

Compliance – Resource Bulletin

MISSISSIPPI – 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)

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

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)
- As of 9/1/2019 we are not aware of any additional ADA parking sign requirements in Mississippi other than those specified by the federal government in the 2010 ADAAG.

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No Smoking Signs

Overview:

The State of Mississippi prohibits smoking in state office buildings and state owned university or college classroom buildings. The Mississippi Clean Indoor Air Act became effective in 2006. (MSC sec 29-5-161)

Resources:

Mississippi Clean Indoor Air Act: (Free) <http://law.justia.com/codes/mississippi/2013/title-29/chapter-5/regulation-of-smoking-in-public-buildings/section-29-5-161>

Design of No Smoking Signs:

- The person having jurisdiction over the state facility where smoking is prohibited must post a no smoking sign which may contain 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. If there is a designated smoking area in the facility, it must be identified with a sign indicating smoking is permitted within. (29-5-161)

Swimming Pool Signs

Overview:

The Mississippi Department of Health does not have rules governing the use of public swimming pools and spas, but does have recommended health and safety standards.

Resources:

Mississippi Dept. of Health: (Free) http://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/44,0,95,669.html
NSP Foundation: (Free) http://nspf.org/en/Resources/News_StateCodes.aspx

Design of Swimming Pool Signs:

As of 9/1/2019 Mississippi does not have any statewide requirements for the posting of signs at public pools or spas. Consult your county or municipality for information on any required swimming pool signs. (nspf.org) The Department of Health Sanitation Guidelines recommends the following sign.

- A sign stating “WARNING-To Prevent Serious Injury, Do Not Allow Children in Swimming Pool if Drain Cover is Broken or Missing.”

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Concealed Weapon Signs

Overview:

The State of Mississippi allows its residents to carry a concealed firearm (CCW) without a permit if they are otherwise able to legally possess a firearm. Concealed firearms must be “hidden or obscured from common observation.”

There are certain places such as schools, law enforcement facilities, bars, churches, courthouses, etc. where CCW is forbidden even with a permit. Mississippi honors the CCW permits of all other states. (MS Code sec. 45-9-101)

Resources:

Mississippi Regulation: (Free) <https://www.dps.state.ms.us/wp-content/uploads/45-9-101-ammended-HB786.pdf>
Handgunlaw.com/Mississippi: (Free) <http://www.handgunlaw.us/states/mississippi.pdf>

Design of Concealed Weapons Signs:

- By state law, the owner of a private business may forbid CCW in their establishment by posting a sign at the entrance stating that weapons are forbidden in the facility. The sign must contain the words “carrying of a pistol or revolver is prohibited.” (MS Code sec. 45-9-101{13})

Cell Phone Signs

Overview:

The State of Mississippi prohibits the writing, sending or reading of a text message and from accessing, reading, or posting to a social networking site using a handheld mobile telephone while driving a motor vehicle.

Resources:

Mississippi Regulation: (Free) [HB 389 \(As Sent to Governor\) - 2015 Regular Session](#)
Handsfreeinfo.com: (Free) <http://handsfreeinfo.com/mississippi-cell-phone-laws-legislation>

Design of Cell Phone Signs:

- As of 9/1/2019 we are unaware of any mandatory “no cell phone” sign postings required in Mississippi.
- 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.

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(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:

Mississippi Regulation: (Free) http://www.nationalsafehavenalliance.org/maps/Mississippi_Safe_Haven_Law.pdf

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

Design of Baby Surrender Signs:

- Mississippi allows for the relinquishing of a new born infant (3 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, EMS provider, or adoption agency as defined by the statute. As of 9/1/2019 we are unaware of any requirement in the law for the posting of signs. (43-15-201)

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