

Quick Guide to Polling Place Accessibility in Colorado

This resource will allow you to quickly assess common barriers a polling place might have for people with disabilities. If barriers are identified, they should quickly be brought to the attention of the polling place supervisor or county clerk and remedied. Supervisors and county clerks should also reference the accessibility survey provided by the Colorado Secretary of State's Office¹ and the [ADA Checklist for Polling Places provided by the Department of Justice](#).

****DISCLAIMER** This resource does not identify all barriers that a person may face at the polls and does not ensure compliance with such laws as the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).**

What should I look for in the parking lot and entrance area?

- If the accessible parking spaces are clearly marked and those nearest to the building.
- If there is at least 1 van accessible space, even if there is only 1 accessible space.
- If there is a passenger drop-off zone, and it is level.
- If there is a clearly marked accessible path from the parking lot to the entrance.
- If the walkways are wide enough for a wheelchair or walker.
- If there is any snow or debris on the path or if the walkway is broken or cracked.
- If there are appropriate curb cuts and ramps where needed.
- If there is anything blocking the path or any curb cuts (e.g., planters, signs, etc.).

What should I look for in the voting area or by the ballot box?

- If there is an appropriately sized elevator or ramp (if necessary).
- If interior doors are unlocked and either automatic or propped open.
- If staff members are trained in how to use the accessible voting equipment.
- If the path to the voting booth is wide enough for a wheelchair or walker.
- If there is anything blocking the path to the booth (e.g., signs, check-in table, etc.).
- If there is a seating area if a wait is necessary.
- If there is enough space in front of the ballot box to allow for a wheelchair or walker.
- If the ballot box handle can be easily opened/closed with one hand or a closed fist.

For more information on voting rights for people with disabilities, including a more in-depth checklist to ensure full accessibility and ADA compliance, utilize these resources:

- ★ [Voting Rights for Individuals with Disabilities Fact Sheet from Disability Law Colorado](#)
- ★ [Voting Rights Information from the Department of Justice \(DOJ\)](#)
- ★ [Laws Protecting Voting Rights for Individuals with Disabilities from the DOJ](#)
- ★ [ADA Checklist for Polling Places from the DOJ](#)
- ★ [Solutions for 5 Common ADA Access Problems at Polling Places from the DOJ](#)

What should I do if I am unable to solve an access issue at a polling place?

- ★ [Contact Disability Law Colorado](#)
- ★ [File a Help America Vote Act \(HAVA\) Complaint with the Colorado Secretary of State](#)
- ★ [File a complaint with the Colorado Civil Rights Division](#)
- ★ [File a complaint with the Department of Justice](#)

¹ Please reach out to the Colorado Secretary of State's Office if you do not have a copy of this survey.