



NEW ADA REQUIREMENTS FOR SWIMMING POOLS

The 2010 ADA revised requirements include, for the first time, requirements for swimming pools, wading pools, and spas.



Providing equal opportunity to people with disabilities is the fundamental principle of the Americans with Disabilities Act. For the first time, the 2010 Standards set minimum requirements for making swimming pools, wading pools, and spas accessible. Newly constructed and altered pools must meet these requirements. Public entities and public accommodations also have obligations with respect to existing pools. State and local governments must make recreational programs and services, including swimming pool programs, accessible to people with disabilities.

The requirements ensure, going forward, people with disabilities can enjoy the same activities at the same locations and with the same independence, ease, and convenience as everyone else.

U.S. Department of Justice

SAFETY COMMUNICATION

COMPLIANCE DATE: MARCH 15, 2012

- ✓ Newly constructed or altered facilities, including pools
- ✓ Existing facilities, including pools, must comply with Title II program accessibility or Title III readily achievable barrier removal requirements

Title II Program Accessibility

Individuals with disabilities cannot be excluded from or denied participation in State and local government programs, services, or activities because a facility is inaccessible or unusable. For more information about program accessibility go to the Title II regulations, Section 35.150. www.ada.gov/regs2010/titleII_2010/titleII_2010_regulations.htm

Title III Readily Achievable Barrier Removal

Requires that places of public accommodation (hotels, swim clubs, event site open to the public) remove physical barriers in existing pools. For more information about barrier removal, go to Title III regulations, Section 36.304. www.ada.gov/regs2010/titleIII_2010/titleIII_2010_regulations.htm

HELP

ADA Information Line
800.514.0301

Speak with a specialist for help with interpreting the requirements, identifying exceptions, or any compliance questions.

www.ADA.gov

Large pools (more than 300 linear feet of pool wall)—must have two accessible means of entry, with at least one being a pool lift or sloped entry.

Small pools (less than 300 linear feet of pool wall)—must have one accessible means of entry, either a pool lift or sloped entry.

Other systems, such as wave pools, lazy rivers, wading pools, spas, and water slides, also have specific requirements.

This Safety Communication has been developed to provide a general overview of the ADA requirements for swimming pools. It is not intended to be a complete interpretation. This information was obtained from the U.S. Department of Justice's publication "Accessible Pools - Means of Entry and Exit" http://www.ada.gov/pools_2010.htm. For additional BRS safety resources go to <http://riskcontrol.brsrisk.com>.