

Checklist to Ensure that Vaccine Sites are Accessible to Ohioans with Disabilities

SECTION 3 HINTS AND GLOSSARY

Section 3: Structural Checklist for Drive-Through and Walk-in Vaccination Sites is a tool to assess adherence of structural elements of vaccine sites with Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility Guidelines (ADAG). This checklist is developed based on the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines.

Disclaimer: The following document(s) are for information purposes only and do not constitute legal advice. If you are seeking legal advice please contact a qualified attorney.

Hints on using Section 3 Checklist

1. Begin by assembling a few basic measuring tools: a tape measure; a two-foot level; and a spring gauge or door pressure assessment device to ascertain door pressure weight (i.e., pressure).
2. Work from the outside in. Begin by assessing parking, walkways, drop-off areas, exterior ramps, and entrances, then proceed to interior spaces - corridors; restrooms; elevators; registration, vaccination, and waiting areas; and then any communications features such as signage. Proceeding in this sequence parallels the experience of people as they undergo the vaccination process. By following this sequence, it is less likely that you will miss things.
3. Use the "Comments" space provided in each section to describe conditions that need attention or correction, or to add details that cannot be adequately addressed in the questionnaire. Recorded comments ensure that faulty memory - the bane of accurate assessment - does not produce inaccurate evaluation results.

Glossary of Section 3 Checklist Terms

Use and application of a checklist is greatly aided when you understand what the terms mean and why the conditions they describe are important to people with disabilities. The following terms are all used in the checklist:

Access aisle (parking): The access aisle is the hatch-worked space beside the area for the vehicle that provides room for maneuvering and/or lowering a ramp. A standard accessible space is made up of the area for the vehicle (10 feet wide), plus an access aisle (five feet wide). Standard accessible spaces may share an access aisle. (See below for information on van-accessible spaces.)

Door hardware (non-compliant): Non-compliant door hardware is any hardware that requires a closed fist or grasping action to operate. Knobs are a typical example of non-compliant hardware. (Lever hardware is an example of compliant hardware.)

Door pressure weight: Door pressure weight (or resistance) is the pressure exerted by a door as it is opened; the term does not refer to the weight of the door itself.

The maximum pressure weight for an interior door is 5 pounds; there is no standard maximum pressure weight for exterior doors, although 8 and ½ pounds is the recommended maximum.

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Glossary (Continued)

Latch-side clearance: Latch-side clearance is the distance from the door latch (handle) to the wall on the same side as the latch. Without adequate latch-side clearance, a user of mobility equipment will not have room to attain position when opening the door. In other words, the clearance offers space to back into during the motion of pulling open the door.

Protruding object: A protruding object is a barrier that protrudes into the path of travel and is not revealed by the sweeping motion of a cane. Protruding objects are of special concern to people with visual disabilities. There are two categories of protruding objects: those that protrude horizontally from a wall and those that protrude vertically from a ceiling. In order to be designated a horizontal protruding object, the object must be at least 4 inches from the wall and at least 27 inches from the floor. Water fountains are frequently horizontal protruding objects. In order to be designated a vertical protruding object, the bottom of an object hung from the ceiling must be 80 inches or less from the floor. Ceiling-mounted video screens are frequently vertical protruding objects.

Signage (exterior): Exterior signage includes signs at accessible parking and signs at the accessible entrances. Signs at standard accessible parking spaces must include the wheelchair symbol. (See “Van-accessible parking,” below, for information on the additional signage requirements at van-accessible parking.) All accessible entrances must be marked as such and all inaccessible entrances must have directional signage that notes the location of the closest accessible entrance.

Signage (interior): Interior signage includes signs at accessible restrooms and signs at other rooms with designated uses. If space permits, signs must be mounted on the wall 60” from the floor (measured from the middle of the sign) on the latch-side of the door. Signs at accessible restrooms must indicate (in raised symbols, lettering, and Braille) 1) the specified gender, and 2) that the restroom is accessible. Inaccessible restrooms must have directional signage noting the location of the nearest accessible restrooms. Signage at designated rooms (other than restrooms) must have raised lettering and Braille.

Slope (non-compliant): Any slope greater than 1:12 is, in most circumstances, non-compliant. The ratio refers to 1 inch of rise for every 12 inches of travel. Any slope between 1:20 and 1:12 is considered a ramp and requires the mandated ramp features (e.g., edge protection, handrails, and a resting platform after 30 feet of rise).

Van-accessible parking: Van-accessible parking has dimensions that allow for use of a van lift. The dimensions are 8 feet for the space itself and 8 feet for the adjacent access aisle. Van-accessible spaces must be designated by signage that, in addition to the elements required for a standard accessible space, includes an extra sign indicating ‘van-accessible.’