

# Universal Design Recommendations for Accessible Entrance and Automated Doors

## *Approach to entrance*

- Ensure building entrances are easily identified from rest of building (colour, architectural element, etc.), so that people don't need to walk longer distances than necessary, or are required to ask for directions.
- Ensure pedestrian pathway to main entrance is accessible from designated parking, passenger drop-off zone or other site arrival points, and includes any necessary crosswalk markings and curb ramps, where required.
- Where exterior approach to building entrance consists of large open areas, consider installing tactile direction indicators leading to the entrance for people with vision disabilities.
- Add distinct aromatic plants at each entrance to provide wayfinding cue for people who are blind or with vision disabilities.
- Ensure the main primary entrance of the building is accessible if multiple building entrances are provided.
- Ensure address of site and signage are clearly visible when approaching the building.



## *Approach to entrance*

- Ensure there is a level landing at the entrance to provide a safe space to wait, enter and exit the building.
- Provide adequate clear space on both sides of doors.
- If building entrance is secured and two-way communication is required to be granted access, ensure assistive listening and communication enhancement technologies and text to text communication is available for people with hearing disabilities to communicate with staff.
- Mount entrance operating mechanisms (e.g. intercom, power operated door control, and card reader) no higher than 1100 mm above the finished floor level and with suitable clear space in front of them.
- Where manually-activated controls are provided for power-operated doors, ensure they are installed away from the door swing.
- When in an open position, doors should not project into any adjacent path of travel. If doors swing out into a path of travel, install a cane detectable guardrail and add door swing path marking to show people how far out the door will open. 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 people have a comfortable place to wait.
- Well-illuminated entrance to be used safely after dark.
- Ensure lighting in entrance lobbies eases the transition between the exterior and interior environment to enable people's eyes to adjust.

## *Entrance Door*

- Ensure the clear opening door width is not less than 850 mm for existing buildings or 1000 mm for new buildings.
- Wherever possible, the threshold should be flush with the external ground surface and internal floor finish.
- 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.
- Power-operated doors take at least three seconds to fully open from a closed position and remain open for at least five seconds to allow safe entry and exit. Doors should revert to manual control or failsafe in the open position in the event of a power failure.
- Where power-operated doors with manually-activated controls are provided, ensure controls can be operated at multiple heights (e.g., one elongated control or two controls at different height).
- Incorporate visually contrasting markings at two levels on all glazed doors and screens.
- Incorporate vision panels into all entrance and entrance lobby doors.