



Physical Accessibility

Physical Accessibility to the building and grounds. This assesses whether wheelchair users and other persons with mobility issues will find accessible parking leading to an accessible entrance which in turn leads to an accessible worship area and preferably to at least one accessible classroom.

Churches that are physically accessible will meet the criteria outlined for each area of the building and grounds under 1-5. *In addition, areas 6-7 are highly recommended.* Criteria for meeting accessibility standards for each area are listed below.

1. ____ **Parking.** Accessible parking spaces are provided.
2. ____ **Entrance.** Entrance to the building is accessible to people who use wheelchairs and others who cannot walk up and down steps.
3. ____ **Interior.** Hallways and other interior sections of the building are accessible to people who use wheelchairs and others with mobility issues.
4. ____ **Worship Area.** Entrance to the main worship area (often referred to as the “sanctuary”) is accessible and seating options are provided.
5. ____ **Restroom.** At least one wheelchair accessible restroom is available for both men and women.
6. ____ **Classroom.** At least one classroom is accessible to wheelchair users.
7. ____ **Fellowship/Gathering Area.** The area where the church gathers for fellowship activities is accessible to wheelchair users.

Parking

1. ____ Accessible parking spaces are provided based on total number of spaces.

Total Spaces	Van Spaces		Auto Space(s)
Less than 25	1	+	0
25 - 50	1	+	1
50 - 75	1	+	2
75 - 100	1	+	3
100 - 150	1	+	4

150 - 200	1	+	5
200 - 300	1	+	6
300 - 400	1	+	7
400 - 500	2	+	7
(Over 500, 2% accessible with 1/8 of those van spaces and 7/8 auto spaces.)			

All accessible parking spaces should meet these criteria:

- At least 8-feet wide
- Each parking space has a level, stable surface.
- Upright, visible sign with universal wheelchair symbol for autos plus “van accessible” sign for van spaces. (Check local requirements for signage)
- Marked smooth, level aisle (5' for autos, 8' for van) beside each parking space for wheelchair accessibility (Two spaces may share an aisle).
- A path at least 3 feet wide leads from the parking space aisle to an accessible entrance.
- Curb cuts with 1" to 12" slope and 36" wide are provided if only street parking available.

Entrance

2. **Entrance to the building is accessible to people who use wheelchairs and others who cannot walk up and down steps.**

Accessible entrances meet all of the following criteria:

- Accessible **path at least 3 feet wide** from parking spaces.
- Clear **signage** indicating the accessible entrances.
- A **5-foot level platform** at the entry door.
- Minimum **3 feet (42" preferable) wide doorway**
- Doorway has level **threshold of no more than ½ inch.**

Three types of accessible entrances:

- Ground level.** No accommodations needed.

_____ **Ramp. 3 feet wide ramp (maximum incline of 1:12-or 1" of rise for 12" of length** but preferably 1:20) with handrails (2 rails if rise is greater than 6 inches-see below) and a 5' level platform at the top and at all switchbacks

_____ **Elevator or lift.** Certified and usable by wheelchair user (Reach controls-54" or less from the floor, space to accommodate chair and preferably an attendant, at least one handrail 32" high. and carry the weight of a power chair and its user)

Also recommend: a covered drop off area with 114" vertical clearance.

Doors - Automatic doors are recommended wherever possible. **Manual doors** can be made more accessible according to the criteria below.

_____ **Manual doors** should be **light, easy to open** (≤ 5 lbs. pressure) by a wheelchair user, not force the wheelchair off the surrounding level surface, and have a **handle** easy to grasp with one hand without the need for tight grasping, pinching, or twisting wrist. (Highly recommended to have an usher or greeter stationed at the door to help persons with mobility challenge)

Automatic doors should **meet the following criteria:**

_____ **Marked** with the universal wheelchair access symbol and working.

_____ Plainly visible **push buttons** at comfortable height for person in wheelchair.

_____ Buttons at **sufficient distance** from any door that opens toward the user.

_____ Doors open at **moderate speed** for safe passage through.

Interior

3. _____ **Hallways and other interior sections of the building are accessible to people who use wheelchairs and others with mobility issues.**

_____ **Hallways. Barrier-free** with width of at least **48"** (60" preferable)

_____ **Stairs.** At least one handrail mounted 34-38" above the step and extending 1" beyond top and bottom; (includes podium platform) & slightly raised, abrasive floor strips at top.

_____ **Carpets and rugs.** Carpets and rugs securely attached, firm backing and a maximum pile level of 1/2-inch thick.

_____ **Door handles.** Room doors are easy to open - see manual doors above

(**Required** for doors on restrooms, worship area, and classrooms labeled accessible, and highly recommended for others.)

_____ **Coat Racks.** If provided, at least one section low enough to be accessible by persons in wheelchairs and small children.

Recommend half or more drinking fountains are accessible with spout no more than 36" from the floor, easily operated by a person using a wheelchair, and cups available nearby.

Worship Area

4. ___ **Entrance to the main worship area** (often referred to as the “sanctuary”) **is accessible and seating options are provided.**

___ **Accessible entrances** to the Worship Area - *see accessible doors & entrances sections*

___ **Ushers** should be available at the doorway to help persons find seating.

___ **Seating.** Seating is provided so that a wheelchair user can sit beside family members and sit at different locations.

Number of spaces provided (scattered site cutouts)

___ Front

___ Rear

___ Middle (scattered with considerations for drafts, temperature, sound, light, view)

___ **Accessible platform** with wheel chair ramp or lift to encourage participation or, if impossible, provide an **alternative choir area and speaking area** where speaker can be seen and heard. A 27" table may be preferable to a short podium.

___ If stairs needed to access platform, provide at least one **handrail 34"-38"** above the steps

Restrooms

5. ___ **At least one wheelchair accessible restroom is available for both men and women.** Can be provided by a **family/single user** restroom (accommodates an attendant and is highly preferred) **OR** at least one **accessible restroom stall** in standard restrooms for each gender.

Restroom Accessibility

ACCESSIBILITY STANDARD	TYPE OF RESTROOM		
Check all that apply on line provided to the right below	Accessible Family or Single User (genderless)	Standard Restroom with Accessible Stalls	Individual Stalls Within Restroom
Signs clearly marking as accessible	_____	_____	_____
Entrance has lever door handles - no tight grasping, pinching, wrist-turning	_____	_____	Not applicable
Minimum 36" entrance door width	_____	_____	_____
Entrance door swings outward into hall/room OR has 5' turning space beyond the radius of inward opening door	_____	_____	_____
Restroom/Stall is 60" wide beyond the radius of the door and 59" deep	_____	Not applicable - See right column	_____
Wall-mounted grab bars are 33"-36" high next to and at the back of the commode that is 19" from floor	_____	Not applicable - See right column	_____
Sink is open and 29" from bottom to the floor with ever type-facet controls	_____	_____	Not applicable
Towels, soap, mirrors, dryers are no higher than 40"	_____	_____	Not applicable

Classrooms

6. ____ At least one Sunday school classroom and a Fellowship Area is accessible to wheelchair users as follows:

An accessible path at least 36 inches wide leads from an accessible entrance to the ____ classroom door and ____ fellowship area door

There is a 5-foot level platform at the

_____ classroom door and _____ fellowship area door.

The doorway entrances are 36-inches wide with a level threshold no more than ½" at the

_____ classroom door and _____ fellowship area door.

Fellowship/Gathering Area

7. _____ A telephone with the top of the controls no more than 48" from the floor and with a knee clearance of 27".