

Universal Design Recommendations for Accessible Entrance and Automated Doors

- Ensure there is a level landing at entrance to provide a safe space to wait, enter and exit the building.
- If electric doors swing out, add door swing path marking to show people how far out the door will open or is protected with a white cane detectable guardrail. This will allow people to move safely out of the way.
- Add shelter from weather conditions (awning or architectural element), along with seating under shelter by main entrance (perhaps allocate one of the planned benches with backrests and armrests) to ensure that seniors visiting or people with mobility or visual impairments have a comfortable place to wait.
- Ensure entrance is easily identified from rest of building (color, architectural element, flags, etc.), so that people don't need to walk longer distances than necessary and are not confused or frustrated, or are required to ask for directions.
- Add distinct aromatic plants at each entrance to provide wayfinding cue for people who are blind or with vision impairment.
- Ensure pedestrian pathway is accessible from designated parking to main entrance and includes any necessary crosswalk markings and curb ramps.



- Ensure there are no obstacles in pedestrian pathway for people with vision impairment and any fixed furniture is cane detectable and painted with a contrasting color to the pathway or concrete planters.
- Automatic doors should ideally slide aside rather than swing in or out. With doors that swing open towards the user, both audible and visual warnings should be given.
- Clear instructions should be provided for any door fitted with a push button device in visual and tactile format.
- A change of floor surface texture should be provided at the approach to self-activating doors.
- Automatic doors should take at least three seconds to fully open from a closed position and should remain open for at least five seconds to allow safe entry and exit.
- Doors should incorporate a safety stop which is activated if doors start to close as a person is passing through.
- Doors should revert to manual control or failsafe in the open position in the event of a power failure.
- When in an open position, doors should not project into any adjacent access route.
- A door lock release should be situated at a height of between 900–1000mm and be clearly identifiable.
- Entrance devices, e.g. push pads and card swipes, for automatic doors, should be located 900–1050mm above the finished floor level. Provision of an additional foot-activated push pad will facilitate people with restricted hand functions.
- Ensure entrance doors to new buildings have clear opening of 1000mm.
- Ensure existing building entrance doors are not less than 850mm.
- Provide adequate clear space on both sides of doors.
- Provide 600mm clear space adjacent to the handle-side of doors.

- Incorporate vision panels into all entrance and entrance lobby doors.
- Incorporate visually contrasting markings at two levels on all glazed doors and screens.
- Entrance doors should visually contrast with adjacent surfaces so that they are easy to identify.
- Include a highly contrasting strip on all edges of frameless glass doors.
- Door protection should be provided to the lower 400mm of glass doors.
- Wherever possible, the threshold should be flush with the external ground surface and internal floor finish.
- Door entry controls or intercom systems should be clear of obstructions.