



Borough of Doylestown Building and Zoning Department
57 West Court Street, Doylestown, PA 18901
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FACT SHEET #12 – ACCESSIBILITY PERMITS

BACKGROUND

The provisions of the Borough of Doylestown Code of Ordinances and the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code control the requirements for accessibility.

DEFINITIONS The technical code requirements pertaining to building accessibility that are currently enforced in Pennsylvania are found primarily in: Chapter 11 and Appendix E of the *International Building Code 2009*, and in the *ICC/ANSI A117.1-2003 Accessible and Usable Buildings and Facilities Standard*.

PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

Any new commercial construction, any commercial construction addition, any alteration of at least 30% or more of an existing commercial structure, and any change of occupancy class in commercial occupancies will trigger the need to meet the accessibility code requirements and require an accessibility plan review and approval.

ACCESSIBILITY PERMIT AND PLAN REVIEW REQUIREMENT

Complete signed and sealed architectural plans and material specifications of all work. Details and plans drawn to scale with sufficient clarity, details and dimensions to show the nature and extent of the work proposed.

1. A site plan including the following information:
 - Size and location of all new construction and all existing structures on the site.
 - Location of any recreational facilities (i.e., pool, tennis courts, etc.)
 - Established street grades and proposed finished grade.
 - Accessible parking, other locations of public access to the facility, accessible exterior routes and locations of accessible entrances.
2. Architectural plans and specifications to include:
 - Description of uses and the proposed occupancy group(s) for all portions of the building. The design approach for mixed-uses (as applicable).
 - Fully dimensioned drawings to determine areas and building height.
 - Adequate details and dimensions to evaluate accessible means of egress, including occupant loads for each floor, exit arrangement and sizes, corridors, doors, stairs, ramps, handrails, areas of refuge, etc.
 - Adequate details and dimensions to evaluate the accessible route to areas required to be accessible, including corridors, doors, protruding objects, maneuvering clearances, clear floor space at fixtures and controls, etc.
 - Accessibility provisions including but not limited to access to services, seating, dining, listening systems, accessible fixtures, elevators, work surfaces, etc.
 - Accessible plumbing facilities and details.
 - Visual and tactile signage provided.
 - Details of required fire protection systems and user controls.

COMMON ACCESSABILITY REQUIREMENTS

A review of common accessibility requirements can be found here: <http://www.access-board.gov/adaag/html/adaag.htm>

The information provided in this guide is intended only to assist residents in understanding the accessibility requirements. It is not a complete recitation of the code. Property owners should consult the Doylestown Borough Code of Ordinances and the PAUCC for answers to specific questions.