, services, and activities of state and local government agencies, also called “public entities”
- **Title III:** Private businesses
  - Public accommodations: Businesses that operate places that serve the general public
  - Commercial facilities: Factories, warehouses, and similar facilities, not open to the general public



**Do older buildings  
have to follow the  
Standards?**

# Older buildings do have to follow the Standards!

- Facilities that fall under Title II or Title III of the ADA should follow the Standards no matter when they were built
- Safe harbor provision: Any elements built or altered (before March 15, 2012) to comply with the 1991 Standards do not need to be changed to meet the 2010 Standards until alterations (updates) of those elements occur
- “Grandfathering” is not an existent concept under the ADA



# When do the Standards apply?

1. New construction
  - Must comply with the 2010 Standards
2. Alterations of existing facilities
  - Must comply with the 2010 Standards to the maximum extent technically feasible
3. Existing facilities (not being altered)
  - Program access (Title II)
  - Readily achievable barrier removal (Title III)



# Program Access

- Title II responsibility
- A state or local government agency, also known as a public entity, may not deny the benefits of its programs, activities, and services to individuals with disabilities because its facilities are physically inaccessible



# Readily Achievable Barrier Removal

- Title III responsibility
- Existing public accommodations are required to remove barriers only when it is "readily achievable" to do so
- "Readily achievable" means easily accomplishable and able to be carried out without much difficulty or expense



# Where to find the Standards and learn more

- [U.S. Access Board — ADA Accessibility Standards](#)
  - [U.S. Access Board — Guide to the ADA Accessibility Standards](#)
- [ADA.gov — ADA Standards for Accessible Design](#)
- [ADA Checklist for Existing Facilities](#)
- Want a hard copy of the Standards? Visit our [online store](#)

# Getting Started:

# Physical Accessibility Considerations

# Physical Accessibility: Where to Start

Priorities from the Department of Justice:

- Priority 1: Accessible approach and entrance
- Priority 2: Access to goods and services
- Priority 3: Access to restrooms
- Priority 4: Access to other measures necessary



# Priority 1:

# Accessible Approach and Entrance

# Priority 1: Accessible Approach and Entrance

## Ask:

Are ramps or elevators provided where stairs are a means of entrance?

Is accessible parking offered? Are there clear instructions available for how to get to those parking spots and then into the facility?

Are surfaces leading to the entrance free of gaps or changes in level that could be difficult to maneuver a wheelchair or other assistive device over?

Are accessible routes (min. 36 inches wide) and doorways (min. 32 inches wide) wide enough?

Are security measures considerate of people with disabilities? Are security staff trained on this?





**Barrier  
Solution:**

**Portable  
Ramps**



# Priority 2:

# Access to Goods and Services

# Priority 2: Access to Goods and Services

## Ask:

Are accessible seats ADA compliant or better? (Standards sections [221](#) and [802](#))

Do accessible seats have clear sightlines?

Are accessible seats easily approachable?

Are accessible seats integrated?

## Accessible Seats/Wheelchair Spaces:

36 inches wide minimum

48 inches deep minimum for front/rear approach, 60 inches deep minimum for side approach

Accompanied by at least one companion seat

# Priority 2: Access to Goods and Services Continued

## Ask:

Are there queues available for people who may not be able to stand in long lines? Are these queues clearly marked?

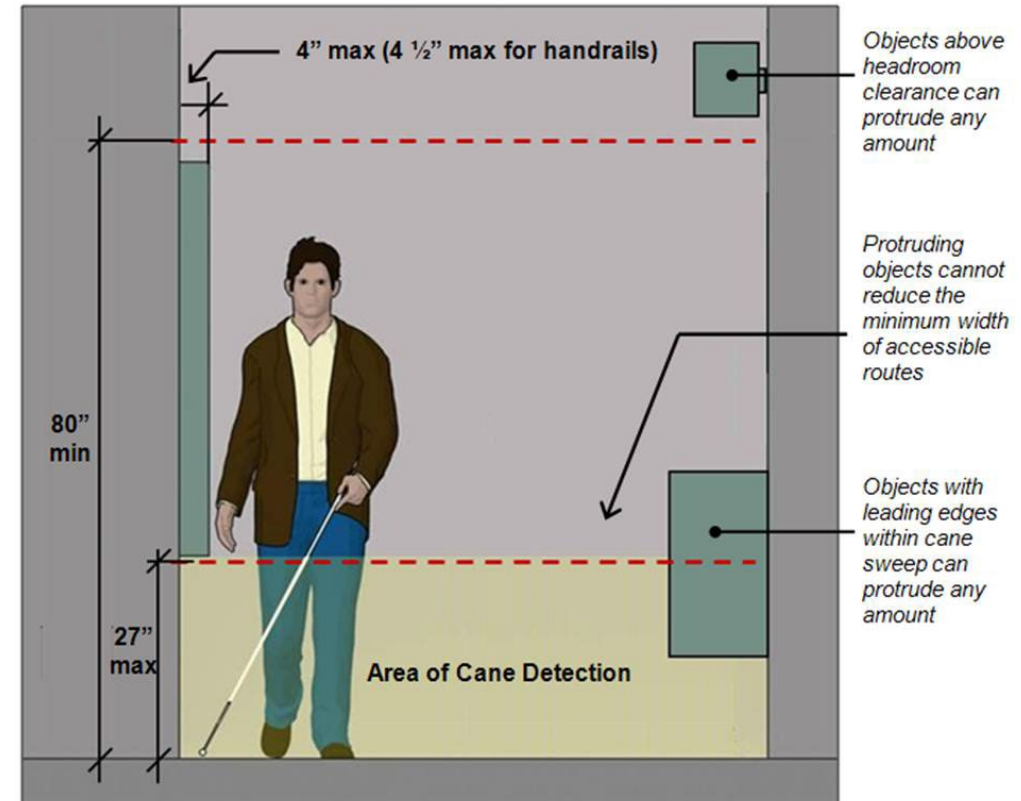
Are bar/concession services accessible to someone in a wheelchair or someone of short stature?

Are floor surfaces firm, stable, and slip resistant?

Could a wheelchair/mobility aid user easily move about the facility?

Are there any protruding objects that could be a hazard to someone who is blind or has low vision?

- Protruding objects: Objects usually mounted on walls that are placed between 27 and 80 inches from the floor that protrude more than 4 inches out



# Priority 3:

# Access to Restrooms

# Priority 3: Access to Restrooms

## Ask:

Are there accessible stalls/accessible single-user restrooms available?

Do these stalls have grab bars and enough clear floor space to maneuver a wheelchair in and out?

Is there space under the sink so a wheelchair user can roll up to the sink? Are pipes insulated?

Can I provide a full-length mirror or step stools for extra accessibility?

Are bathrooms clearly marked with signs that include raised characters and braille?



# Priority 4:

# Access to Other Measures Necessary

# Priority 4: Access to Other Measures Necessary + Additional Considerations

## Ask:

Is there clear space under water fountains? Where there is a higher water fountain is there also a lower one, and vice versa?

Can I provide service animal relief areas for extra accessibility?

Are emergency alerts inclusive (audio and visual)?

Is my staff trained on providing and ensuring accessibility?

Are customers able to easily find details regarding the accessibility of my facility?

If my facility has a backstage area for artists, is it also accessible?





# Additional Resources



[Attitude is Everything](#): Our vision is to see music and live event industries valuing disabled people as audience members, performers, professionals and volunteers.

- [DIY Access Guide](#)



[Half Access](#): Half Access is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to making live music accessible. Our database provides accessibility info on any and all venues to help prepare disabled folks on what to expect before arriving at a show, and will be used by us to work with venues on improving accessibility in their spaces.

- [Submit your venue](#)



[Freedom Resource Center](#): Freedom Resource Center is a disability rights organization. Our mission is to provide services that increase independence for people with disabilities. Freedom provides services free of charge to individuals of any age and any disability.

# We're here to help.



Tess Stanton



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# Questions?