

ILLINOIS – State Specific Signs

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)

http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/ser-shs_millennium_eng.htm

Illinois Regulation: (Free)

http://www.ag.state.il.us/rights/accessible_parking.html

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”Wx18”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”Wx6”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)
- Illinois also requires a U.S. Department of Transportation R7-1101 (\$250 fine) sign in addition to the federal signs. Municipalities may impose a larger fine (up to \$350) through the adoption of a local ordinance. (625ILCS5/11-1301.3c)

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Illinois No Smoking Signs

Overview:

The State of Illinois prohibits smoking in public places, places of employment, and governmental vehicles. The Smoke Free Illinois Act became law on 1/1/2008 and requires posting of signs enforcing the law at various locations.

Resources:

Illinois Regulation: (Free) <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=2893&ChapterID=35>
Smoke Free Illinois Website (Free) <http://www.smoke-free.illinois.gov/smokefreesigns.htm>

Design of No Smoking Signs:

- “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, shall be conspicuously posted in each public place and place of employment where smoking is prohibited by the owner, operator, manager, or other person in control of that place.
- Such signs must be posted at the entrance of each public place and place of employment where smoking is prohibited. (410 ILCS 82/15 & 20)
- The Illinois Department of Health provides additional information about the Act on the Smoke Free Illinois website, including examples of signage that are in compliance. These signs also provide phone and online information on how an individual can file a complaint for non-adherence to the law.

Illinois Swimming Pool Signs

Overview:

Title 77, Chapter 1, Part 820 of the Illinois Swimming Facility Code, Department of Public Health, stipulates rules governing the use of public swimming pools and spas. The code became effective on 7/15/2000 and requires the posting of signs at public swimming pools and spas.

Resources:

Illinois Regulation: (Free) <http://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/077/07700820sections.html>
NSP Foundation: (Free) http://nspf.org/en/Resources/News_StateCodes.aspx

Design of Swimming Pool Signs:

- Rules governing the use of the pool and instructions to patrons shall be displayed on placards at the entrance to dressing rooms or the pool entrance. See the regulation for specific rules required. (Section 820.360)

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Illinois Concealed Weapon Signs

Overview:

The State of Illinois allows citizens to carry a concealed firearm (CCW) provided they possess a license issued by the Illinois State Police. Among the requirements for issuing the license are, the applicant must be at least 21 years old, possess a Firearms Owners Identification Card (FOID), submit to a background check, provide a full set of fingerprints, and complete a firearms training program. It is unlawful to carry a concealed weapon, even with a FOID card in courthouses, law enforcement facilities, airports and schools, etc. Illinois does not honor the CCW permits of any other state. The law went into effect on 7/9/2013 (430 ILCS 66).

Resources:

Illinois Regulation: (Free) <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=3497&ChapterID=39>
Illinois State Police: (Free) <http://www.isp.state.il.us/media/pressdetails.cfm?ID=762>

Design of Concealed Weapons Signs:

- The owner of any private property may forbid CCW on their property by posting the prescribed sign at the entrance stating that weapons are forbidden in the facility. The sign must contain a depiction of a red circle and diagonal slash around a handgun in black on a white background. The image must be 4" in diameter, with the entire sign being 4"x6". No text aside from a reference to Illinois Code 430 ILCS 66/1 may appear within 1" of the circle on the sign. (see ISP link)

Cell Phone Signs

Overview:

Illinois has state wide bans pertaining to hand held cell phones and text messaging with hand held communication devices. These bans were put into effect starting in 2008 and were expanded in 2010. All electronic distracted driving offenses are classified as moving violations as of 7/1/2019.

Resources:

Illinois Regulation: (Free) <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/96/HB/09600HB0071.htm>
Illinois Regulation: (Free) <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=095-0338>
State Law Updater: (Free) <http://www.iihs.org/laws/cellphonelaws.aspx>
Handsfreeinfo.com: (Free) <http://handsfreeinfo.com/illinois-cell-phone-laws-legislation>



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(Cell Phone Signs Continued)

Design of Cell Phone Signs:

- A person under the age of 19 years may not drive while using any type of cell phone. (625 ILCS 5/12-610.1) (1/1/2008)
- All drivers are forbidden from using hand held communication devices to compose or send a text message. (625 ILCS 5/12-610.2) (1/1/2010)
- All drivers are forbidden from using a cell phone for any purpose while driving in a school zone or construction maintenance speed zone. (625 ILCS 5/12-610.1) (1/1/2010)
- 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.
- As of 9/1/2019 we are unaware of any mandatory “no cell phone” sign postings required in Illinois.
- 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:

Illinois Regulation: (Free) <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=1459&ChapterID=32>

NSH Alliance: (Free) <http://www.nationalsafehavenalliance.org/>

Design of Baby Surrender Signs:

- Illinois has adopted provisions for the relinquishing of a new born infant (30 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, fire station, police station, or emergency medical facility required by the Act. These facilities most post a sign approved by the state on the exterior of the facility indicating they are an approved facility for baby surrender. (325 ILCS 2/22)
- The state approved sign must be 18”W x 18”H, be made of U.S. DOT standard 80 gauge white EG reflective aluminum, and display both a specific graphic symbol and text.

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