

Compliance – Resource Bulletin

GEORGIA – State Specific Signs

Georgia 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

Georgia Regulation: (Free)

<http://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2010/title-40/chapter-6/article-10/part-2/40-6-221/>

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)
- Georgia also requires that the reserved parking sign be blue with white lettering and state “Permit Parking Only” and “Tow Away Zone” indicating that a vehicle in violation is subject to towing. (O.C.G.A. 40-6-221)

Compliance – Resource Bulletin

Georgia No Smoking Signs

Overview:

The State of Georgia prohibits smoking in public places and places of employment, including restaurants and bars. Exemptions to the statewide ban are granted to bars and restaurants where admittance is denied to those under 18 years of age, retail tobacco shops, designated hotel/motel rooms, private clubs, and designated areas in healthcare facilities. The Georgia Smoke Free Air Act became law on 7/1/ 2005 and requires posting of signs enforcing the law at various locations. (290-5-61-.03) (31-12a-6)

Resources:

Georgia Smoke Free Air Act: (Free)	https://dph.georgia.gov/sites/dph.georgia.gov/files/SmokeFree%20Act_Booklet.pdf
Georgia Health Code: (Free)	https://dph.georgia.gov/tobacco-free-places
Georgia Dept. of Human Resources: (Free)	https://dph.georgia.gov/smoke-free-enforcement

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, at all entrances by the owner or other person in control of any facility where smoking is prohibited. The sign must also state the applicable statute number. (290-5-61-.05{2})
- Where the law permits smoking in a public place, the owner must post a sign stating “Smoking Permitted, No One Under the Age of 18 Allowed” at each entrance or designated smoking area of such facilities. (290-5-61-.05{4})

Georgia Swimming Pool Signs

Overview:

Chapter 290-5-57 of the Rules of the Department of Public Health stipulates the rules governing the use of public swimming pools, spas, and recreational slides.

Resources:

Georgia Regulation: (Free)	https://dph.georgia.gov/sites/dph.georgia.gov/files/EnvHealth/Pool/EnvHealthPoolsChapter511-3-5New.pdf
NSP Foundation: (Free)	http://nspf.org/en/Resources/News_StateCodes.aspx

Compliance – Resource Bulletin

(Swimming Pool Signs Continued)

Design of Swimming Pool Signs:

Below are the required Georgia pool and spa signs. See the Georgia regulation for more specific posting and design information.

- A sign stating “No Lifeguard on Duty” posted at a pool where lifeguards are not provided. (511-3-5 Rule .18(12)(b).
- A sign stating various “Pool Risks” (511-3-5 Rule .18(12)(c).
- A sign stating various spa rules. (511-3-5 Rule .18(13).
- See rules for letter sizes for the above signs.

Concealed Weapon Signs

Overview:

The State of Georgia allows residents of the state to carry a concealed firearm (CCW) provided they have been issued a permit granted by the county in which they reside. An applicant for a permit must be at least 21 years old, has not been convicted of a felony, and has completed an approved firearm training course. There are certain places such as court rooms, government buildings, churches, correctional facilities, etc. where CCW is forbidden even with a permit. Georgia honors the CCW permits of a number of other states. (O.C.G.A.16-11-129) (O.C.G.A.16-11-126 & 127)

Resources:

Georgia Regulation: (Free)

<https://advance.lexis.com/documentpa>

Handgunlaw.com/Georgia: (Free)

<http://www.handgunlaw.us/states/georgia.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. Georgia 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: Georgia bans the use of all hand-held electronic wireless communication devices by all drivers of motorized vehicles. Drivers under the age of 18 and school bus drivers are forbidden from using cell phones for any type of communication.

Compliance – Resource Bulletin

(Cell Phone Signs Continued)

Resources:

Georgia Regulation: (Free)

<https://www.gahighwaysafety.org/highway-safety/hands-free-law/>

Handsfreeinfo.com: (Free)

<http://handsfreeinfo.com/georgia-cell-phone-laws-legislation>

Design of Cell Phone Signs:

- As of 9/1/2019 we are not aware of any mandatory “no cell phone” sign postings required in Georgia
- 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.
- Of note: Because cell phones can be distracting 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:

Georgia Regulation: (Free)

<http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/en-US/display/20172018/HB/391>

NSH Alliance: (Free)

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

Design of Baby Surrender Signs:

- Effective July 1, 2017, the State of Georgia amended the Safe Place for Newborns Act of 2002, which established 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 medical facility, fire station, or police station as defined by the statute. Though not mandated by law, eligible facilities may post a sign indicating they are a facility accepting baby surrender. (Title 9 Chapter 10A Code of Georgia Annotated)

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