

Taken to Access

FPS
Physical Access
Compliance Program

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Questions of the month:

Q. Is the evacuation sign required to meet the 5/8" minimum character height per CBC 11B-703.5.5 and ADA Standards 703.5.5? If so, the evacuation sign dimensions are nearly 2'x3'.

R. Yes. Although CBC 11B-703.5.5 has the exception for "floor plans providing emergency procedures information" shall not be required to comply, however, the ADA Standards do not have this exception. We are required to follow the stricter code requirement so, the ADA Standards 703.5.5 would apply. We highly recommend that unnecessary text be removed from the evacuation sign to decrease the overall size as much as possible.

Q. Is the Access Specialist's contract time and expense or lump sum?

R. The Access Specialist will charge only the time they spend and any expenses they incur. Please ensure that the contract or PO is set up appropriately.

Q. I've been requested to convert a storage room into an exam room. How do I confirm the required clearances without hiring an architect?

R. Use BIN 6 ([link](#)) which shows the clearances at exam rooms. We hope to provide a H2 document in the future for typical exam room and toilet room clearances. Also check with your ADA coordinator.

IT'S A BIRD, IT'S A PLANE, IT'S ...

Sutter Health recently announced the launch of a new medical transport network, including a fleet of air ambulances ([link](#)). So, more helipads/ports may be installed at some of our facilities. From the accessibility compliance perspective, helipads/ports are employee work area per CBC 11B-203. We recommend that ramps and stairs directly servicing a helipad be accessible to the point where the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requirements would supercede the accessibility requirements in CBC and ADA. Please contact PAC if you have questions.



BRIGHT IDEA—DOOR THRESHOLD

Do you have an exterior door threshold that is offset more than the 1/2" requirement? Instead of spending significant money on concrete work, the project team at Sutter Novato MOB found a recycled rubber mat that is custom made for door landing/threshold barriers. The Safe Path landing ramp ([link](#)) cost significantly less than the concrete alternative while providing a compliant walk-off mat.

Please continue to share your bright ideas!



PAC Web Portal Links: [internal Sutter Health](#) and [external vendor](#)