# Entryway

Congregational Worksheet on Accessibility

for greater inclusion for Disabled UU’s

Full participation in all aspects of congregational life for people with disabilities is the aspiration for UU congregations. This is a big undertaking and one that is ongoing. **Accessibility is only one part of this, but it is essential. Here, we cover one of the many areas within congregational accessibility.** As new technologies emerge, this list will change. Additionally, the brief accessibility checklist is not complete or specific to you. This checklist is meant to start the conversation. Your building, grounds, or policies are unique to your congregation. We encourage everyone to participate, either through a survey created for your congregation, or helping with or giving input, on accessibility projects.

Each worksheet has four sections and should be revisited for updates.

1. Links to EDUCATIONAL RESOURCESwith detailed information.
2. CHECKLIST:
   1. Check **Yes or No** as it applies at this moment even if you have plans to add this accessibility in the future.
   2. Mark **NA** if it does not nor ever will apply. For example, an elevator would never be installed in a single-story building with no basement.
   3. In the **Action** column, note what needs to happen next. Does another committee need to be involved? If so, what committee? Would this item be best handled by someone on the staff? Use the **Notes** for additional space.
3. SOME THINGS TO CONSIDER poses questions to start conversations on dismantling ableism in your congregation.
4. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES are articles, blog posts, activities, and other information that is current and will be revised every three months.

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| Educational Links: US Access Board:  <https://youtu.be/dF7et0KQ3rg> and <https://youtu.be/TSA9gkC_KLc>  Accessible Entrance <https://www.ada.gov/reachingout/entrancedoors.html>  Accessible Approach and Entrance <https://odr.dc.gov/book/Checklist/priority1> | | | | |
| Checklist: | Yes | No | N/A | Action |
| 1. Is the main entrance accessible? |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Is there a covered “drop off” area where people can keep their equipment dry when it is raining? |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Are there electronically operated external doors or attendants at accessible building entrance(s)? |  |  |  |  |
| 1. If the accessible entrance is separate from the main entrance, are greeters stationed there in the same way as the main entrance? |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Does the accessible entrance provide direct access to the main floor, lobby, or elevator? |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Are all rooms available by routes within the building that are at least 38 inches wide and unobstructed by stored items? |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Do routes have a 5-foot circle or a T-shaped space for a person using a wheelchair to reverse direction? |  |  |  |  |
| Notes: | | | | |
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Some things to consider: Finding a place, be it church, a restaurant, or any other building, accessibility should not be difficult. This article, [*Accessibility Is a Right. This Restaurant Treats It That Way*](https://www.nytimes.com/2021/08/17/dining/contento-review-accessibility.html)*,* discusses all of the ways a restaurant in New York is accessible and yet the writer states, “Listing all the ways Contento accommodates people with various disabilities, not just wheelchair users, will make the place sound like some kind of accessibility theme park.” Is this ableist? Why or why not? Read[*New ‘Sesame Street’ Theme Park To Be Sensory Friendly*](https://www.disabilityscoop.com/2022/02/15/new-sesame-street-theme-park-to-be-sensory-friendly/29707/)for even more ideas for creating welcoming disabled space.

## Additional Resources:

How to include people with disabilities <https://www.respectability.org/inclusive-philanthropy/how-to-include-people-with-disabilities/>

Making Your Entryway Safer <https://aginginplace.org/5-ways-to-make-your-entryway-safer/>

Entrances <http://accesscheck.org/common-mistakes/entrances.html>

Opening Doors To Everyone <https://aginginplace.org/5-ways-to-make-your-entryway-safer/>

How to Help People with Disabilities Feel Welcome <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/disability-in-motion/201812/how-help-people-disabilities-feel-welcome>

We welcome your feedback and additions to this form: [aim@uua.org](mailto:aim@uua.org)