**Outcome 2: Buildings and facilities**   
Accessible and inclusive buildings, facilities, places and spaces bring diverse groups of people together benefiting the entire community.

**Disability Access and Inclusion Plan Outcome 2**

* People with disability have the same opportunities as other people to access public authority buildings and other facilities of a public authority.

### Buildings and facilities

Buildings and facilities cover community infrastructure and public places, such as buildings, parks, beaches, roads, cycleways, Changing Places, pathways and signage. Initiatives that facilitate equitable access to buildings and facilities include those that:

* Increase capacity to implement accessibility features and requirements, such as stakeholder engagement in early design and review processes, experiential audits, and resources for business and commercial property owners.
* Enhance accessibility of community infrastructure and public places, such as applying universal design principles to developments, accessibility initiatives at parks, playgrounds and beaches, incorporation of accessible amenities at public places, such as toilets, BBQs and picnic tables.

### Best practice

Applying universal design is a guide to best practice when developing and delivering accessible and inclusive initiatives, including buildings and facilities. The eight goals of universal design ensure your design process is user-centred, and the outcome accessible and inclusive for everyone. [Universal design](#_Useful_resources:) goes beyond minimum compliance and reduces the likelihood of costly retrofitting or specialised additions.

### Legislation and Standards

**Disability Discrimination Act 1992**

Commonwealth and State regulation relating to building and facility accessibility generally refers to the built environment. However, the Commonwealth [*Disability Discrimination Act 1992*](https://www.legislation.gov.au/C2004A04426/latest/text)(DDA)requires public places to, as far as reasonably practicable, be accessible to people with disability, including beaches and parks. Best practice access and inclusion planning should apply to both the built and natural environment.

**National Construction Code**

The [National Construction Code](https://ncc.abcb.gov.au/) (NCC) provides the overarching design and construction requirements for Australian buildings, in areas such as structure, fire resistance, access and egress, and energy efficiency. The [Disability (Access to Premises – buildings) Standards 2010](https://www.legislation.gov.au/F2010L00668/latest/text) (Premises Standards) are incorporated into the NCC ensuring a minimum level of accessibility in buildings.

**Disability (Access to Premises – buildings) Standards 2010**

The Premises Standards is legislated under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and apply to new public buildings and new work on existing public buildings from May 2011 onwards. Public buildings, to which the Premises Standards apply, include office buildings, car parks, cinemas, community centres, recreation centres and schools. The Premises Standards extend on the NCC to the finer design and technical details, such as fittings and fixtures. Although public buildings built prior to May 2011 have no obligation to comply with the Premises Standards, the DDA still applies.

**Australian Standards**

[Australian Standards](https://www.standards.org.au/search-for-a-standard) set out specifications, procedures, and guidelines on a range of topics, including construction, and cover safety, reliability and performance. Both the NCC and Premises Standards incorporate Australian Standards, for example, [Australian Standard AS1428:1 Design for Access and Mobility](https://hia.com.au/resources-and-advice/building-it-right/australian-standards/articles/design-for-access-and-mobility-general-requirements-for-access#:~:text=AS%201428.1%3A2021%20provides%20the%20minimum%20design%20requirements%20for,for%20people%20with%20disabilities%20in%20Class%202-9%20buildings.).

### Useful resources:

**Universal Design**

The Centre of Universal Design Australia has resources and offers a free online course.

[Centre for Universal Design Australia](https://universaldesignaustralia.net.au/)

[The Benefit of Designing for Everyone](https://centreforinclusivedesign.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/inclusive-design-infographic-report-digital-160519.pdf)

[Introduction to Universal Design](https://universaldesignaustralia.net.au/free-online-courses/)

**Access to Premises Standards**

Australian Human rights Commission has produced resources on the Premises Standards:

[Guidelines on application of the Premises Standards](https://humanrights.gov.au/our-work/disability-rights/guidelines-application-premises-standards)

[Frequently asked questions: Access to premises](https://humanrights.gov.au/our-work/disability-rights/frequently-asked-questions-access-premises)