



ACCESSIBILITY

THE CASp REPORT

ARE YOU READY? INTERVENING CODE CYCLE AMENDMENTS EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

The 2013 California Building Code (CBC) Intervening Code Cycle amendments to Chapter 11B will take effect July 1, 2015, throughout California. These amendments are applicable to new construction, alterations, and additions to public buildings, public accommodations, commercial buildings, and public housing that occur after July 1, 2015, and do not constitute a standard for compliance of existing facilities, absent an alteration or addition. Significant changes are discussed below. Please check your “blue sheet” code supplement for all new amendments to the code.

11B–213 TOILET FACILITIES AND BATHING FACILITIES: Amendments to Section 11B–213.3 increase the required minimum number of accessible compartments and fixtures in multiple accommodation toilet rooms. This amendment addresses the need for an increased number of accessible toilet facilities where, due to the number of users, wait times are excessive for persons with disabilities when only one accessible compartment or type of fixture is provided.

Specifically, the changes are:

Section 11B–213.3.1 Toilet compartments—5 percent, but no fewer than one, toilet compartment must comply with Section 11B–604.8.1.

Section 11B–213.3.2 Water closets—5 percent, but no fewer than one, water closet must comply with Section 11B–604.

Section 11B–213.3.3 Urinals—10 percent, but no fewer than one, urinal must comply with Section 11B–605.

Section 11B–213.3.4 Lavatories—10 percent, but no fewer than one, lavatory must comply with Section 11B–606.

11B–215 FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS AND CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM SYSTEMS:

Amendments add carbon monoxide alarm systems to Section 11B–215, which requires visible alarms where audible alarms are provided, as applicable to *Section 11B–215.4 Transient lodging facilities* and *Section 11B–215.5 Residential dwelling units*, and as required by CBC Chapter 4. Related amendments are in *Section 11B–806 Transient lodging guest rooms* and *Section 11B–809 Residential dwelling units*.

11B–216.8 TOILET ROOMS AND BATHING ROOMS: Amendments to Section 11B–216.8 clarify that the geometric symbols are required at all toilet and bathing rooms, whether or not accessibility is provided. This provision has been in place in the CBC since accessibility provisions were first introduced in 1982. Previous editions of the CBC contained a provision requiring geometric symbol signs at *all* entrances to toilet and bathing

THIS ARTICLE HIGHLIGHTS A FEW OF THE AMENDMENTS THAT ARE INCLUDED IN THE 2013 CBC INTERVENING CODE CYCLE. ADDITIONAL AMENDMENTS CAN BE FOUND IN THE 2013 RULEMAKING CYCLE ARCHIVES ON THE DSA WEBSITE.

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rooms. An inadvertent error was introduced into 2013 CBC Section 11B–216.8, requiring geometric symbol signs only at the entrances to accessible restroom and bathing rooms. This correction prevents any possible confusion about the requirement for geometric symbol signs.

11B–216.14 VARIABLE MESSAGE SIGNS:

The 2013 CBC amendments contain scoping provisions for variable message signs (VMS) with the addition of Section 11B–216.14, in accordance with the 2012 International Building Code (IBC) and ANSI A117.1–2009. VMS, where provided in emergency shelters and in transportation facilities, must comply with the requirements of *Section 11B–703.8 Variable message signs*. VMS provided in facilities that are not transportation facilities and are not used as emergency shelters are not subject to the CBC requirements of *Section 11B–703.8 Variable message signs*.

11B–224.1.4 HOUSING AT A PLACE OF

EDUCATION: The amendments clarify the provisions for *housing at a place of education* and for *social service center establishments*, which are required to comply with the applicable provisions for transient lodging. These facility types are now provided with their own section number in the code to provide clarity and consistency for code users. In addition, the amendments introduce a new definition to CBC Chapter 2 for *Multi-Bedroom*

... continued

A NOTE ON NOTES...

You may have noticed that some of the requirements in the 2013 CBC were changed from a technical provision to a "note." In the transition of the 2010 CBC format into the 2013 CBC model code format, some of the technical provisions of the 2010 Americans with Disabilities Act Standards (2010 ADAS) were essentially unenforceable by local jurisdictions. DSA retained the original language of the 2010 ADAS by using a "note" to remind code users that operational procedures are often necessary to ensure that the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility requirements are met. The provisions that changed to "note" format include the following:

11B–208 RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

SECTION 11B–208.2.3.3 PARKING FOR GUESTS, EMPLOYEES, AND OTHER NON-RESIDENTS

Note: When assigned parking is provided, CBC Chapter 11A indicates that designated accessible parking for the adaptable residential dwelling units shall be provided on requests of residents with disabilities on the same terms and with the full range of choices (e.g., off-street parking, carport or garage) that are available to other residents.

11B–221.2 ASSEMBLY AREAS

Section 11B–221.2.5 Removable Chairs was removed and replaced.

Note: When required wheelchair spaces are not occupied by persons eligible for those spaces, individual, removable seats may be placed in those spaces.

11B–227.2 SALES AND SERVICE, CHECK-OUT AISLES

Note: When check-out aisles are open for customer use, the business should ensure that a minimum of one accessible check-out aisle is always available for use by persons with disabilities. As check-out aisles are opened and closed based on fluctuating customer levels, the business should ensure that the number of accessible check-out aisles available complies with Table 11B–227.2.



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Housing Unit, applicable to housing at a place of education, which reflect the apartment-style housing provided for undergraduate students at many campuses that are considerably different from dormitory-style housing. The amendments also reintroduce the requirement for adaptability of the units beyond the number required to provide mobility and communication features.

11B-226.4 BABY CHANGING TABLES:

The amendments include scoping provisions for baby changing tables. In CBC terms, a baby changing table is considered a work surface, and requires clear floor space, knee and toe clearance, and specified height requirements. In addition, operable parts must comply with *Section 11B-309 Operable Parts*, which includes compliance with *Section 11B-308 Reach Ranges*. When located in a restroom, however, an exception states that they are not required to comply with the operable parts requirement to be located a maximum of 40 inches above the finish floor, which requires in some cases subjecting baby changing tables to after-market modifications. Furthermore, *Section 11B-226.4* does not permit baby changing tables to be located in accessible toilet compartments in multi-accommodation toilet facilities, or located where they obstruct the required width of an accessible route. Baby changing tables, however,

are still permitted within accessible, single-user toilet rooms.

11B-233.3 PUBLIC HOUSING FACILITIES:

Amendments repeal *Section 11B-233.2* related to housing "subject to the regulations issued by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under *Section 504* of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended." Enforcement for HUD *Section 504* regulations is not within the jurisdiction of state and local building officials; therefore, the reference was repealed. In CBC terms, HUD housing is public housing, and therefore covered under *Section 11B-233.3*, which covers all public housing facilities. Due to this amendment, HUD housing projects are required to provide adaptable dwelling units for those units in excess of the five percent required to provide mobility features, addressing the inadvertent exclusion of adaptable units in HUD facilities, as was required in the 2010 CBC.

11B-406.5.11 GROOVED BORDER:

Amendments eliminate the requirement for grooved borders at curb ramps because grooves cannot be reliably detected by people with vision impairments and can be confused with grooves between sidewalk panels and cracks in the sidewalk. Grooves can generally only be detected when a cane is kept in constant contact with the ground when this method is used to scan the environment. In addition,

CASp STATS

CASp EXAMINATION RESULTS

| OCTOBER 2014 | | |
|--------------|------------|----------|
| EXAM | CANDIDATES | PASSED |
| Closed Book | 125 | 21 (17%) |
| Open Book | 162 | 28 (17%) |

Total new CASps in October 2014: **19**

Total certified including October 2014: **607**

NEXT CASp EXAM

The first CASp Exam for 2015 was held April 8, 2015. Subsequent exam dates are scheduled:

July 15, 2015

October 14, 2015

Please refer to www.dgs.ca.gov/casp for registration deadlines, exam details, and location information. The project type for the open book exam will be listed on the website approximately two months prior to the exam.



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snow, ice, dirt, weeds, and other debris can collect in grooves and obscure any warning intended. The requirement for grooved borders at curb ramps is not included in the 2010 ADAS, and this decision is consistent with the findings of studies conducted by the U.S. Access Board.

11B–606.7 SINK DEPTH: Amendments repeal the requirement for a maximum sink depth of 6½ inches at sinks that require a forward approach. *Section 11B–606 Lavatories and sinks* requires that sinks comply with the provisions of *Section 11B–306 Knee and toe clearance*; therefore, the depth of the sink is dependent on the mounting height of the sink and the required knee and toe clearance. This change does not adversely impact accessibility and provides a greater range of options for sink types.

11B–411 DESTINATION–ORIENTED ELEVATORS: Approved standards add scoping requirements for destination–oriented elevators (DOE) in *Section 11B–206.6 Elevators*, and separates the technical requirements for DOE from standard passenger elevators in *Section 11B–411*, including repealing exceptions for DOE systems, in *Section 11B–407 Elevators*. In addition, the approved standards add new definitions to CBC Chapter 2 for *Hall Call Console*, *Destination–oriented Elevator*, and *Accessibility Function Button*, and

include a new tactile designation with an International Symbol of Accessibility (ISA) for the accessibility function button in accordance with ANSI A117.1–2009.

Many are not familiar with DOE systems and, therefore, new provisions may be difficult to understand. DOE systems enable a passenger to select a floor destination prior to entering the elevator car. The system assigns a designated elevator to the passenger. In a DOE system, responding cars are programmed for maximum efficiency by assigning a specific elevator to a group of passengers going to floors in proximity to one another, reducing the number of stops a passenger experiences before arriving at the selected floor. While such systems are designed for increased energy efficiency and advanced security, and decrease the time an individual takes to arrive at a final destination floor in a multi–story building, they also present a unique set of challenges to individuals with vision, mobility, and hearing impairments, in assigning and arriving to the designated elevator. DOE systems can be either installed as new elevators or can be used to convert existing traditional elevator systems into DOE systems. Presently, DOE systems are used extensively in San Francisco and other large California cities, and the approved standards in the CBC supplement are based on the requirements developed by the City of San Francisco in their local ordinance AB090.

AS PREVIOUSLY STATED, this article only highlights a few of the amendments included in the 2013 CBC Intervening Code Cycle. Additional amendments are listed in this newsletter (see “Back in the California Building Code...” on page 5), and in the [2013 Rulemaking Cycle archives on the DSA website](#). The “blue sheet” code supplement dated July 1, 2015 was sent by the International Code Council (ICC) to their subscribers who hold a copy of Volume 1 and Volume 2 of the California Code of Regulations Title 24, Part 2. In addition, please be aware that the ICC has also distributed a July 1, 2015 Errata; however, no CBC Chapter 11B corrections were included. ■

UPDATE YOUR CASp PROFILE!

Please keep your information up to date on the DSA [Find a CASp Web page](#). Your information can be edited through the [CASp Account Log-in](#).

Independent CASps should indicate a “yes” under the category for inspections, list the counties you serve, and provide helpful information, such as fluency in a foreign language.



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BACK IN THE CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE...

A few of the provisions in the Intervening Code Cycle are reintroductions into the 2013 CBC because they were inadvertent omissions in the transition from the 2010 CBC to the new format of the 2013 CBC. These provisions are:

11B–203.9 EMPLOYEE WORKSTATIONS

The 2010 CBC, Section 1123B.2, contains a provision requiring employee workstations to comply with aisle width, change of level, and entryway width requirements. An inadvertent error was introduced into 2013 CBC, Section 11B–203.9, which provides a general exception to employee work areas rather than to employee workstations. The error was corrected to prevent any possible confusion regarding the requirements for employee work areas and workstations. Employee common use areas are still required to be accessible per the applicable provisions of CBC Chapter 11B.

11B–206.2.3.2.DISTANCE TO ELEVATORS, EXCEPTION

The 2010 CBC, Section 1103B.2, requires, for buildings which exceed 10,000 square

feet, installation of ramp, elevator or lift within 200 feet of each stair and escalator in new buildings and within 200 feet of each new stair and escalator in existing buildings in which elevators are required. In the 2010 CBC, this section also provided an exception for stairs used solely for emergency egress. An error was introduced into 2013 CBC in the omission of the exception. The error is now corrected to clarify that stairs used solely for emergency egress do not trigger the requirement to provide an accessible means of vertical access within 200 feet.

11B–305.6 APPROACH

The 2010 CBC, Section 1118B.4, Item 2 states, “One full unobstructed side of the clear floor or ground space for a wheelchair shall adjoin or overlap

an accessible route or adjoin another wheelchair clear floor space”. The 2013 CBC, Section 11B–305.6, explicitly requires a clear floor space to be connected, either directly or through another clear floor space, to an accessible route. The model code language on which this section is based is silent on whether or not the clear floor space and accessible route serving it are permitted to overlap one another. In discussions, the U.S. Access Board has indicated that “. . . as a general rule, clear floor space and accessible routes are permitted to overlap.” This would apply unless specifically prohibited, as in *Section 11B–802.1.4 Approach*. DSA has amended this section to carry forward the 2010 CBC provision, modified to be consistent with use of the 2010 Americans with Disabilities Act Standards.

Advisory To All CASps

DSA does not review for accuracy nor endorse any publications from individuals outside of DSA, or from third party vendors, that claim to provide interpretive assistance with the accessibility requirements of the CBC.

California statute gives weight to the opinion of a CASp in rendering determinations after an inspection; therefore, it is imperative that opinions and interpretations are made by each CASp based on the use of the applicable CBC and the applicable federal standards, and not based solely on an analysis provided by an interpretive manual.



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ON THE REGULATION RADAR

Each CASp Report features information regarding state and/or federal regulations that affect CASp work. We encourage you to read the new or improved regulations so that you are aware of various applicable standards and information affecting your practice.

FEDERAL

Legislation has been re-introduced on the federal level by Representative Ken Calvert of California's Riverside County, designed to help small businesses comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. House Resolution (HR) 241 of the 114th Congress, known as the ACCESS (ADA Compliance for Customer Entry to Stores and Services) Act of 2015, "amends the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 to prohibit an aggrieved person from commencing a civil action for discrimination based on the failure to remove a structural barrier to entry into an existing public accommodation unless the owner or operator of such accommodation: (1) is provided a written notice specific enough to identify such barrier; and (2) has, within specified time periods, either failed to provide the aggrieved person with a written description outlining improvements that will be made to remove such barrier or provided such description and failed to remove such barrier."

The bill has presently 14 co-sponsors, of whom 11 are from California. Representative Calvert's press release regarding the bill states, "Although there are times when litigation by harmed individuals is necessary, there is an increasing number of lawsuits brought under the ADA that are based upon a desire to achieve financial settlements rather than to achieve the appropriate modifications."

More information on the proposed bill and subsequent legislative action is available at www.congress.gov. In the search engine for current legislation, type HR241 to arrive at the bill page.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

New legislation has been introduced related to disability access. The following bills are currently in the legislative process:

Senate Bills (SB):

- SB 67, Disability access: statutory damages (Galgiani)
- SB 251, Civil rights: disability access (Roth)

Assembly Bills (AB):

- AB 52, Public accommodations: Construction-related accessibility claims (Gray)
- AB 54, Public accommodations: Construction-related accessibility standards: tax credit (Olsen)
- AB 662, Public accommodations: disabled adults: changing facilities (Bonilla)
- AB 1230, California Americans with Disabilities Act Small Business Compliance Financing Act (Gomez)
- AB 1342, California Commission on Disability Access (Steinorth)
- AB 1468, Civil rights: disability access (Baker)

The proposed legislation, and any subsequent amendments, can be viewed on the [California Legislative Information website](#).



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A Newsletter by the DSA
Certified Access Specialist
(CASp) Program

DSA ACADEMY PRESENTS...

CASP 101: CERTIFICATION & PRACTICE \$75

This 4.5-hour seminar will discuss, in detail, DSA's improvements to the CASp Program, with information relevant to CASps, candidates interested in seeking certification, and individuals who want to find out more about the CASp Program.

TOPICS

- History of Disability Rights in California
- Legislation and the CASp Program: SB 262, SB 1608, and SB 1186
- DSA CASp Program Regulations and proposed changes
- DSA Examination and Certification Improvements
- CASp Professional Standards for both the independent CASp and the CASp employed by a jurisdictional agency
- Best Practices for CASps
- Guidance on Construction-Related Accessibility Standards Compliance (CRASCA) and Disability Access Inspection Certificates
- Analysis of the effectiveness of CASp services
- Exercises on understanding *applicable standards*
- Exercises on approaching and studying for the CASp examination

PRESENTER

Ida A. Clair AIA, LEED AP, CASp, Senior Architect at DSA

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SESSION—San Diego

May 8, 2015

August 7, 2015

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA SESSION—Sacramento

May 22, 2015

August 5, 2015

For more information, visit www.DSAacademy.dgs.ca.gov.

NEW MARKETING MATERIALS

Available at www.dgs.ca.gov/casp are easy-to-print flyers that you and local jurisdictions can use to begin a discussion with business owners on how an inspection by a CASp can benefit them.

A similar version will soon be provided for distribution by the city and county offices issuing business licenses.



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CASp PUBLIC LIBRARY

The CASp Public Library will make you aware of information and **free** publications to enhance your access inspection experience and increase your accessibility knowledge.

DISABILITY SCOOP sends out weekly emails with articles that address politics, disability rights, and reports on legal cases that are in process or decided. Most articles are about developmental disability news, and not many directly address construction-related disability access; however, some articles are extremely informative in addressing the application and interpretation of the ADA, and can serve to expand one's knowledge of the landmark federal civil rights legislation. Learn more at www.disabilityscoop.com.

Sign up for the Disability Scoop Email News at www.disabilityscoop.com/sign-up-for-email-news/.

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Tell us about your CASp experience.
#CaliCASp

DSA NEWS

ACCESS 2016 WEB PAGE : PROPOSED BUILDING CODE AMENDMENTS

DSA is authorized by California Statute to develop and propose building code regulations related to access for persons with disabilities to public buildings, public accommodations, commercial buildings, and public housing. DSA proposes building code regulations in accordance with rulemaking processes administered by the Building Standards Commission.

DSA launched an [Access 2016 Web page](#) for the 2015 Rulemaking on amendments proposed for inclusion in the 2016 CBC. You can access the new Web page through the "Quick Links" at www.dgs.ca.gov/dsa.

DSA began its pre-cycle activities for the 2015 Triennial Code Adoption Cycle in September, 2014, and will continue into Spring 2015. During this pre-cycle period, DSA will conduct public workshops and other activities to discuss possible amendments for the 2016 California Building Standards Code, scheduled to go into effect on January 1, 2017. Public workshops provide an open forum for the public and industry stakeholders to participate in vetting potential modifications to California's building codes.

If you would like to propose a code change amendment for DSA's consider-

ation, you may complete form [DSA 65: DSA Code Amendment Proposal \(PDF – 55 KB\)](#), and submit it via email attachment to DSAAccess2016@dgs.ca.gov. DSA accepts code amendment proposals on a continuous basis. Proposals submitted at this time may be held for consideration until the 2016 CBC Intervening Code Cycle amendment process, as DSA is in the process of preparing previously submitted proposed amendments for the 2016 CBC effective date.

In addition, the location and organization of the Access 2013 rulemaking documents has changed. Links to Access rulemaking document files for the 2013 Rulemaking Cycle will be available through the link at the bottom of the Access 2016 Web page under "Rulemaking Archives."

To receive updates on rulemaking activities by DSA, please send an email to DSAAccess2016@dgs.ca.gov, with a request to be added to our email list. DSA has transitioned all individuals who subscribed to the 2013 CBC Rulemaking cycle to the Access 2016 distribution list.

Questions and comments about these activities should be directed to Dennis J. Corelis, Deputy State Architect, at dennis.corelis@dgs.ca.gov or (916) 445-4167.

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CASp NEWS

CASp CODE DISCUSSION GROUP

DSA offers a free monthly code discussion group on the CBC Chapter 11B accessibility provisions. Architects, building officials, CASps, and other interested parties can participate in the open forum via teleconference or in person at DSA Headquarters at 1102 Q Street, Suite 5200, Sacramento, CA 95811. Continuing Education credit is offered to CASps who participate for a minimum of one hour.

UPCOMING GROUP DISCUSSIONS

May 20, 2015
June 17, 2015
July 22, 2015

All sessions are scheduled from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please email ida.clair@dgs.ca.gov for teleconference contact information.

NEW LOOK FOR DSA'S CASp URL

DSA's CASp Web page has a new, shorter web address: www.dgs.ca.gov/casp. The longer link will continue to work. Feel free to use this new link on your materials.

FREE CEU SPOTLIGHT

In each newsletter, the CEU Spotlight highlights free online Continuing Education Unit (CEU) opportunities for CASp certification maintenance.

ADA ONLINE LEARNING at www.ada-audio.org, part of the ADA National Network. Numerous, free opportunities to earn CEUs are available each month in the following categories:

THE ADA AUDIO CONFERENCE SERIES is designed to enhance an individual's existing knowledge base or facilitate continued learning regarding regulations and trends under the ADA.

THE ADA LEGAL WEBINAR SERIES is intended to support continued learning with a focus on the knowledge that has been gained since the law's implementation in terms of how federal agencies and the courts are interpreting the law and subsequent regulations.

THE ACCESSIBLE TECHNOLOGY WEBINAR SERIES is intended to increase awareness of technology accessibility for people with disabilities.

The presentation, *Digital and Technology Access: The Role of the Law/ The Limits of Law*, on May 21, 2015, will explore the role of the law in advancing digital accessibility in the U.S. Participants in this webinar will learn about recent litigation, structured negotiations, and administrative actions making websites, mobile applications, and other technology available to people with disabilities. Registration in advance is required and available at the ADA Online Learning website.

Archives of past sessions are also available.



DSA ACADEMY
DIVISION OF THE STATE ARCHITECT

Need Learning Units for your American Institute of Architects membership?
Take a class with the DSA Academy! www.DSAacademy.dgs.ca.gov