

ACCESSIBLE AND USABLE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

ICC A117.1-2009



American National Standard

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(ICC A117.1-2009)

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FOREWORD

(The information contained in this foreword is not part of this American National Standard (ANS) and has not been processed in accordance with ANSI's requirements for an ANS. As such, this foreword may contain material that has not been subjected to public review or a consensus process. In addition, it does not contain requirements necessary for conformance to the standard.)

Development

The 1961 edition of ANSI Standard A117.1 presented the first criteria for accessibility to be approved as an American National Standard and was the result of research conducted by the University of Illinois under a grant from the Easter Seal Research Foundation. The National Easter Seal Society and the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities became members of the Secretariat, and the 1961 edition was reaffirmed in 1971.

In 1974, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development joined the Secretariat and sponsored needed research, which resulted in the 1980 edition. After further revision that included a special effort to remove application criteria (scoping requirements), the 1986 edition was published and, when requested in 1987, the Council of American Building Officials (CABO) assumed the Secretariat. Central to the intent of the change in the Secretariat was the development of a standard that, when adopted as part of a building code, would be compatible with the building code and its enforcement. The 1998 edition largely achieved that goal. The 2009 edition of the standard is the latest example of the A117.1 committee's effort to continue developing a standard that is compatible with the building code. (When CABO was consolidated into the International Code Council (ICC) in 1998, the Secretariat duties were assumed by ICC.)

2009 Edition

New to the 2009 edition are coordinated criteria for the various types of dwelling units that provide a step-down between the unit types; technical requirements for Type C (Visitable) Units; Variable Message Signs (i.e., signs that change the information they show such as gate information in train stations and airports); better consistency of sign requirements regarding when raised characters and braille are required; location of toilet paper dispenser (more design options, recessed fixtures addressed, single point of measurement, etc.); a new chapter for a variety of types of recreational facilities; an index and margin markings that will help users find requirements and identify changes from the 2003 edition. In addition, the new standard continued to provide a level of coordination between the accessible provisions of this standard and the Fair Housing Accessibility Guidelines (FHAG) and the newly released Americans with Disabilities Act and Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADA & ABA AG).

ANSI Approval

This Standard was processed and approved for submittal to ANSI by the Accredited Standards Committee A117 on Architectural Features and Site Design of Public Buildings and Residential Structures for Persons with Disabilities. ANSI approved the 2009 edition on October 20, 2010. Committee approval of the Standard does not necessarily imply that all Committee members voted for its approval.

Adoption

ICC A117.1–2009 is available for adoption and use by jurisdictions internationally. Its use within a governmental jurisdiction is intended to be accomplished through adoption by reference in accordance with proceedings establishing the jurisdiction's laws.

Formal Interpretations

Requests for Formal Interpretations on the provisions of ICC A117.1–2009 should be addressed to: ICC, Chicago District Office, 4051 W. Flossmoor Road, Country Club Hills, IL 60478–5795.

Maintenance—Submittal of Proposals

All ICC standards are revised as required by ANSI. Proposals for revising this edition are welcome. Please visit the ICC website at www.iccsafe.org for the official “Call for proposals” announcement. A proposal form and instructions can also be downloaded from www.iccsafe.org.

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Marginal Markings

Solid vertical lines in the margins within the body of the code indicate a technical change from the requirements of the 2003 edition. Deletion indicators in the form of an arrow (➡) are provided in the margin where an entire section, paragraph, exception or table has been deleted or an item in a list of items or a table has been deleted.

**Accredited Standards Committee A117 on Architectural Features and
Site Design of Public Buildings and Residential Structures for
Persons with Disabilities**

At the time of ANSI approval, the A117.1 Committee consisted of the following members:

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American Hotel and Lodging Association (AHLA) (BO)	Gerald Gross, AIA, FARA Kevin Maher (Alt)
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United Spinal Association (CU)	Dominic Marinelli John Rooney (Alt)
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U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) (R)	Cheryl D. Kent Louis F. Borray (Alt)
World Institute on Disability (WID) (CU)	Hale Zukas

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Acknowledgment

The updating of this standard over the past 6 years could only be accomplished by the hard work of not only the current committee members listed at the time of approval but also the many committee members who participated and contributed to the process over the course of development. ICC recognizes their contributions as well as those of the participants who, although not on the committee, provided valuable input during this update cycle.

INTEREST CATEGORIES

Builder/Owner/Operator (BO) – Members in this category include those in the private sector involved in the development, construction, ownership and operation of buildings or facilities; and their respective associations.

Consumer/User (CU) – Members in this category include those with disabilities, or others who require accessibility features in the built environment for access to buildings, facilities and sites; and their respective associations.

Producer/Distributor (PD) – Members in this category include those involved in manufacturing, distributing, or sales of products; and their respective associations.

Professional (P) – Members in this category include those qualified to engage in the development of the body of knowledge and policy relevant to their area of practice, such as research, testing, consulting, education, engineering or design; and their respective associations.

Regulatory (R) – Members in this category include federal agencies, representatives of regulatory agencies or organizations that promulgate or enforce codes or standards; and their respective associations.

Individual Expert (IE) (Nonvoting) – Members in this category are individual experts selected to assist the consensus body. Individual experts shall serve for a renewable term of one year and shall be subject to approval by vote of the consensus body. Individual experts shall have no vote.

Category	Number
Builder/Owner/Operator – (BO)	6
Consumer/User – (CU)	11
Professional – (P)	15
Producer/Distributor – (PD)	7
Regulatory – (R)	7
TOTAL	46

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