

Summary of Modifications/Changes in this Update

This Summary of Changes is for information only.
It is not a part of the referenced document, and should not be used for project documentation.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ♦ Office of Construction & Facilities Management

DATE OF THIS VERSION:

May 1, 2025

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

VA Barrier Free Design Standard

DATE OF VERSION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

June 1, 2024

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (i.e. previous title, number, other identifying data):

Revision to January 1, 2017 document

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

1. Clarifies in detail the requirements needed for outpatient patient care delivery areas where wheelchairs and scooters require access: Page 3 under Doors and Doorways, page 6 item 21.
2. Added requirements for a middle rail for ramps for better access by those in wheelchairs and scooters: Page 3 under Ramps, page 6, item 15.
3. Made clarification to add Intensive Care under Nursing Unit requirements: Page 5 under Health Care Facilities.

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U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ♦ Office of Construction & Facilities Management

DATE OF THIS REVISION:

June 1, 2024

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

VA Barrier Free Design Standard

DATE OF REVISION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

February 1, 2024

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

VA Barrier Free Design Standard

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

1. This change is a Revision to the January 1, 2017 document
2. The VA Barrier Free Design Standard is being revised to clarify that the SCI/D parking requirement is for SCI/D Hub facilities. In addition, the grab bar millimeters (mm) was revised to be correct.

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U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ♦ Office of Construction & Facilities Management

DATE OF THIS REVISION:

February 1, 2024

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

VA Barrier Free Design Standard

DATE OF REVISION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

October 1, 2023

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

VA Barrier Free Design Standard

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

1. This change is a Revision to the January 1, 2017 document
2. The VA Barrier Free Design Standard is being revised to clarify patient room door minimum sizes, adding bariatric shower stall minimum size requirements, adding minimum door opening size for building entry and exit doors and department entry doors, and clarification on fold-down grab bars minimum dimensions to the sidewall for regular and bariatric patients.

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U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ♦ Office of Construction & Facilities Management

DATE OF THIS VERSION:

October 1, 2023

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

VA Barrier Free Design Standard, PG-18-13

DATE OF VERSION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

November 1, 2022

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

VA Barrier Free Design Standard, PG-18-13

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

1. This change is a Revision to the January 1, 2017 document.
2. Under the "Accessible Route" section, added T-shaped turning space requirements for non-bariatric and bariatric individuals including Note 32 w/ diagrams.

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U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ♦ Office of Construction & Facilities Management

DATE OF THIS VERSION:

November 1, 2022

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

VA Barrier Free Design Standard, PG-18-13

DATE OF VERSION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

September 1, 2022

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

VA Barrier Free Design Standard, PG-18-13

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

1. This change is a Revision to the January 1, 2017 document.
2. Under the "Accessible Route" section, Revised the "Slope, maximum (including parking spaces)" required percentages.

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U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ♦ Office of Construction & Facilities Management

DATE OF THIS VERSION:

September 1, 2022

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

VA Barrier Free Design Standard, PG-18-13

DATE OF VERSION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

February 1, 2022

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

VA Barrier Free Design Standard, PG-18-13

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

1. This change is a Revision to the January 1, 2017 document.
2. Changed the "Water Closet" heading to "Water Closet Inpatient Nursing Units"

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U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ♦ Office of Construction & Facilities Management

DATE OF THIS VERSION:

February 1, 2022

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

VA Barrier Free Design Standard, PG-18-13

DATE OF VERSION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

November 1, 2018

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

VA Barrier Free Design Standard, PG-18-13

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

1. This change is a Revision to the January 1, 2017 document.
2. Updated names of Departments based upon recent Standards Updates revisions.
3. Changed SCI/D acronym to “Spinal Cord Injury/Disorder” throughout the document.

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U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ♦ Office of Construction & Facilities Management

DATE OF THIS REVISION:

November 1, 2018

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

VA Barrier Free Design Standard

DATE OF REVISION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

June 1, 2018

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

VA Barrier Free Design Standard

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

1. This change is a Revision to the January 1, 2017 document
2. The VA Barrier Free Design Standard is being revised for the following issues:
 - A. To clarify that this Standard applies to all VA Facilities.
 - B. To clarify that the 4'-0" wide door requirement is for Mental Health and Domiciliary/Supportive Housing also.

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U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ♦ Office of Construction & Facilities Management

DATE OF THIS REVISION:

June 1, 2018

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

VA Barrier Free Design Standard

DATE OF REVISION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

November 1, 2017

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

VA Barrier Free Design Standard

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

1. This change is a Revision to the January 1, 2017 document
2. The VA Barrier Free Design Standard is being revised for the following issues:
 - A. Under the Accessible Route Section delete the following line item including VA and ABAAS requirements and Notes (including Note 6 at the back of the document):
“Minimum size of level platforms at doors”

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U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ♦ Office of Construction & Facilities Management

DATE OF THIS VERSION:

January 1, 2017 rev November 1, 2017

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

VA Barrier Free Design Standard

DATE OF VERSION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

January 1, 2017 rev June 1, 2017

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

VA Barrier Free Design Standard

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

1. This change is a revision to Jan 1 2017 version.
2. The VA Barrier Free Design Standard is being revised for the following issues:
 - A. Clarification as to which patient care delivery areas require a 4'-0" wide entrance door for patient rooms and patient room toilets.
 - B. Clarify the 100% inpatient room accessibility requirement for renovation projects and projects at existing facilities where space is at a premium.

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U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ♦ Office of Construction & Facilities Management

DATE OF THIS VERSION:

January 1, 2017

Rev June 1, 2017

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

VA Barrier Free Design Standard


DATE OF VERSION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

January 1, 2017

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

VA Barrier Free Design Standard

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

1. This change is a minor revision to the last version.
2. The VA Barrier Free Design Standard is being revised for the following issues:
 - A. Revised formatting
 - B. To increase the minimum corridor width in Patient Care Areas to 6'-0" so 2 wheelchairs can pass.
 - C. To increase the wheelchair turning radius from 5'-0" to 5'-6" for greater accessibility for all areas with the exception of Bariatric Rooms where the wheelchair turning radius will increase from 5'-0" to 6'-0".
 - D. To increase all Patient Care Delivery Area door widths for patient rooms and toilet rooms to 4'-0" for greater accessibility.
 - E. To clarify that double swing-up bars are required for all patient toilets/shower rooms in patient and patient care delivery areas. This includes Long-Term Care, CLC, Small House, **all Clinical areas and Rehabilitation functions.** 
 - F. General edits for improved document wording.

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U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ♦ Office of Construction & Facilities Management

DATE OF THIS VERSION:

January 1, 2017

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

VA Barrier Free Design Standard

DATE OF VERSION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

March 1, 2016

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

VA Barrier Free Design Standard

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

1. This change is a Version change.
2. The VA Barrier Free Design Standard is being revised due to errors in ramp slope and elevator cab size. Clarification is being made for SCI/D parking requirements, general handicapped parking requirements, auditorium handicapped seating requirements, and Hospital Outpatient Facilities parking requirements. A new cover design has also been added.