

From The Catskill Center for Independence: Quick Tips and Election Day Reminders



Path of Travel / Walkways / Room Layout

Make sure a 36" wide path of travel is maintained throughout the polling site from entrance to voting area to exit. Walkways should be kept free of hazards like ice, snow, wet leaves, and other debris. Keep maneuvering space available at check-in table and in front of machines by providing either a 60" diameter circle or a T-shaped space enabling voters using mobility devices to register and vote more easily.

Directional Signage



Signs indicating the accessible route or any other necessary directions need to be in large high contrast type that is easy to see at a distance and should include the international symbol of accessibility (pictured at left). Hand-made signs are fine as long as the writing is large and clear with sufficient color contrast (black letters on off-white paper) and paper should have a matte finish to reduce glare.

Bake/ Craft Sale Location

When arranging tables for any sort of sale or other function, make certain that doorways are unobstructed and the area around the sale has enough room for people to pass by without bumping into one another. Remember path of travel should be 36" in width.

Sample Ballots & Other Notices

Sample ballots need to be posted so that they can be read from both seated (40" from floor) and standing positions (60" from floor). Ideally, any notices should be posted closest to accessible route. It is recommended to have alternative accessible formats for written materials available, such as ballots and oaths.

Eliminate Obstacles

Obstacles include signs, chairs, lines of people, and anything that gets in the way of a clear path of travel (i.e. free of chairs, boxes, other objects). However, providing temporary seating for voters with disabilities or those who are elderly helps make your polling site voter friendly.

Items To Have Available

Magnifying devices for those who request it, signature guide for those who are blind, and pad of paper and pen for those who are deaf or unable to speak.

Service Animals

Service animals are allowed in the polling place. They are working animals, not pets. Do not pet, feed, or otherwise distract them. Owners of service animals require no special proof or identification; it is illegal to ask for such documentation.

Thanks for Remembering...



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Catskill Center for Independence PO Box 1247 Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-8000 ccfi@ccfi.us