



ADA Requirements & Considerations: Dining and Work Surface Requirements

Introduction

Each facility or part of a facility constructed by, or on behalf of, or for the use of a public entity shall be designed and constructed in such a manner that the facility or part of the facility is readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities. Physical construction or alterations commencing on or after March 15, 2012 shall comply with the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design (ADAS). The 2010 ADAS apply to fixed or built-in elements of buildings, including dining and work surfaces.

The purpose of this document is to review the ADAS requirements for dining and work surface and relevant elements and highlight the Office of Accessibility's recommendations for construction and alterations involving dining and work surface.

Construction Tolerances

The 2010 ADAS provides scoping and technical requirements for accessibility to dining and work surface elements by individuals with disabilities. These requirements are applied during the design, construction, additions to, and alteration of dining/work surface elements. Dimensions not stated as "maximum" or "minimum" are absolute. All dimensions are subject to conventional industry tolerances except where the requirement is stated as a range with specific minimum and maximum endpoints.

The Department of Justice (DOJ) offers advisory guidance on tolerances including:

- Conventional industry tolerances include those for field conditions.
- Recognized tolerances **do not** apply to design work.
- Avoid specifying a tolerance where dimensions are absolute.
- When a requirement states a specific range, that range provides for adequate tolerance and **no tolerance outside of the range at either end point is permitted.**
- Where a requirement is a minimum or maximum dimension without specific min/max end points, tolerances may apply. It is best practice to specify a dimension less than the required maximum (or more than the required minimum) by the amount of the appropriate construction tolerance.

The following guidance will help ensure City facilities and building elements accomplish the level of accessibility intended by the ADAS. These parameters for dining and work surface elements will also promote ADAS compliance and minimize enforcement issues. Please note - the Office of Accessibility will only accept design and construction meeting this guidance.

Dining Surface & Work Surfaces

Element	2010 ADA Standard	Compliance Guidance
Number Needed (226.1)	Where <u>dining surfaces</u> are provided for the consumption of food or drink, at least 5% of the seating spaces and standing spaces at the dining surfaces shall comply with 902. In addition where <u>work surfaces</u> are provided for use by other than employees, at least 5% shall comply with 902.	At least 1 or 5% of non-employee work or dining surfaces must be accessible.
Dispersion (226.2)	Dining surfaces and work surfaces required to comply with 902 shall be dispersed through the space or facility containing dining surfaces and work surfaces.	Accessible dining and work surfaces shall be dispersed – allowing for equal dining and work experiences/amenities.
General (902.1)	Dining surfaces and work surfaces shall comply with 902.2 and 902.3	Accessible surface must meet the below elements.
Approach	Dining and work surfaces required to comply with 902 shall be located adjacent to a walking surface complying with 403.	Provide an accessible route leading to the dining and work surface that is at least 36” wide, is level (under 2% grade or less than ¼” vertical raise or ½” beveled) and is firm, stable, and slip resistant.
Clear Floor or Ground Space (902.2)	A clear floor space complying with 305 positioned for a forward approach shall be provided. Knee and toe space complying with 306 shall be provided under the counter.	Provide a 48”x30” clear area, that is level (under 2% grade), firm, stable, and slip resistant for each accessible dining or work surface. Further, provide minimum 27” knee under clearance.
Surface Height (902.3)	The tops of dining surfaces and work surfaces shall be 28” minimum and 34” maximum above the finish floor or ground.	Accessible dining and work surfaces must be between 28-34” in height. Make to 29-33” to account for coasters, errors or future modifications.

Food Service Lines

Element	2010 ADA Standard	Compliance Guidance
Number Needed (227.4)	Food Service Lines shall comply with 904.5. Where self-service shelves are provided, at least 50%, but no fewer than one, of each type provided shall comply with 308.	1 or at least 1/2 of all condiment and self-service food and coffee areas must be accessible.
Self Service Shelves and Dispensing Devices (904.5.1)	Self Service shelves and dispensing devices for tableware, dishware, condiments, food and beverages shall comply with 308	Items must be within reach range. Place items so no operable feature is higher than 47" for front or side approach. If side reach with obstruction of 10"-24", then operable feature should be 45" high or less. If front reach with obstruction of 20"-25" then operable feature should be 43" high or less.
General Approach to Shelves and Dispensing Devices	All portions of shelves and dispensing devices required to comply with 904.5 shall be located adjacent to a walking surface complying with 403.	Provide an accessible route leading to the shelves and dispensers that is at least 36" wide, is level (under 2% grade or less than ¼" vertical raise or ½" beveled) and is firm, stable, and slip resistant.
Shelves and Dispensing Devices Approach	<u>Parallel</u> = A clear floor or ground <i>space</i> complying with 305 shall be positioned for a parallel approach adjacent to the 36" minimum length of counter. <u>Forward</u> = A clear floor or ground <i>space</i> complying with 305 shall be positioned for a forward approach to the counter.	Provide a 48"x30" clear area, that's level (under 2% grade), firm, stable, and slip resistant for each shelf and dispenser area.
Tray Slides (904.5.2)	The tops of tray slides shall be 28" minimum and 34" maximum above the finish floor or ground.	Aim for tray slides to be between 29-33" high to account for errors and future alterations.
General Approach to Tray Slides	All portions of shelves and dispensing devices required to comply with 904.5 shall be located adjacent to a walking surface complying with 403.	Provide an accessible route leading to the tray slide area that is at least 36" wide, is level (under 2% grade or less than ¼" vertical raise or ½" beveled) and is firm, stable, and slip resistant.
Shelves and Dispensing Devices Approach	<u>Parallel</u> = A clear floor or ground <i>space</i> complying with 305 shall be positioned for a parallel approach adjacent to the 36" minimum length of counter.	Provide a 48"x30" clear area, that is level (under 2% grade), firm, stable, and slip resistant adjacent to each tray slide.