



## Compliance – Resource Bulletin

# Federal Accessible Parking Signs

### Overview:

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) is a 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](http://www.ada.gov/2010ADASTandards_index.htm)

**MUTCD Standard for Highway Signs:** (Free)

[https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/SHSe/shs\\_2004\\_2012\\_sup.pdf](https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/SHSe/shs_2004_2012_sup.pdf)

**Design ADA Parking Spaces:** (Free)

<https://adata.org/factsheet/parking>

### 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)
- Though all states must adhere to the Federal Standards, some states require specific text or additional information on their sign postings such as “violation fines” or “permit required.” Consult your state’s regulations for more information.

**For Federal and State parking signs please visit our store:**

<https://www.compliancesigns.com/products/parking/ada-accessible-parking-signs>