




## INFORMATIONAL GUIDE TO HELP DEFINE ACCESSIBILITY TO AA MEETING SPACES

*People with disabilities should be able to arrive on the site, approach the building, enter and obtain access to the meeting space as freely everyone else.*


The wheelchairs,  &  , are be used in our meeting schedule book to designate;

**Accessible to Handicapped** and **Handicapped Accessible with Facilities**

But are they correct?

Below are *some* of the requirements for these designations.

 **Accessible to Handicapped**  
(one wheelchair designation)

**Identified access routes/facilities:** Has  (international symbol), Braille and raised letters?

**Route into the Building:** Does not require the use of stairs, is stable, firm, slip-resistant and at least 36 inches wide?

**Ramps:** (at least 12 inches of ramp length are needed for each inch of height) Do ramps that are longer than 6 feet have sturdy railings between 34 and 38 inches high on both sides with at least 36 inches between?

**Parking and Drop-Off Areas:** Are there accessible parking spaces available (8 feet wide for car plus 5-foot access aisle)?

**Entrance/Doors:** Is there a 32 inches clear opening in the doorway? Is there space close enough to open door from wheelchair? Are handles no higher than 48 inches and able to be opened easily with one closed fist?

**Protruding Objects:** Can they be detected by person with a visual disability using a cane?

**All Inside Travel Routes:** Are at least 36 inches wide, with an area to turn wheelchair around (5 foot circular or T shape)?

**Meeting spaces:** Agree with Inside Travel Routes specifications?

**Tables, and Counters:** Will these accommodate a person in a wheelchairs?

**Elevators:** With visible *and* audible opening/closing and floor indicators, call button below 42 inches, emergency intercom, Braille and raised letters?

**Lifts:** Can be independently operated, with call button and accessible controls?

 **Handicapped Accessible with Facilities**  
(Two wheelchair designation)

**Facilities:** Rest rooms should be fully accessible to people with disabilities.

**Doorways and Passages:** Is there a 32 inches clear opening in the doorway? Is there space close enough to open door from wheelchair? Are handles no higher than 48 inches and able to be opened easily with one closed fist?

**Stalls:** Does door swings out? Is there a 5 foot by 5 foot or comparable area for maneuvering? Are there grab bars behind and on the side nearest the toilet? Is the toilet seat 17 to 19 inches high?

**Sinks:** Is there a clear space in front, 30 inches wide by 48 inches deep? Is the sink apron 29 inches high and the rim no higher than 34 inches? Are faucets operable with one closed fist with soap dispensers and dryers within easy reach?

**How would you like to go arrive at a meeting location...and not be able to be to enter**  
**Or**  
***Not know of a meeting that you could attend...and go to the bathroom.***

**CHECK THE DESIGNATION**  
 **OR**   
**FOR YOUR MEETING IN THE**  
***CT A.A. MEETINGS***  
**booklet**

**Information developed from the**  
**Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG)**

*Additional guideline specifications available*

<http://www.ada.gov/checktxt.htm>

**AREA 11 SPECIAL NEEDS / LANGUAGES / REMOTE COMMUNITIES (FALL 2008)**