

Illinois Accessibility Code, Part 400
Title 71: Public Buildings, Facilities and Real Property
Chapter I: Capital Development Board
Subchapter b: Accessibility Standards

Ramps

- 1) *General.* Any part of an accessible route with a slope greater than 1:20 shall be considered a ramp and shall comply with the following requirements unless another means of accessible vertical access (e.g., accessible elevator or accessible platform lift) is provided. (ADAAG 4.8.1)
- 2) *Slope and Rise.* The least possible slope shall be used for any ramp. The maximum slope of a ramp in new construction shall be 1:12. The maximum rise for any run shall be 30 in. (760 mm) (see Illustration B, Fig. 16). Curb ramps and interior or exterior ramps to be constructed on existing sites or in existing buildings or facilities where space limitations prohibit the use of a 1:12 slope or less may have slopes and rises as follows: (ADAAG 4.8.2)
 - a) A slope between 1:10 and 1:12 is allowed for a maximum rise of 6 in.
 - b) A slope between 1:8 and 1:10 is allowed for a maximum rise of 3 in. A slope steeper than 1:8 is not allowed. (ADAAG 4.1.6(3)(a))
- 3) *Clear Width.* The minimum clear width of a ramp shall be 36 in. (915 mm). (ADAAG 4.8.3)
- 4) *Landings.* Ramps shall have level landings at bottom and top of each ramp and each ramp run. Landings shall have the following features:
 - a) The landing shall be at least as wide as the ramp run leading to it.
 - b) The landing length shall be a minimum of 60 in. (1525 mm) clear.
 - c) If ramps change direction at landings, the minimum landing size shall be 60 in. by 60 in. (1525 mm by 1525 mm).
 - d) If a doorway is located at a landing, then the area in front of the doorway shall comply with subsection (j)(5) of this Section. (ADAAG 4.8.4)
- 5) *Handrails.* If a ramp run has a rise greater than 6 in. (150 mm) or a horizontal projection greater than 72 in. (1830 mm), then it shall have handrails on both sides. Handrails are not required on curb ramps or adjacent to seating in assembly areas. Handrails shall comply with subsection (p) of this Section and shall have the following features:
 - a) Handrails shall be provided along both sides of ramp segments. The inside handrail on switchback or dogleg ramps shall always be continuous.

- b) If handrails are not continuous, they shall extend at least 12 in. (305 mm) beyond the top and bottom of the ramp segment and shall be parallel with the floor or ground surface (see Illustration B, Fig. 17).
 - c) The clear space between the handrail and the wall shall be 1-1/2 in.
 - d) Gripping surfaces shall be continuous.
 - e) Top of handrail gripping surfaces shall be mounted between 34 in. and 38 in. above ramp surfaces.
 - f) Ends of handrails shall be either rounded or returned smoothly to floor, wall, or post.
 - g) Handrails shall not rotate within their fittings. (ADAAG 4.8.5)
- 6) *Cross Slope and Surfaces.* The cross slope of ramp surfaces shall be no greater than 1:50. Ramp surfaces shall comply with subsections (a)(5), (7), (11) and (12) of this Section. (ADAAG 4.8.6)
 - 7) *Edge Protection.* Ramps and landings with drop-offs shall have curbs, walls, railings, or projecting surfaces that prevent people from slipping off the ramp. Curbs shall be a minimum of 2 in. (50 mm) high (see Illustration B, Fig. 17). (ADAAG 4.8.7)
 - 8) *Outdoor Conditions.* Outdoor ramps and their approaches shall be designed so that water will not accumulate on walking surfaces. (ADAAG 4.8.8)
 - 9) *Exceptions.* The following areas do not have to be served by accessible ramps provided that such areas comply with Section 400.320(a)(1), and further provided that the same functions and services are available on an accessible level of the space: temporary raised platforms; seating tiers; theater rows; stadium rows; and auditorium rows utilizing fixed seating. Ramps do not have to be provided to all levels of a multi-level platform. For requirements for restaurants and cafeterias, see Section 400.320(l).

Stairs

- 1) *General.* Interior and exterior stairs connecting floors and/or levels that are not connected by an elevator, platform lift or ramp, which are required as a means of egress by the applicable building code, or which are part of an accessible route, shall comply with the following requirements. (ADAAG 4.1.3(4))
- 2) *Treads and Risers.* On any given flight of stairs, all steps shall have uniform riser heights and uniform tread widths. Risers shall be a maximum of 7 in. (180 mm) in height. Stair treads shall be no less than 11 in. (280 mm) wide, measured from riser to riser (see Illustration B, Fig. 18(a)). Open risers are not permitted. (ADAAG 4.9.2)
- 3) *Nosings.* The undersides of nosings shall not be abrupt. The radius of curvature at the leading edge of the tread shall be no greater than 1/2 in. (13 mm). Risers shall be sloped or the underside of the nosing shall have an angle not less than 60 degrees from the horizontal. Nosings shall project no more than 1-1/2 in. (38 mm) (see Illustration B, Fig. 18). (ADAAG 4.9.3)