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Webinar Series

A collaborative program between the
ADA National Network and the
U.S. Access Board

The Session is Scheduled to begin at 2:30pm Eastern Time
We will be testing sound quality periodically

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www.AccessibilityOnline.org

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• **Emotions/Hand-raising:** Please do not use these features during this session unless instructed by the presenter.

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Presenters

Peggy Greenwell  
Bill Botten

U.S. Access Board
Accessible Amusement Rides

Session Agenda

• Background & Effective dates
• Scoping provisions
• Technical provisions
• Transfer research
• Other related provisions
• Questions

Background and Effective Dates
Guideline Development

- Recommendations from Recreation Access Advisory Committee (RAAC)
- Public comment and input from ride manufacturers, designers, operators, and patrons
- Final rule issued in 2002
- Provisions folded into the 2004 ADA-ABA Accessibility guidelines

Updated Accessibility Guidelines and Standards

- 2010 ADA Accessibility Standard
- 2004 ADA-ABA Accessibility Guidelines
- Includes Section 15 Amusement ride provisions finalized in 2002 (without change)
- ADAAG
- UFAS

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New ADA Standards
DOJ’s 2010 standards
(mandatory March 15, 2012)

Based on the Board’s ADA-ABA Guidelines
(2004)

Locating provisions

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ABA Application and Scoping
   ABA Chapter 1: Application and Administration
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   Chapter 10: Recreation Facilities

234 & 1002
Effective Date

- Start of physical construction or alteration on or after March 15, 2012

Definitions

- *Amusement ride* – A system that moved persons through a fixed course within a defined area for the purpose of amusement
- *Amusement ride seat* – A seat that is built-in or mechanically fastened to an amusement ride intended to be occupied by one of more passengers.
- Unique attractions
Rides not addressed

• Rides without seats
• Rides designed for small children
• Rides controlled by the rider
• Mobile and portable rides

Rides without seats
Rides designed for small children

Rides controlled by the rider
Other requirements

• Accessible route
• Accessible load/unload areas

Mobile and portable rides

• Set up for short periods of time
• Regularly assembled and disassembled
• Covered entities required to provide general nondiscrimination opportunities to individuals with disabilities
• Required to be on an accessible route
Alterations to Existing Rides

• Accessible route to load or unload areas of ALL altered rides
• No changes required to the ride itself unless the **structural or operational characteristics** of the ride are altered to the extent that the amusement ride’s performance differs from that specified by the manufacturer
Requirements for Existing ADA Facilities

• Title II — Program accessibility

• Title III — Readily achievable barrier removal

For more information, contact DOJ @ 800 514-0301

Safe Harbor – Existing Facilities

• Elements that comply with 1991 Standards do not need to be modified to meet the 2010 Standards unless those elements are altered on or after March 15, 2012.

Safe Harbor does not apply to elements in existing facilities that were not subject to specific requirements in the 1991 Standards

For more information, contact DOJ @ 800 514-0301
Elements in 2010 Standards Not Subject to Safe Harbor

(A) Residential facilities and dwelling units
(B) Amusement rides
(C) Recreational boating facilities
(D) Exercise machines and equipment
(E) Fishing piers and platforms
(F) Golf facilities
(G) Miniature golf facilities
(H) Play areas
(I) Saunas and steam rooms
(J) Swimming pools, wading pools, and spas
(K) Shooting facilities with firing positions,
(L) Miscellaneous.

(1) Team or player seating
(2) Accessible route to bowling lanes
(3) Accessible route in court sports facilities

For more information, contact DOJ @ 800 514-0301

Tax Incentives for Improving Accessibility

- Section 44 of IRS Code
- Tax credit - maximum credit $5,000
- Tax deduction – maximum $15,000
Amusement Ride Scoping

Access Options

- One of the following per ride:
  - Wheelchair space OR
  - Ride seat designed for transfer OR
  - Use of a transfer device
  - YOUR CHOICE
Accessible routes

Serving EACH ride

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Accessible routes

• If structurally or operationally infeasible -
  - 1:8 max slope in load/unload or on ride
  - handrails not required
• LULA’s permitted
• Maneuvering space

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Signage

• At the entrance of the queue/waiting line for each accessible ride
• Identify the type of access provided (e.g., rides with wheelchair spaces or transfer rides).
• Where the route to the accessible load area is different for persons with disabilities than for other riders, signage must indicate the location of the accessible load area.
Rides with wheelchair spaces

- Approach
- Load/unload areas
- Floor or ground surface
- Gaps

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Rides with wheelchair spaces

- Width/length
- Side entry

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Rides with wheelchair spaces

- **Protrusions**

![Diagram showing dimensions and protrusions in wheelchair spaces](image)

**Fig. 58**
Protrusions in Wheelchair Spaces

Rides with wheelchair spaces

- **Companion seats** – interior width > 53”
- **Shoulder to shoulder**

![Image showing wheelchair space with companion seating](image)

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Rides with wheelchair spaces

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Ride seats designed for transfer
Ride seats designed for transfer

- One transfer to ride seat
- Clear floor or ground space

Ride seats designed for transfer

- Transfer entry
- Wheelchair storage space
Transfer practice vehicle or seat

Other options
Use of a Transfer Device

Transfer devices for use with amusement rides

- Clear floor or ground space
- Transfer height
- Wheelchair storage space
Transfer devices
Transfer Devices

Wheelchair storage space

- A 30” X 48” space in or adjacent to load/unload platform
- May not overlap any required means of egress or accessible route
Transfer Research

Study: The Impact of Transfer Setup on the Performance of Independent Wheelchair Transfers

120 Subjects capable of independent transfer

Variety of configurations tested – including distance from seat

http://herl.pitt.edu/ab/transfer_assessment_report.html
Transfer Research

Height adjusted and spacers added at floor level

Transfer Research

- 92% of users could transfer to a surface at a height similar to the median WMD seat to floor height of the sample (22 in).
- 43% could transfer to a surface 14” high and 85% could transfer to a surface 24” high with respect to floor when no gaps or obstacles were present.
Other issues -

- Handholds and grab bars
- Maneuvering space
- Transfer step height
CHAPTER 10

Recreation Facilities:
• amusement rides
• recreational boating facilities
• exercise machines
• fishing piers and platforms
• golf facilities
• miniature golf facilities
• play areas
• swimming pools, wading pools, and spas
Surfaces
must be: firm, stable, “slip-resistant”

Loose materials generally not compliant
(unless properly treated) swimming pool lift

Accessible Routes

- Maximum running slope
- Cross slope
- Changes in level
- Minimum width
Parking

Clarifications/ revisions:

• Exempt: parking for buses, trucks, delivery and law enforcement vehicles, impound
• Marking of access aisles
• Sign height (60” min.)
• Van spaces: increased scoping (1:6 instead of 1:8)
• Angled vans spaces (aisle on passenger side)

Drinking Fountains

Where provided, 2 units required (wheelchair & standing access)

• alternative: single “hi-lo” unit
• multiple installations: 50% of each type
**Visual Signs**

- “conventional form”
- character proportion/spacing
- character height based on viewing distance
- location (40” min. height)
- stroke thickness
- line spacing
- finish & contrast

**Assembly Areas**

Wheelchair Spaces

lower scoping for assembly areas with more than 500 seats:

- 501 – 5,000 seats: 1 space/ every 150 seats (instead of 1%)
- > 5,000: 0.5% scoping
Assistive Listening Systems

Required where:

- audible communication = integral to use of the space and
- audio amplification
- Courtrooms

Not triggered by fixed seating or occupant load
New technical criteria (sound pressure level, signal-to-noise ratio, peak clipping level)

Leisure rivers

- One means of access
- Pool lift, sloped entry, or transfer system
Wave action pools

- One means of access
- Pool lift, sloped entry, or transfer system
- Clear width of handrails on slope entry does not apply

Water slides

- Access not required to the top of the water slide
- Accessible route required to edge of catch pool
Water Play Components

- Ground level access
- Transfer access to elevated play components required

Dining Surfaces (226)

- Access to at least 5%, not fewer than 1
- Knee clearance required
- Tops = 28 inches minimum – 34 inches maximum
Sales & Service Counters
(227 and 904.4)

227 Scoping
• Counters – 1 of each type

904.4 Technical
• 36 inches maximum
• Accessible part same depth
• Parallel or forward approach
• No alternatives
• Exception for alterations
• Security glazing – voice communication

Where to direct questions

U.S. Department of Justice
• Implementing regulation and additional requirements
• Requirements for existing facilities – title II & III

(800) 514-0301 (voice)
(800) 514-0383 (TTY)
www.ada.gov

U.S. Access Board
• 2010 Accessibility Standards for new construction and alterations

(800) 872-2253 (voice)
(800) 993-2822 (TTY)
(202) 272-0081 (FAX)
ta@access-board.gov
www.access-board.gov
Questions?

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E-mail: ta@access-board.gov
www.access-board.gov
Technical Assistance Material

http://www.access-board.gov/indexes/pubsindex.htm

Thank you for participating in today’s webinar

Next scheduled session:
“Accessible Means of Egress”
February 7, 2012

www.AccessibilityOnline.org 877-232-1990 (V/TTY)