

6	IEQ	6.8 BUILDING AMENITIES
		IEQ 22 ACCESS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITY
EXCLUSIONS		None.
OBJECTIVE		Ensure full access to pertinent building facilities for persons with disability.
CREDITS ATTAINABLE		1
PREREQUISITES		Full compliance with Building (Planning) Regulation (CAP 123F) Regulation 72 'Buildings to be planned for use by persons with a disability' and Schedule 3 'Persons With A Disability', and the obligatory design requirements set out in the Code of Practice for Barrier Free Access (BFA).
CREDIT REQUIREMENT		1 credit for providing at least 3 enhanced provisions
ASSESSMENT		The Client shall provide evidence of the investigation in form of a report prepared by a suitably qualified person demonstrating provision of at least 3 enhanced provisions as stipulated in the "Recommended Design Requirements" of BFA 2008. 1
BACKGROUND		<p>In order to enhance social integration disabled persons should have the same rights as any other individuals. Under the Disability Discrimination Ordinance, discrimination against persons with a disability by failing to provide means of access to any premises that the public is entitled to enter or use, or by refusing to provide appropriate facilities is prohibited, unless the premises are designed to be inaccessible to persons with a disability. The legal requirements for the provision of facilities for the disabled are prescribed in the Building (Planning) Regulations (CAP 123F) Regulation 72 'Buildings to be planned for use by persons with a disability' and Schedule 3 'Persons With A Disability'.</p> <p>Full access for disabled persons means more than just being able to enter and leave a building, or use the toilets. It enables persons with a disability to make full use of the basic facilities in a building without assistance and undue difficulties. The Code of Practice for Barrier Free Access [1] sets out design requirements to cater for the special needs of persons with locomotory disabilities, visual impairment and hearing impairment.</p> <p>Facilities that cater for the special needs of the physically impaired should be provided, which include but are not limited to shaded areas for walking and sitting; access to public toilets; adequate lighting; emergency phones; visual-free walking areas; ramps with handrails; and car or bus dropping-off points near to venues.</p> <p>As the advice provided cannot be exhaustive, developers and designers should exercise forethought and creativity to cater for the well-being of disabled persons when designing buildings, and allowing greater independence of disabled persons, the elderly, and other less physically able persons using the facilities.</p>

1 Code of Practice for Barrier Free Access. http://www.info.gov.hk/bd/english/documents/code/e_bfa.htm