

Accessible Community

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Access Alaska

Advocacy Director at Access Alaska, Board of Directors, National Council on Independent Living, Multiple Sclerosis Leadership Council, City of Fairbanks Diversity Council, member of National MS Society Advocacy Hall of Fame, owner Information Insights, chief herder at Running Reindeer Ranch.

Been a zoo keeper, teacher, tech guy, non profit director, created Fairbanks Food Bank, Alaska's first website, Fairbanks first ISP, owned several Internet/IT companies.

**I am not a lawyer, accountant or ADA technician,
I advocate for people who experience disabilities.**

About me

800-949-4232

Northwest ADA Center



Access Alaska was created by people with disabilities for people with disabilities as a private, non-residential, consumer-controlled non-profit to provide independent living services to older Alaskans and those who experience a disability.

As a federally recognized Independent Living Center, our mission is to encourage, promote, mentor, and advocate for the total integration of older Alaskans and those who experience a disability to live independently and productively in the community of their choice.

About Access Alaska



Independent Living does not mean that we want to do everything by ourselves, do not need anybody or like to live in isolation.

Independent Living means that we demand the same choices and control in our every-day lives that our non-disabled brothers and sisters, neighbors and friends take for granted.

We want to grow up in our families, go to the neighborhood school, use the same bus as our neighbors, work in jobs that are in line with our education and interests, and raise families of our own.

We are profoundly ordinary people sharing the same need to feel included, recognized and loved.

Dr. Adolf Ratzka

Independent Living

The Rehabilitation Act prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in programs conducted by Federal agencies, in programs receiving Federal financial assistance, in Federal employment, and in the employment practices of Federal contractors.

What is the Rehabilitation Act?



The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) became law in 1990. The ADA is a **civil rights law** that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life, including jobs, schools, transportation, and all public and private places that are open to the general public.

What is the ADA?

An undue burden is something that involves a significant difficulty or expense or in a fundamental alteration in the nature of the goods or services provided by an entity. Key factors include the cost of the aid or service and the overall financial resources of the entity. Undue burden will always be determined on a case by case basis. The ADA recognizes that what constitutes an undue burden for a small office in a rural setting is different than for a large metropolitan hospital.

Undue Burden

Individuals may file private lawsuits or they may file complaints with the Department of Justice (DOJ). The DOJ may resolve the complaints through settlement agreements, mediation, or litigation.

How is the ADA enforced?

There are two questions that may be asked:

1. Is the animal required because of a disability?
2. What task or service has this animal been trained to do?

One cannot ask:

What is your disability?

Can I see your dog's certification?

Service Animals

Accessible Communities

- Aging population
- Aging and more tourists who experience disabilities

Issues

- Customer Service #1
- Loss of Dignity
- Burden on Family

Attitude

- Universal design (often inclusive design) refers to broad-spectrum ideas meant to produce buildings, products and environments that are inherently accessible to older people, people without disabilities, and people with disabilities.



The ADA provides much needed access, but accessibility solutions may be last-minute additions that are unattractive and stigmatizing to users.



Universal Design incorporates accessibility into every stage of the design process, so that solutions are attractive and useful for everyone.

Universal Design

- Equitable use
- Flexibility in use
- Simple and intuitive
- Perceptible information
- Tolerance for error
- Low physical effort
- Size and space for approach and use



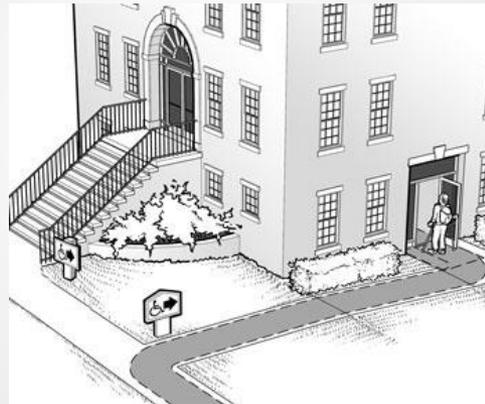
Universal Design

- Transportation
 - Transportation and housing are two of the biggest barriers identified by people who experience disabilities.
 - What does Valdez have?
- Sidewalks
- Accessible Routes

Getting Around

- An accessible route is a pathway specifically designed to provide access for individuals with disabilities, including those using wheelchairs or mobility devices.

- Handrails
- Signage
- Snow removal



Accessible Routes

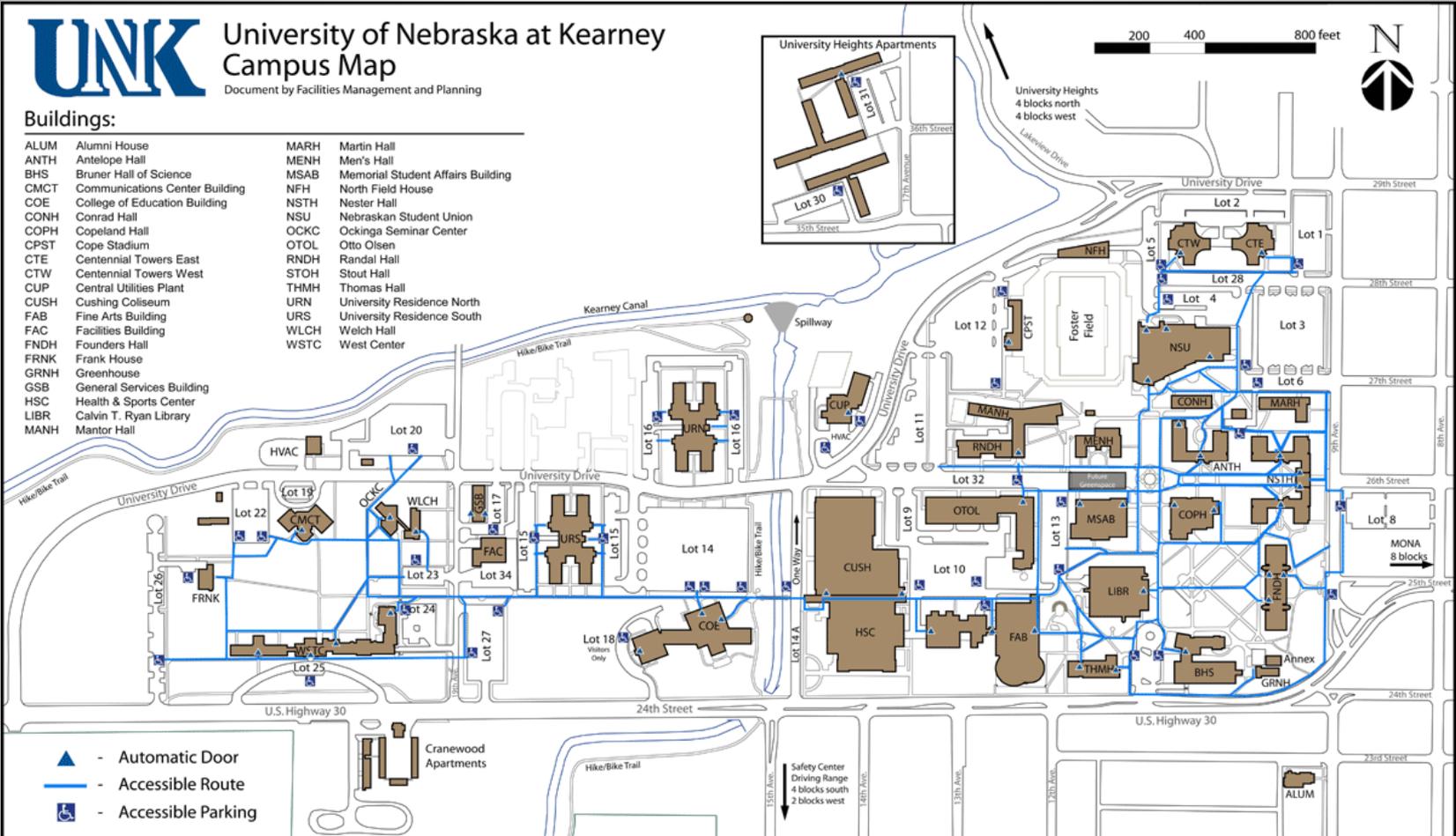
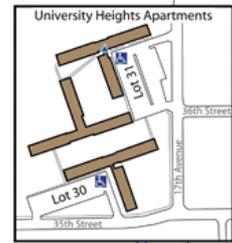


University of Nebraska at Kearney Campus Map

Document by Facilities Management and Planning

Buildings:

ALUM	Alumni House	MARH	Martin Hall
ANTH	Antelope Hall	MENH	Men's Hall
BHS	Bruner Hall of Science	MSAB	Memorial Student Affairs Building
CMCT	Communications Center Building	NFH	North Field House
COE	College of Education Building	NSTH	Nester Hall
CONH	Conrad Hall	NSU	Nebraskan Student Union
COPH	Copeland Hall	OCKK	Ockinga Seminar Center
CPST	Cope Stadium	OTOL	Otto Olsen
CTE	Centennial Towers East	RNDH	Randal Hall
CTW	Centennial Towers West	STOH	Stout Hall
CUP	Central Utilities Plant	THMH	Thomas Hall
CUSH	Cushing Coliseum	URN	University Residence North
FAB	Fine Arts Building	URS	University Residence South
FAC	Facilities Building	WLCH	Welch Hall
FNDH	Founders Hall	WSTC	West Center
FRNK	Frank House		
GRNH	Greenhouse		
GSB	General Services Building		
HSC	Health & Sports Center		
LIBR	Calvin T. Ryan Library		
MANH	Mantor Hall		



- Automatic Door
- Accessible Route
- Accessible Parking

Accessible Routes

- The topic never spoken: It's all about bathrooms



Bathrooms

- Aging in place
- Visitability
- Home services

- Isolation

Housing

- Availability of healthcare
- Medicaid providers in the community

Personal Care

- What can you do around here and is the venue accessible

Entertainment

- Real jobs / real wages
- Flexible jobs for people on benefits
- Volunteer opportunities

Employment

There are currently more than 54 million people with disabilities in the United States and 180 million worldwide, representing the single largest untapped tourist market in the world.

- 2014-2015

- More than 26 million adults with disabilities traveled for pleasure and/or business, taking 73 million trips
- Adults with disabilities spend \$17.3 billion annually, up from \$13.6 billion in 2002.



Accessible Tourism

- Be flexible (attitude)
- Mobility aids available
- Know about service animals
- Hire people with disabilities
- Para Sky to Surf?

Accessible Tourism



Accessible Wilderness

800-949-4232

Northwest ADA Center
www.nwadacenter.org



- www.ada.gov
- www.adabasics.org
- Me – doug@toelle.com 479-7940
- Independent Living Center - 235-7911
- Google it

Other Resources

Questions?

