

CT REAL CHOICE FACT SHEET October 2006

Contacts/Resources

The Office of Protection and Advocacy:

(Phone) 860 297-4300
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ADA info line:

(Phone) 800 514-0301
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Codes and Standards Committee:

(Phone) 860 685-8310
(Fax) 860 685-8365

Building Accessibility: A P&A Self-Help Publication

available at:
www.ct.gov/opapd/

U.S. Department of Justice, Office on the ADA Civil Rights Division

PO Box 66738
Washington, DC 20035

ACCESSIBILITY CRITICAL FEATURES OF PHYSICAL ACCESS LAW FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES



State & Local Government Buildings

- All programs must be accessible but alternatives to structural changes may be used (e.g. moving activities to an accessible location)
- A structural alterations must be made if there is no effective alternative

State & Local Building Grievances

- Contact your local building official

ADA Regulations for New Private Buildings & Renovations

- All new construction must be accessible
- Renovations must be accessible, including an accessible path of travel to the primary function area of the building
- Accessible paths of travel, however, do not have to exceed 20% of the cost of the renovation

ADA Regulations for Existing Private Buildings

- Structural changes must be made if it is *readily achievable* to do so (i.e. "easily accomplished without much difficulty or expense")
- Accessibility requirements vary based on size and available resources

Private Building Grievances

- Local building officials do not have jurisdiction over federal law
- Complaints should be mailed to the Department of Justice
- Violations should be clearly explained and include the address of where the violation occurred



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A.J. Pappanikou Center for Excellence
In Developmental Disabilities
Education, Research and Service

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Key Features of ADA & State Code

- Requirements for people with visual or hearing disabilities are addressed in the ADA & State Code, but are not covered by this general overview

Parking Must Have...

- Accessible 15' wide spaces with appropriate signage (i.e. "handicapped parking," "state permit required," "violators will be fined")
- Shared aisles permitted in Connecticut
- At least one van accessible 16' wide space with a "van accessible" sign

Path of Travel Must Have...

- Curb cut or ramp from parking to pathway
- Top and bottom of ramp or curb cut flush with pathway, which is at least 36" wide
- Walkway slope less than 5%
- Ramp slope greater than 5% but less than 8.33%, at least 36" wide with railings on both sides that are 34-38" from the surface, and a 5' level rest area if the ramp is longer than 30'

Doors and Doorways Must Have...

- Width of at least 32"
- Thresholds less than ½"
- Lever handle (operable with closed fist) or automatic door and 24" of clear space on pull side of door

Bathrooms Must Have...

- Stalls at least 5' by 5' with accessible (closed fist) door latches, a grab bar on the side wall nearest the toilet, a 17-19" high toilet seat, and a toilet 16-18" from the side wall
- Sinks have 30" by 48" of clear floor space, a rim no higher than 34, an open space of 29" from floor to bottom of sink apron, faucets operable with closed fist, operating parts and faucet 13" or less from face of sink, and insulated hot water pipes under the sink
- Items in the bathroom not higher than 48" from the floor (e.g. towel dispenser)



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