

DEPT. OF INDUSTRY, LABOR & HUMAN RELATIONS 115  
General ILHR 52

3. Handrails. Handrails are not required at exterior walks, except on those sides where the adjacent terrain exceeds a 25% (1:4) downward slope away from the walk. Required handrails shall be at least 2 feet 8 inches high, with an intermediate parallel rail at mid-height; and

4. Rest Platforms. Rest platforms are not required at walks.

(d) *Exterior ramps.* Exterior ramps are sloping walks or sloping structures having a gradient greater than 5% (1:20) and which provide access to or from a building. Exterior ramps shall comply with the following criteria:

1. Width. Exterior ramps shall have a slip-resistant surface and shall have a minimum width of 48 inches, of which not more than 4 inches on each side may be occupied by a handrail;

2. Gradients. Exterior ramps shall not have gradients greater than 8.33% or 1:12 slope;

3. Handrails. Graspable handrails shall be provided as follows:

a. Location. 1) Ramps with a gradient greater than 5% (1:20), but less than 8.33% (1:12) shall have a handrail on one side of the ramp;

2) Ramps with a gradient of 8.33% (1:12) shall have handrails on each side of the ramp; and

3) Handrails shall be provided on those sides where the adjacent terrain exceeds a 25% (1:4) downward slope away from the ramp.

b. Height. Handrails shall be mounted so that the top of the handrail is located between 30 inches to 34 inches above the ramp surface.

c. Midrails. Open-sided ramps shall have an intermediate parallel rail located at mid-height between the handrail and the ramp surface.

d. The clear space between the handrail and any adjoining wall shall be between 1½ inches to 2 inches.

4. Clearance. a. Where exterior ramps are provided to accessible doorways, the floor on each side of the doorway shall be level for a distance of 5 feet from the door.

b. Exterior ramps shall have a level platform at least 5 feet long where they turn and at least 5 feet of level clearance at the bottom of the ramp.

5. Rest platforms. All exterior ramps longer than 30 feet in length shall have 5-foot long level platforms at a maximum of 30-foot intervals.

(e) *Communication between buildings.* Walks or enclosed passageways which connect 2 or more buildings and are intended for public use shall provide access to each building.

(4) NEW CONSTRUCTION. All new public buildings and places of employment shall be provided with access to a primary floor, interior circulation and toilet facilities in accordance with Table 52.04 and the requirements of sub. (4). All buildings with multiple uses shall comply with sub. (5).

Note: Access to all areas of the building is preferred, however the footnotes in Table 52.04 designate specific exemptions and requirements for access to the primary floor, interior circulation, and toilet facilities for the occupancies listed.

(a) *Access to the primary floor.* Access from the exterior grade to a primary floor, via a public entrance, shall be provided by means of ramps, grade-level entrances, or other means of access approved by the department.

(b)\* *Interior circulation.* Access shall be provided to all public-use areas of the building as specified in Table 52.04. Interior circulation between floor levels shall be accomplished by the use of ramps, elevators, lifts, or other means of access approved by the department.

Note: Where elevators are provided, see s. Ind 4.61, Elevator Code, for additional requirements.

(c) *Toilet facilities.* Accessible toilet facilities shall be provided on a primary floor or accessible from a primary floor. Every floor which is accessible, and which is provided with required toilet facilities, shall be provided with accessible toilet facilities which comply with the requirements of sub. (8) and the following distribution:

1. Accessible water closets shall be provided at the rate of 10% of the total number of toilet facilities provided on each accessible floor, with a minimum of one for each sex; and

2. One accessible toilet room is required in buildings accommodating 10 or less employes and less than 25 patrons per s. ILHR 54.12 (1) (a) 1.

\*See Appendix A for further explanatory material.