



NCPPDSA

The National Council for Persons with Physical Disabilities in SA

ACCESSIBILITY AND UNIVERSAL DESIGN FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

All Persons with Disabilities have the right to full integration, participation and dignity within the built environment, natural environment and communication environment. Entry to all give a welcoming message! Our aim is to assist you in achieving equity for all.



WHAT DO WE OFFER?

- Workshops for architects, developers and other building professionals to develop an understanding of universal design and access.
- Access audits for buildings; the natural and communication environments followed by a report indicating any shortcomings as well as recommendations for access.
- Marketing of facilities which are accessible to Persons with Disabilities.

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM AN ACCESS AUDIT?

- An expert will visit your facility and assess / evaluate the suitability for use by persons with various disabilities.
- This will be done keeping in mind the use of facilities by staff, visitors and customers with disabilities.
- Preferably a site plan with floor layout of the facility should be available although we can cope without this.
- The size of the facility must be made available as well as the purpose of the facility (e.g. is it an office, hotel, park, swimming pool etc).
- Preferably the facilities manager must accompany the person doing the audit.
- Photos will be taken, questions asked from staff in various areas and measurements taken while audit is in progress.
- After the audit a report will be provided indicating the required changes with recommendations.
- The proposed changes can also be phased and costed if so required.
- The UN Convention Article says that:

“Accessibility is a precondition for the participation of people with disabilities in society as well as for living independently. Accessibility is a wide concept that addresses the removal and prevention of barriers that pose problems for persons with disabilities in using products and services on equal terms with others, consequently affecting their participation in socio-economic activities.”

According to the UN Convention description in article 9, access for persons with disabilities should be ensured to the physical environment, transportation, information and communication including information and communication technologies and systems and to other facilities and services open or provided to the public.

In addition to the United Nations Convention on Human Rights (Article 9), the rights of Persons with Disabilities is preserved in the South African Constitution under the Promotion of Equality and Unfair Discrimination Act of 2000 (PEPUDA), the Bill of Rights (Chapter 2 of the South African Constitution) and provisions are made in part “S” the South African Building Regulations.”



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

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