

ONE LAST CHECK

Use this list to keep track of what is accessible and what isn't — and then what you're going to do about it!

1 OUTSIDE

- Appropriate number of accessible spaces
- Minimum of 1 van space
- Pathway to the entrance is relatively level
- Accessible spaces are clearly marked

2 ENTRANCES

- Clearly marked accessible entrance
- Entryways are at least 36" wide
- Handles meet all listed accessibility requirements
- Doors are easy to open

3 INSIDE

- Adequate space to navigate and turn around
- Thresholds, rugs, and carpets are short and flat
- Signs are an appropriate height
- Hanging or protruding objects are marked with a cone

Notes:



Disability Rights Iowa

LEGAL PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY

Disability Rights Iowa is the congressionally mandated protection and advocacy agency for the state of Iowa. DRI works under the Protection and Advocacy for Voter Access grant to ensure access for Iowa voters with disabilities and mental illnesses. If you encounter an access barrier, please contact DRI.



Iowa Secretary of State

Iowa is one of the nation's leaders in voting accessibility. The Secretary of State's Office will continue to strive to increase participation while maintaining the integrity of the vote.

FIND DRI AT

- drivoting.org
- Info@driowa.org
- (515) 278-2502
- [D_R_Iowa](#)
- Relay 711
- [Disability Rights Iowa](#)

FIND THE SOS AT

- sos.iowa.gov/disabilities
- sos@sos.iowa.gov
- (515)-281-0145
- [IowaSOS](#)
- [Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate](#)

THE VOTING ACCESSIBILITY

QUICK CHECK

How Accessible is Your Polling Place?



Disability Rights Iowa

LEGAL PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY



Iowa Secretary of State



ACCESS MATTERS!

Voters with disabilities are a politically active demographic. Unfortunately, not many polling places were built with accessibility in mind and can prevent people with disabilities from voting. If a voter with a disability encounters a barrier, they are less likely to vote in person during the next election.

It's a poll worker's duty to provide voters with an accessible venue to exercise their right to vote.

This booklet is **your** portable tool to expand election access.

Each section relates to a part of the polling place: **outside, entryways, and inside**. If you encounter barriers, the red **!** boxes provide explanations and same-day fixes for some access issues.

If a voter needs an accommodation that you do not know how to provide, contact your county auditor for assistance at () - ____ - ____.

VOTING MACHINES

It is important that the ADA accessible voting machine is **set up and ready to go** when the polls open! Even if you've never had a voter ask to use the machine, it must be ready! More people are turning out to vote than ever before, and your precinct might have a new voter who wants to use the accessible machine. If a voter who needs the machine sees that it is not set up, they may be discouraged and decide not to vote.

Machines should be set up so that no one can see how a person is voting.

USE THIS RULER TO QUICKLY CHECK MEASUREMENTS

Maximum height of an unbeveled threshold or pavement defect
 Maximum height of a beveled threshold and all rugs and mats

The distance an object can protrude from the wall before it must be marked with a cone



1 OUTSIDE



Every parking lot should have 1 accessible space for every **25 SPACES**



TWO accessible spaces can share **ONE** van aisle

Accessible spaces must be **CLEARLY MARKED**

! If an accessible space does not have a sign, it can be temporarily marked with cones, chairs, or other objects at the end of the yellow parking lines

The path from accessible parking to the building should be **RELATIVELY LEVEL**

! Even seemingly small cracks and potholes in the pavement can prevent someone from reaching the building. If a defect is more than 1/4" high, consider smoothing it out, placing a rug over it, or marking an alternate route.

All ramps must be **36" WIDE** for easy passage



Ramps can have no more than a **1:12 SLOPE**

! The slope is a ratio between height and length. For every 12" along the base of the ramp the height increases 1". Ex: a 5' ramp should only be 5" tall.

The ramp should rise **NO MORE THAN 30"** Between landings

2 ENTRANCES

If there are stairs at the main entrance, there must be an **ALTERNATE, ACCESSIBLE** entrance available

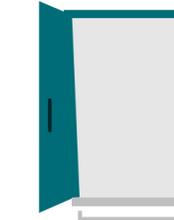


Entrances should have **18" OF CLEAR WALL SPACE** on the pull side of the door next to the handle

! A person using a mobility aid like a wheelchair or crutches needs this space to get close enough to the door.



There **MUST BE SIGNS** from the main entrance to the accessible entrance



Entryways must be at least **36" WIDE**

Doors should open **WITHOUT TOO MUCH FORCE**

! If a door is too heavy, consider propping it open or posting a greeter to open the door for all visitors.



All paths of travel must be at least **36" WIDE**

Any furniture should be **EASILY MOVABLE** so that pathways can be cleared



All carpet must be **SHORT AND FLAT**

3 INSIDE

Paths must have an area to turn around that is **5' SQUARE** or is an intersection of two 36" pathways



All thresholds must be **1/4" UNBEVELED** or **1/2" BEVELED** and all rugs should be secured and no more than a **1/2" HIGH**

! An unbeveled threshold is squared on the sides while a beveled threshold is sloped.



Any objects hanging from the ceiling or protruding **MORE THAN 4"** from the wall must be marked with a cone to be cane detectable.

All signage should be hung between **48" AND 60"** above the ground

If voting is not on the first floor, there must be an operational **ELEVATOR**

1:12 ramp slope

The minimum width of ramps, doorways, and paths of travel