

661—302.2(103A,104A) Definitions. The following definitions are adopted for purposes of rules 661—302.1(103A,104A) through 661—302.20(103A,104A).

NOTE: Many of these definitions have been taken from or adapted from ADAAG.

“*Access aisle*” means an accessible pedestrian space between elements, such as parking spaces, seating, and desks, which provides clearances appropriate for use of the elements.

“*Accessible*” describes a site, building, facility, or portion thereof that complies with rules 661—302.1(103A,104A) through 661—302.20(103A,104A).

“*Accessible element*” means an element specified by and which complies with rules 661—302.1(103A,104A) through 661—302.20(103A,104A).

“*Accessible route*” means a continuous unobstructed path connecting all accessible elements and spaces of a building or facility. Interior accessible routes may include corridors, floors, ramps, elevators, lifts, and clear floor space at fixtures. Exterior accessible routes may include parking access aisles, curb ramps, crosswalks at vehicular ways, walks, ramps, and lifts.

“*Accessible space*” means space that complies with rules 661—302.1(103A,104A) through 661—302.20(103A,104A).

“*ADA*” means the federal Americans with Disabilities Act, Public Law 101-336.

“*ADAAG*” means Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines for Buildings and Facilities, 28 CFR Part 36, Appendix A, as revised through July 1, 1994. Persons wishing to obtain copies of ADAAG may access the following Web site: www.adaproject.org/Publications.html for a downloadable copy.

“*Adaptability*” means the ability of certain building spaces and elements, such as kitchen counters, sinks, and grab bars, to be added or altered so as to accommodate the needs of individuals with or without disabilities or to accommodate the needs of persons with different types or degrees of disability.

“*Addition*” means an expansion, extension, or increase in the gross floor area of a building or facility.

“*Administrative authority*” means the governmental agency that adopts or enforces regulations and guidelines for the design, construction, or alteration of buildings and facilities.

“*Alteration*” means a change to a building or facility that affects or could affect the usability of the building or facility or part thereof. Alterations include, but are not limited to, remodeling, renovation, rehabilitation, reconstruction, historic restoration, resurfacing of circulation paths or vehicular ways, changes in or rearrangement of the structural parts of elements, and changes in or rearrangement of the plan configuration of walls and full-height partitions. Normal maintenance, reroofing, painting or wallpapering, or changes to mechanical and electrical systems, are not alterations unless they affect the usability of the building or facility.

“*Area of rescue assistance*” means an area, which has direct access to an exit, where people who are unable to use stairs may remain temporarily in safety to await further instructions or assistance during emergency evacuation.

“*Assembly area*” means a room or space accommodating a group of individuals for recreational, educational, political, social, civic, or amusement purposes, or for the consumption of food and drink.

“*Automatic door*” means a door equipped with a power-operated mechanism and controls that open and close the door automatically upon receipt of a momentary actuating signal. The switch that begins the automatic cycle may be a photoelectric device, floor mat, or manual switch. See “power-assisted door.”

“*Building*” means any structure used and intended for supporting or sheltering any use or occupancy.

“*Circulation path*” means an exterior or interior way of passage from one place to another for pedestrians including, but not limited to, walks, hallways, courtyards, stairways, and stair landings.

“*Clear*” means unobstructed.

“*Clear floor space*” means the minimum unobstructed floor or ground space required to accommodate a single, stationary wheelchair and occupant.

“*Closed circuit telephone*” means a telephone with dedicated line(s) such as a house telephone, courtesy telephone or telephone that must be used to gain entrance to a facility.

“*Common use*” refers to those interior and exterior rooms, spaces, or elements that are made available for the use of a restricted group of people (for example, occupants of a homeless shelter, the occupants of an office building, or the guests of such occupants).

“*Cross slope*” means the slope that is perpendicular to the direction of travel. See “running slope.”

“*Curb ramp*” means a short ramp cutting through a curb or built up to it.

“*Detectable warning*” means a standardized surface feature built in or applied to walking surfaces or other elements to warn visually impaired people of hazards on a circulation path.

“*Educational occupancy*” means any building primarily used to deliver instruction in a classroom setting to students enrolled in primary or secondary schools or postsecondary institutions.

“*Egress, means of*” refers to a continuous and unobstructed way of exit travel from any point in a building or facility to a public way. A means of egress comprises vertical and horizontal travel and may include intervening room spaces, doorways, hallways, corridors, passageways, balconies, ramps, stairs, enclosures, lobbies, horizontal exits, courts and yards. An accessible means of egress is one that complies with rules 661—302.1(103A,104A) through 661—302.20(103A,104A) and does not include stairs, steps, or escalators. Areas of rescue assistance or evacuation elevators may be included as part of accessible means of egress.

“*Element*” means an architectural or mechanical component of a building, facility, space, or site. Examples of elements include, but are not limited to, telephones, curb ramps, doors, drinking fountains, seating, or water closets.

“*Entrance*” means any access point to a building or portion of a building or facility used for the purpose of entering. An entrance includes the approach walk, the vertical access leading to the entrance platform, the entrance platform itself, vestibules if provided, the entry door(s) or gate(s), and the hardware of the entry door(s) or gate(s).

“*Equivalent facilitation*” means the use of alternative designs and technologies which provide for substantially greater or equivalent access to and usability of a facility than is provided by technologies and designs which comply with the requirements of rules 661—302.1(103A,104A) through 661—302.20(103A,104A). Departures from particular technical and scoping requirements of rules 661—302.1(103A,104A) through 661—302.20(103A,104A) are permitted where the alternative designs and technologies used will provide equivalent facilitation.

“*Facility*” means all or any portion of buildings, structures, site improvements, complexes, equipment, roads, walks, passageways, parking lots, or other real or personal property located on a site.

“*Government facility*” means a structure accessible to the public which is owned or used by the state of Iowa or a political subdivision.

“*Ground floor*” means any occupiable floor less than one story above or below grade with direct access to grade. A building or facility always has at least one ground floor and may have more than one ground floor as where a split-level entrance has been provided or where a building is built into a hillside.

“*Marked crossing*” means a crosswalk or other identified path intended for use by pedestrians in crossing a vehicular way.

“*Mezzanine*” or “*mezzanine floor*” means that portion of a story which is an intermediate floor level placed within the story and having occupiable space above and below its floor.

“*Multifamily dwelling*” or “*multiple dwelling unit building*” means an apartment building containing four or more dwelling units. Rule 661—302.20(103A,104A) establishes accessibility requirements for multifamily dwellings of four or more units.

“*Occupiable*” describes a room or enclosed space designed for human occupancy in which individuals congregate for amusement, educational or similar purposes, or in which occupants are engaged at labor, and which is equipped with means of egress, light, and ventilation.

“*Operable part*” means a part of a piece of equipment or appliance used to insert or withdraw objects, or to activate, deactivate, or adjust the equipment or appliance (for example, coin slot, push button, handle).

“*Power-assisted door*” means a door used for human passage with a mechanism that helps to open the door, or relieves the opening resistance of a door, upon the activation of a switch or a continued force applied to the door itself.

“*Private facility*” means a place of public accommodation or commercial facility which is not owned or used by the state of Iowa or a political subdivision and which is subject to Title III of the ADA and 28 CFR Part 36 or which is a transportation facility subject to Title III of the ADA and 49 CFR 37.45.

“*Public facility*” means a facility or portion of a facility constructed by, on behalf of, or for the use of a public entity subject to Title II of the ADA and 28 CFR Part 35 or to Title II of the ADA and to either 49 CFR 37.41 or 49 CFR 37.43.

“*Public use*” describes interior or exterior rooms or spaces that are made available to the general public. Public use may be provided at a building or facility that is privately or publicly owned.

“*Ramp*” means a walking surface which has a running slope greater than 1:20.

“*Running slope*” means the slope that is parallel to the direction of travel. See “cross slope.”

“*Service entrance*” means an entrance intended primarily for delivery of goods or services.

“*Signage*” means displayed verbal, symbolic, tactile, and pictorial information.

“*Site*” means a parcel of land bounded by a property line or a designated portion of a public right-of-way.

“*Site improvement*” means landscaping, paving for pedestrian and vehicular ways, outdoor lighting, recreational facilities, and the like, added to a site.

“*Sleeping accommodations*” means rooms whose primary use is for people to sleep including, but not limited to, dormitory and hotel or motel guest rooms or suites.

“*Space*” means an identifiable area. Examples of spaces include, but are not limited to, rooms, toilet rooms, halls, assembly areas, entrances, storage rooms, alcoves, courtyards, and lobbies.

“*Story*” means that portion of a building included between the upper surface of a floor and upper surface of the floor or roof next above. If such portion of a building does not include occupiable space, it is not considered a story for purposes of rules 661—302.1(103A,104A) through 661—302.20(103A,104A). There may be more than one floor level within a story as in the case of a mezzanine or mezzanines.

“*Structural frame*” means columns and the girders, beams, trusses and spandrels having direct connections to the columns and all other members which are essential to the stability of the building as a whole.

“*Tactile*” describes an object that can be perceived using the sense of touch.

“*TDD*” means a telecommunication device for the deaf. See “text telephone (TTT).”

“*Technically infeasible*” means, with respect to an alteration of a building or a facility, that the alteration has little likelihood of being accomplished because existing structural conditions would require removing or altering a load-bearing member which is an essential part of the structural frame; or because other existing physical or site constraints prohibit modification or addition of elements, spaces, or features which are in full and strict compliance with the minimum requirements for new construction and which are necessary to provide accessibility.

“*Text telephone (TTT)*” means machinery or equipment that employs interactive text-based communications through the transmission of coded signals across the standard telephone network. Text telephones include devices known as TDDs (telecommunication display devices or telecommunication devices for deaf persons) or computers with special modems. Text telephones are also called TTYs, an abbreviation for teletypewriter.

“*Transient lodging*” means a building, facility, or portion thereof, excluding inpatient medical care facilities and residential facilities, that contains sleeping accommodations. Transient lodging may include, but is not limited to, resorts, group homes, hotels, motels, and dormitories.

“*Vehicular way*” means a route intended for vehicular traffic, such as a street, driveway, or parking lot.

“*Walk*” means an exterior pathway with a prepared surface intended for pedestrian use, including general pedestrian areas such as plazas and courts.