

Compliance – Resource Bulletin

PENNSYLVANIA – State Specific Signs

Pennsylvania ADA Parking Signs

Overview:

All states must comply with The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. It is a federal wide-ranging civil rights law that prohibits, under certain circumstances, discrimination based on disability. The 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design (ADAAG) stipulates design standards for accessible parking spaces. Section 502.6 of ADAAG and The Department of Transportation Standard for Highway Signs (MUTCD) both address design standards for the required signs.

Resources:

2010 ADAAG Standards: (Free)

http://www.ada.gov/2010ADASTandards_index.htm

MUTCD Standard for Highway Signs: (Free)

https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/SHSe/shs_2004_2012_sup.pdf

Pennsylvania Regulation: (Free)

<http://www.legis.state.pa.us/WU01/LI/LI/CT/HTM/75/00.033.054.000..HTM>

Design of Parking Signs:

- Accessible parking spaces must have a sign that includes the international symbol of accessibility and state “RESERVED PARKING.” Spaces designed for van parking must also have a sign stating “VAN ACCESSIBLE.” (ADAAG 502.6), (MUTCD R7-8)
- The sign should be 12”W x 18”H with green lettering and border on a white background. The symbol of accessibility should be 4”H and be white on a blue background. The symbol is a depiction of a person in a wheel chair. (MUTCD R7-8), (ADAAG 703.7.2.1)
- If required, the van accessible sign should be 12”W x 6”H and have green lettering and border on a white background or white lettering and border on a blue background. (MUTCD R7-8a, R&-8b)
- Signs should be mounted at least 60 inches above the parking surface so as to not be obstructed by any parked vehicles.
- Signs should be constructed to withstand the elements. An aluminum substrate with a reflective surface using UV stable ink is recommended. An anti-graffiti laminate surface might also be considered.
- Of note: Federal accessibility signs avoid the use of the text “handicapped” or “disabled” as a result of the Department of Justice’s efforts to make use of up-to-date accepted terminology and avoid stereotyping of individuals. (28CFR35.104)
- Pennsylvania also requires that an additional sign be posted indicating that a vehicle in violation is subject to towing, and a fine of not less than \$50 and not more than \$200. (3554 (d)(2) &(f))

Compliance – Resource Bulletin

Pennsylvania No Smoking Signs

Overview:

The State of Pennsylvania prohibits smoking in a public place. Exemptions to the statewide ban are granted to bars, retail tobacco shops, designated hotel/motel rooms, truck stops, private clubs, and designated areas in healthcare facilities. The Pennsylvania Clean Indoor Air Act (PCIAA) became law on 9/11/2005 and requires posting of signs enforcing the law at various locations. (PCIAA sec 3.a, b1-12)

Resources:

Pennsylvania Clean Indoor Air Act: (Free) <http://www.legis.state.pa.us/CFDOCS/Legis/PN/Public/btCheck.cfm?txtType=PDF&sessYr=2007&sessInd=0&billBody=S&billTyp=B&billNbr=0246&pn=2099>

Design of No Smoking Signs:

- The state statute requires the posting of “No Smoking” signs or the international no smoking symbol, consisting of a pictorial representation of a burning cigarette enclosed in a red circle with a red bar across it, by the owner or other person in control of any facility where smoking is prohibited. (PCIAA sec 4)
- Where the law permits smoking in a public place, the owner must post a “Smoking Permitted” sign at each entrance of such facility. (PCIAA sec 4)
- No smoking signs may also display the toll-free phone number of the Pennsylvania Department of Health where a violation of the law may be reported. (PCIAA sec 4a.2)

Swimming Pool Signs

Overview:

Title 28, Chapter 18 of the Pennsylvania Code stipulates rules governing the use of public swimming pools and spas. The code became effective on 9/18/1971.

Resources:

Pennsylvania Regulation: (Free) http://www.pacode.com/secure/data/028/chapter18/028_0018.pdf
NSP Foundation: (Free) http://nspf.org/en/Resources/News_StateCodes.aspx

Design of Swimming Pool Signs:

- Chapter 18.51-54 of the code stipulates various hygiene rules for swimming pools. As of 9/1/2019, we are unaware of Pennsylvania law requiring any sign postings at swimming pools and spas.

Compliance – Resource Bulletin

Concealed Weapon Signs

Overview:

The State of Pennsylvania Code allows residents of the state to carry a concealed firearm (CCW) provided they have been issued a permit granted by the city or county in which they reside. An applicant for a permit must be at least 21 years old, free from a conviction of a felony, and state the reason for wanting to obtain the permit. There are certain places such as court rooms, schools, etc. where CCW is forbidden even with a permit. Pennsylvania honors the CCW permits of a number of other states. (18 Pa.C.S.A. 6106-6109) (18 Pa.C.S.A. 912-913)

Resources:

Pennsylvania Regulation: (Free)

[Section 6109 - Title 18 - CRIMES AND OFFENSES](#)

Handgunlaw.com/Pennsylvania: (Free)

<http://www.handgunlaw.us/states/pennsylvania.pdf>

Design of Concealed Weapons Signs:

- Some states that allow CCW, with or without a required permit, have “opt out” laws that empower a private business to voluntarily create a “weapons free” zone by posting a “no concealed weapons allowed” sign on their premises. Pennsylvania law does not empower a business to create a “weapons free” zone by posting a sign, nor does it explicitly forbid the posting of such signs at businesses or facilities where CCW is forbidden.

Cell Phone Signs

Overview:

Pennsylvania bans the use of all hand-held electronic wireless communication devices for texting by all drivers of motorized vehicles. Senate bill SB 314 went into effect on 3/8/2012.

Resources:

Pennsylvania Regulation: (Free)

<http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/LI/consCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&ttl=75&div=0&chpt=33&sctn=16&subctn=0>

Handsfreeinfo.com: (Free)

<http://handsfreeinfo.com/pennsylvania-texting-law-detail>

Design of Cell Phone Signs:

- As of 9/1/2019 we are not aware of any mandatory “no cell phone” sign postings required in Pennsylvania
- An efficient way to remind both commercial and private drivers of cell phone bans is to apply a “No Cell Phone Use While Driving” safety label or window decal to cars, taxi cabs, trucks, and buses.

Compliance – Resource Bulletin

(Cell Phone Signs Continued)

- Of note: Because cell phones can be distractive by nature, it is common to see signs regulating cell phone use in public buildings such as theaters, airports, courtrooms, hospitals, buses, schools and school traffic zones.

Baby Surrender Signs

Overview:

Since the first baby surrender (safe-haven) law was enacted in Texas in 1999, all U.S. states, as well as the District of Columbia, have passed safe-haven legislation. The laws allow an unharmed infant to be relinquished to the proper authorities.

Resources:

Pennsylvania Regulation: (Free)

http://www.nationalsafehavenalliance.org/maps/Pennsylvania_Safe_Haven_Law.pdf

NSH Alliance: (Free)

<https://www.nationalsafehavenalliance.org/>

Design of Baby Surrender Signs:

- In 2003 Pennsylvania adopted the Newborn Protection Act, which establishes provisions for the relinquishing of a new born infant (28 days old or less) by a parent who no longer wishes to have custody of the child. The infant may be relinquished at any hospital or police station as required by the Act. Though not mandated by law, hospitals may post a sign indicating they are a facility accepting baby surrender. (6502)

Visit **ComplianceSigns.com** to shop for related signs: <http://www.compliancesigns.com>