Accessible Facilities Plan

Prepared by: Tim Ervin, Director of Construction & EHS
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A. **Objective** LLCC is committed to having an accessible campus for individuals with disabilities, including students, faculty, staff and visitors. Providing an accessible campus, both programmatically and physically, is considered one of the top responsibilities of our institution.

B. **Scope** To ensure that the built environment, including all spaces and elements of all college owned buildings and facilities are so designed, constructed, and/or altered to assure the safety and welfare of all students, staff, faculty and visitors. All sites, facilities, buildings, and elements should be readily accessible to, and usable by, environmentally limited persons.

C. **References** Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design and the Illinois Accessibility Code 1997 protect the civil rights of individuals with disabilities.

D. **Overview**

1. As a public institution of higher education, Lincoln Land Community College is a Title II “public entity” according to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Public entities are prohibited from discriminating on the basis of disability, and are required to ensure that all services, programs, and activities provided are accessible to persons with disabilities.

2. According to the Title II ADA regulations at 28 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 35.130, “no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of a public entity, or be subjected to discrimination by any public entity.”

3. Public entities look to additional federal and state standards, rules, and guidance about how to operate programs, services, or activities offered to achieve the “participation” and “benefits” objectives identified in the ADA. For the purposes of this built environment LLCC is focusing on the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design and the Illinois Accessibility Code of 1997.

E. **Responsibilities**

1. **Employer** Provide reasonable accommodation and maintenance of accessibility to sites, facilities, buildings, and elements by individuals with disabilities. The requirements are to be applied during the design, construction, additions to, and alteration of sites, facilities, buildings, and elements to the extent required by regulations listed in Article C. References above.

2. **Director of Construction & EHS** Provide assessment of all sites, facilities, buildings, and elements to determine compliance with regulations listed in Article C. References above.
F. **General Information** regarding accessible buildings and routes is currently available upon request. LLCC is working towards updating campus maps as frequently as possible to reflect construction detours and changes, but the college also encourages you to review the status of college construction projects.

G. **Physical Space Objectives**

1. **Accommodating the Needs of Employees** – This will be responsive to employees requiring physical accommodations in the work environment. From the parking lot to the work station, the College will make progress to modify the physical environment to allow LLCC employees to complete their work. Examples of workplace considerations include:
   i. Accessible Route – corridor width and wheelchair passing and turning spaces; clear doorway widths; compliant door hardware (levers and door closers); vertical transportation; handrails and guardrails; non-protruding objects; signage, detectible warnings, audible and visual alarms.
   ii. Accessible Use of Space – wheelchair spaces in the work environment; accessible millwork; office layout and workstation configuration and table and seating heights.

2. **Ensuring Access to College Services** - Where employment accommodations can be tailored to an individual, accommodation in public access will span a wide range of potential needs. Examples of the evaluation considerations are expanded from those listed for employees in the previous section:
   i. Accessible Route – corridor width and wheelchair passing and turning spaces; clear doorway widths; compliant door hardware (levers and door closers); vertical transportation; handrails and guardrails; non-protruding objects; signage, detectible warnings, audible and visual alarms.
   ii. Accessible Use of Space – wheelchair spaces in classrooms, lecture halls, etc.; accessible reception and service counters; sightlines and placement of accessible seating in large performance or athletic venues; accessible millwork; accessible dressing and fitting rooms; width between library stacks; and table and seating heights.

3. **Providing a More Accessible Campus Environment** - Where the first two objectives target populations with specific reasons for being on campus, this step will improve accessibility for all who are entering and traversing the campus. The scope of this
objective goes beyond the current ADA standards by extending accessibility from the point of entry onto the campus to the parking lot or bus drop-off and the pathway to and into the building for the purpose of making the entire campus more inviting and welcoming to all. Considerations under this objective include the following:

i. Path of Travel - Width, slope, evenness, surface composition, and protruding objects; handrails and guardrails; curb ramps and detectible warnings; and floor gratings.

ii. Parking and Transportation - Available resources and needs of accessible transportation; parking and passenger loading zones; and signage.

iii. Building Entrances – Proximity to accessible parking, clear doorway width, power assist door operators, signage indicating accessible entrances, compliant thresholds and floor mats.

iv. Way-finding and mapping.

v. Weather-Related Access: Every effort made to make sufficient and reasonable efforts to clear and maintain routes.

4. Improving Building Accessibility - This final objective focuses on the accessibility improvements that can be achieved within the building. This step looks at those spaces that were built before the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines. Examples of building improvements include:

i. Room Access – clear doorway width; compliant door hardware (levers and door closers); and signage.

ii. Restroom Fixtures and Layout – wheelchair turning space; wheelchair accessible stall; grab bars; compliant plumbing fixtures; lavatory clearances; controls and operating mechanisms; and mirror and shelf heights.

iii. Drinking Fountains – Bi-level, clear floor space

H. Physical Space Procedure/Strategies

1. Identifying and Assessing Accessibility Challenges – The Director of Construction and Environmental Health and Safety will conduct a periodic Facility Condition Assessment, which will include accessibility assessments. This identifies any requirements in buildings that currently may be viewed as non-compliant with ADA standards that will need to be addressed when space is modified. Construction Management & EHS Department will keep this information current and work towards creation of a project to remove identified deficiencies when possible. Any technical
deviations from ADA Accessibility Guidelines (e.g., structurally impracticable, technically infeasible, etc.) will be vetted as they occur.

2. Implementing Commissioning and Verification Measures - Newly constructed or renovated facilities should be in full compliance with ADA Accessibility Guidelines. In general, major projects completed on the campus since passage of the ADA have been compliant. However, older facilities might contain non-accessible elements that need to be addressed. LLCC will rely on the Director of Construction and Environmental Health and Safety (in conjunction with hired design consultants) to interpret and comply with the ADA Accessibility Guidelines and the Illinois Accessibility Code, and on contractors to install new work in compliance with the ADA and to the details of the design. Under this plan, The Director of Construction and Environmental Health and Safety will serve as the ADA Facilities Coordinator to (1) help guide the scoping decisions, (2) verify design compliance with ADA Accessibility Guidelines for hired design consultants, and (3) field inspect under a commissioning process to make sure that the installations are fully compliant.

3. Should you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions for improving or correcting accessibility issues of the physical building environment, please contact Tim Ervin, Director of Construction and Environmental Health and Safety at 217-786-9605 (tim.ervin@llcc.edu).

I. Training None