

Extreme Library Makeover: Accessibility Edition



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Bridges Library System

The Fine Print

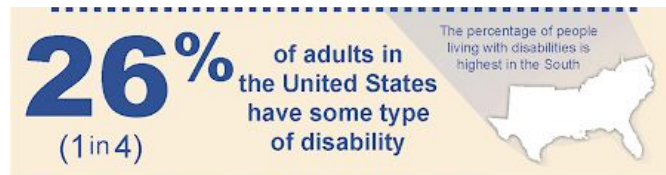
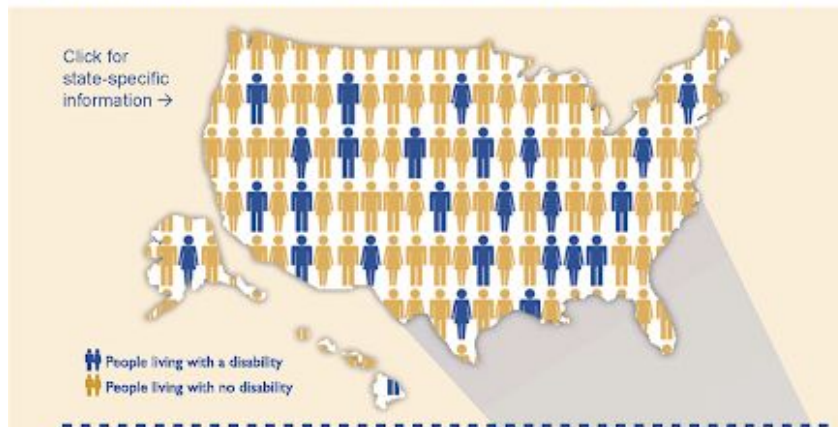
DISCLAIMER: Information included in this document is intended as a resource and is for informational purposes only. It is neither a determination of your legal rights and responsibilities under state or federal access laws or binding on any agency with enforcement responsibilities.

For complete ADA regulations, standards and guidelines contact the U.S. Department of Justice ADA Information hotline at 800-514-0301 (voice) or 800-514-0383 (TTY) or visit the Department of Justice ADA information website at www.ada.gov.

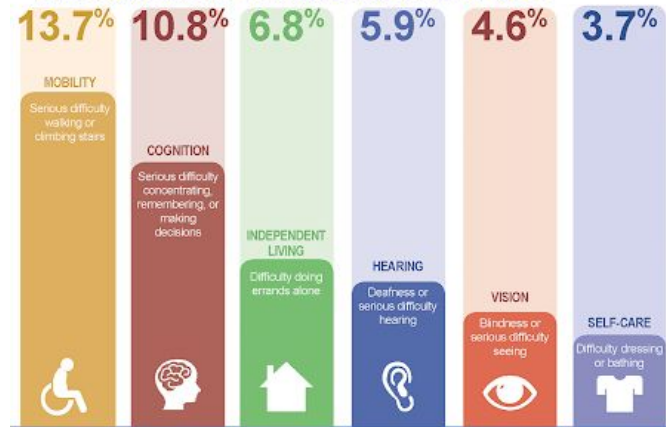
Disability Impacts ALL of US



61 million adults in the United States live with a disability



Percentage of adults with functional disability types



Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA)

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) **prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability** in employment (Title I), state and local governments (Title II), and places of public accommodation and commercial facilities (Title III).

ADA was enacted by U.S. Congress in 1990 and amended in 2009 (referred to as ADA, 2010 Standards).

Note: Public entities under Title II with 50 or more employees is required to designate at least one responsible employee to coordinate.



The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was passed and signed into law by President George H.W. Bush on July 26, 1990.

New Construction and Alterations

On or after March 15, 2012, all newly constructed or altered facilities must comply with all of the requirements in the 2010 Standards.

If elements in existing facilities already comply with corresponding elements in the 1991 Standards and are not being altered, then entities are not required to make changes to those elements to bring them into compliance with the 2010 Standards.

New Construction and Alterations	
Dates	Applicable Standards
September 15, 2010, to March 15, 2012	title II: 1991 Standards, UFAS, or 2010 Standards title III: 1991 Standards or 2010 Standards
On or after March 15, 2012	2010 Standards

Grandfather Clause

There is no "**grandfather**" **clause** in the ADA. However, the law is flexible. City governments must comply with Title II of the ADA, and must provide program access for people with disabilities to the whole range of city services and programs.



A ramp was installed to provide access to the city activities conducted in this facility.

\$41 Million Hunter's Point Library Is Not Accessible



What do you observe?

The Hunter's Point Library has an elevator, but it does not stop at three fiction sublevels.

10/4/2019: A Queens Public Library official announced that the books in the three fiction levels would be relocated to another place inside the library.

Brainstorming

What does library accessibility mean to you? Break into small groups and discuss.



Accessibility Surveys

Bridges Library System worked with Centers for Independent Living to identify barriers in the libraries.

IndependenceFirst and Society's Assets, Inc. conducted the accessibility surveys.

ADA Checklist for Existing Facilities checklist from the New England ADA Center was used ([link in Resources](#)).



Brian Peters with IndependenceFirst measuring slope of sidewalk at public library

Physical Access: Approach and Entrance



No signage informing
the location of the
accessible entrance



Steps



Round door knobs

Physical Access: Outside the Library

- Sufficient parking spaces
- Parking close to the library entrance
- Clear and easy to read signs
- Smooth and non-slip surface at entrance
- Unobstructed well lighted access paths to the entrance



Sign measures 38.5" above ground level. Signs shall be 60"

Physical Access: Outside the library



Parked vehicles intruding onto accessible path of travel



Bench does not include open space



No visible sign indicating front entrance

Physical Access: Getting Into the Library

- Doors wide enough to enter
- Ground-level entry, ramped access, and/or elevators to the venue
- Signage at inaccessible entrances with directions to accessible entrances
- Stairs and steps marked with a contrasting color or flooring type
- Elevator buttons reachable from a wheelchair



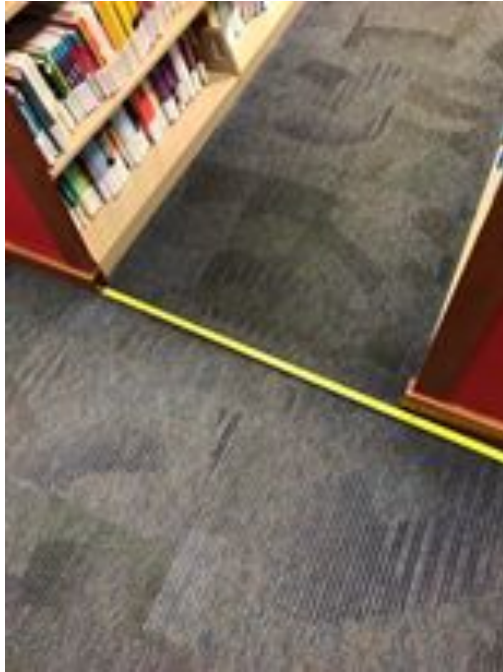
Floor mats are not securely attached to minimize tripping hazards.

Physical Access: Around the Library

- Clear and easy to read signs with pictograms
- Shelves reachable from a wheelchair (reach range 15-48")
- Wheelchair accessible display cases, counters
- Accessible reading and computer tables throughout the library (5%)
- Chairs with sturdy armrests. Check weight capacities
- Visible and audible alarm system



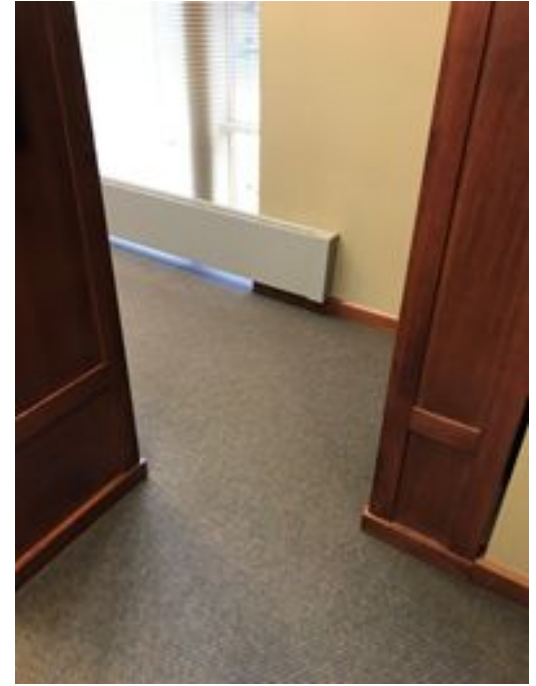
Access to Programs and Services



Measured 34.5." Needs to be 36", 42" is ideal



27" clear width measured.
36" needed



Measured 31." Needs to be 36"

Physical Access: Around the Library

Clear items (obstacles) from aisles



Physical Access: Around the Library



Shelving created dead-end aisles



Shelving moved away from the window, creating space to turn and created a new sightline

Physical Access: Around the Library



Centerline of the water closet shall be 16-18" from the wall side or partition



Rear wall grab bar in incorrect position



Director Abby Armour attempts to flush the toilet in the family restroom. 10lbs of force is needed!

Physical Access: Around the Library



Touch screen is partially out of reach range

- Adjustable desk
- Chairs for persons who want or need to sit down
- Accessible self service check out stations. Buttons too!
- Water fountains



Ancient water fountains lack knee clearance

Your Collection: Media Formats

- Braille
- Large Print
- Audio
- Described video
(e.g. [descriptive video demonstration](#))
- Computers, input devices
- [Hi/Lo Books](#)



Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille Library information

Special Services

- Home delivery to persons unable to come to the library. Sometimes libraries offer books by mail
- Outreach services to people in care facilities
- Guided tours of the library to highlight special services and materials: large print, audio books, DVDs, WTBBL equipment (pictured at right), accessibility features on library's website, catalog or Libby ([Dyslexic font](#))



National Library Service Equipment, available from the Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille Library (WTBBL)

Programs

- Develop programs that have universal appeal
- No registration required
- Visual schedule
- Visual timers
- Noise canceling headphones
- Fidgets
- Assisted seating
- Provide ample wheelchair seating throughout space
- Showing a movie? Put the captions on
- Presenter agreement: must use a microphone
- Library scavenger hunt



Program Flyers

- **Font:** avoid scripts, minimum 12 point font, avoid CAPITAL letters
- **Color & contrast:** background images should be avoided, **do not use color** to emphasis, use **bold** or *italics* or ***both***
- **Accommodation text sample:** “If any accommodations are needed, please contact (individual’s name) at (telephone number and TTY). Requests should be made as soon as possible but at least (time frame) prior to the scheduled meeting.”

Want more info?
Check out this
[Accessibility Guide
to Documents](#)

Communication

- Accessible web site (alt text & captioned audio)
 - [Rev.com](https://www.rev.com): \$1/minute
 - [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com): free (with tweaks)
- Print materials in alternate formats, including Braille, large print, digital
- Large print, high contrast signs
- Sign language interpretation
- Assistive listening system
- 7-1-1 for Telecommunications Relay Service



[How Hearing Loops Work](#)

Web Accessibility



Web Accessibility



Web Accessibility

1. Make sure your web site is keyboard friendly
2. All content is easily accessible
3. Add Alt Text to All images
4. Color Contrast
5. Use Headers to Structure Your Content Correctly
6. Design Your Forms for Accessibility
7. Keep Your Tables Simple
8. Enable Resizable Text
9. Avoid automatically loading media & navigation
10. Create content with accessibility in mind

Helpful Web Accessibility Resources

- Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0.
[Quick Reference](#)
- [WebAIM](#) (Web Accessibility in Mind)

Assistive Services

[Catalog](#)[Calendar](#)[Children](#)[Services](#)

Assistive Services

Menomonee Falls Public Library offers a variety of special services and adaptive technologies to assist those with diverse needs.

Services for those with mobility concerns

- **Parking** – handicap accessible parking is located at the main entrance, and along the south side of the library
- **Building Entrance** – the main entrance to the library features no steps and automatic doors
- **Walkers and Transport Chair** – available at the entrance in the main lobby. We ask that you limit your use of the walker to one hour.
- **Elevator** – conveniently located in the center of the library, and features braille signage
- **Handicap Accessible Restrooms** – off the main lobby, in the youth library (1st floor), and in the adult library (2nd floor)
- **Wheelchair Accessible Catalogs** – Downstairs in the youth library and on the 2nd floor near current magazines

Assistive Services

- **Retrieval of Library items** – books, periodicals, CDs, DVDs, and so on. Just ask!
- **Specialized materials**
 - large print books
 - audiobooks (on CDs, Playaways and digital)
 - captioned DVDs
 - [downloadable Audiobooks and eBooks](#)

TIP: Create a Know
Before You Go Video or
web page for your
visitors

Social Media, too!



Disability Etiquette: The Basics



Advisory Members

- Invite persons with disabilities to staff meetings to talk about their needs as library users
- Focus groups
- Accessibility Advisory Committee



Celebrate the ADA!



<https://www.adaanniversary.org/>

Staff Training

Online:

- Ryan Dowd's Librarian's Guide to Homelessness. Coming in 2020.
- Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference: Introduction to Website Accessibility Wed, Jan. 22 1pm. Laura Solomon, Library Services Manager, Ohio Public Library Information network. [Register](#).
- [Project Enable: Expanding Nondiscriminatory Access By librarians Everywhere](#)

In-person:

- [Public Library Association](#) (biannual conference), American Library Association (annual conference), state library conferences, [Leadership Exchange in Arts and Disability \(LEAD\)](#) (program access focus), [National ADA Symposium](#) (building focus).

Tools

- International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions
IFLA Access to libraries for persons with disabilities - CHECKLIST
- [15 Library Accessibility Toolkits](#)
- New England Checklist for Existing Facilities (Word and PDF)
- Pocket Guide 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design Version 3.0
- [ADA Self-Assessment Survey and Planning Tool](#) (adapt to your library's needs)
- [Inclusive Services Assessment and Guide for Public Libraries](#)

Resources

- U.S. Department of Justice - Information and Technical Assistance on the Americans with Disabilities Act 800-514-0301
- U.S. Access Board 800-872-2253
- [ADA National Network](#) 800-949-4232
- Great Lakes ADA Center 800-949-4232
- Centers for Independent Living (CILs)
 - CILs have staff trained to provide ADA Assessments
 - [Locate the CIL serving your county](#)

[Top ADA
Frequently Asked
Questions](#)

Next Steps

What are a few ideas that you can take back with you to your library to explore?



Contact



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