



ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES FOR CLASSROOMS 2012

<http://www.osm.utoronto.ca/standards/>

BUILDING CODE

Architect is responsible for ensuring compliance with Ontario Building code. Some guidelines here may show recommendations below OBC requirements; this would apply for retro-fits (seating replacements) where OBC standards cannot be met and are not required by law (the OBC standards will apply for a full room reno but are not required for a seating replacement, where building changes are not in-scope).

SCOPE

These guidelines are produced by OSM at the St. George campus; different campuses or departments may have differing requirements for furniture, location etc. of accessible stations.

RETROFITS

Existing rooms may not have the physical capacity to meet all 'new build' requirements. Apply standards as best possible while following all Ontario Building Code requirements.

NUMBER

As per Ontario Building code minimums

Room capacity	UofT requirement
25	2
50	2
51-100	2
101-200	3
201-300	4
301-400	5
401-600	6
>600	minimum 1% of capacity

AREA

Allocated space per station

3' x 5' or 920mm x 1525mm

- Station area *cannot obstruct aisle* (drawn box cannot overlap aisle)
- Station area can include loose table/writing surface
- Box of this size must be indicated on architectural plans for each accessible station



AV CONTROL

Wheelchair turnaround area of 1500mm / 5' diameter circle is required in area where the instructor operates any fixed A/V control station (ex. between fixed podium and the screen wall)

LOCATION

Rooms with loose chairs and tables:
Closest to entrance; near front of room if possible

Rooms with fixed tables and/or fixed seating:
Closest to entrance; near front of room if possible
Typically the front row of fixed elements will be 'short' by 3' for each accessible station. This provides a clear and easily accessible open space for wheelchair s and scooters and provides a clear area for loose height-adjustable table(s).

In larger rooms ideally there are accessible designated areas at the front and rear of the hall.

Typical layout for a 100 person room (assume tiered room, entrance at front) would be 2 accessible stations side-by-side, on the side closest to main entrance. AV control station would be on other side of room front. For fixed tables, the tables would stop 6' short in the front row to allow parking of scooters or placement of loose accessible furniture. Power on tier at accessible station locations.

POWER

Power outlets in vicinity of accessible stations are required in new builds and recommended in all other circumstances. These can be used for power height-adjustable tables and for any assistive devices.

FURNITURE

Rooms with loose chairs and tables:
minimum: open area or loose table with loose seating
preferred: height-adjustable table, loose adjustable seating, power in vicinity

Rooms with fixed tables and loose seating:
minimum: open area. Option of fixed table if enough room for accessible space behind
preferred: loose height-adjustable table, loose adjustable seating, power in vicinity

Rooms with fixed seating and fixed tables or tablet arms
minimum: open area. Option of fixed table with loose seating if enough room (as above)
preferred: height-adjustable table (loose), loose adjustable seating, power in vicinity



HEIGHT-ADJUSTABLE TABLES

Good power height adjustable tables are made by Steelcase and Kl.

For non-powered height adjustable see the Steelcase Airtouch or Humanscale Float (no crank-arm, light touch adjust via spring-loaded counter-weight).

Size can be 3' wide x 22" deep (base on Airtouch is 24 deep x 32.5 wide)

Do not use custom-designed height-adjust mechanisms (typically have performance issues).

ADJUSTABLE LOOSE SEATING FOR PERSONS WITH PHYSICAL IMPAIRMENTS

Via testing and consultation with Accessibility services, the Steelcase Leap seat was selected as the ergonomic seat with the best combination of adjustability and support.

This is an upgrade (not standard equipment); on St. George campus it is supplied for spot requirements by accessibility services.

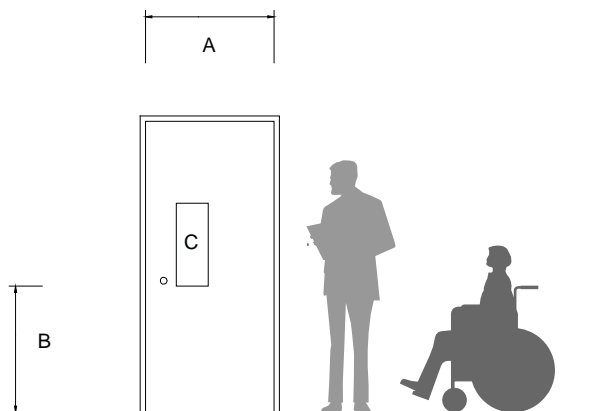
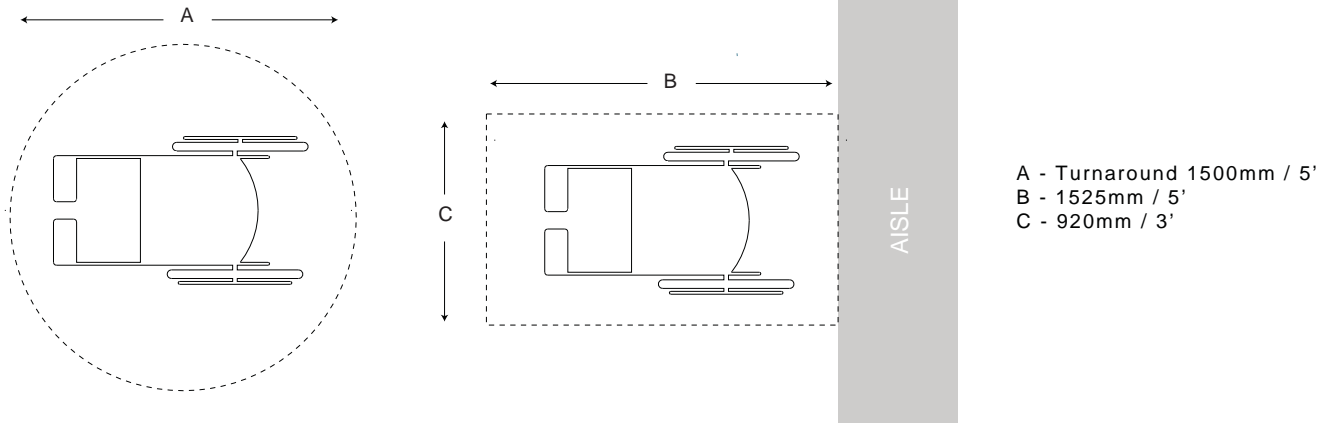
ENTRANCES

All entrances min 915mm / 36" clear opening width

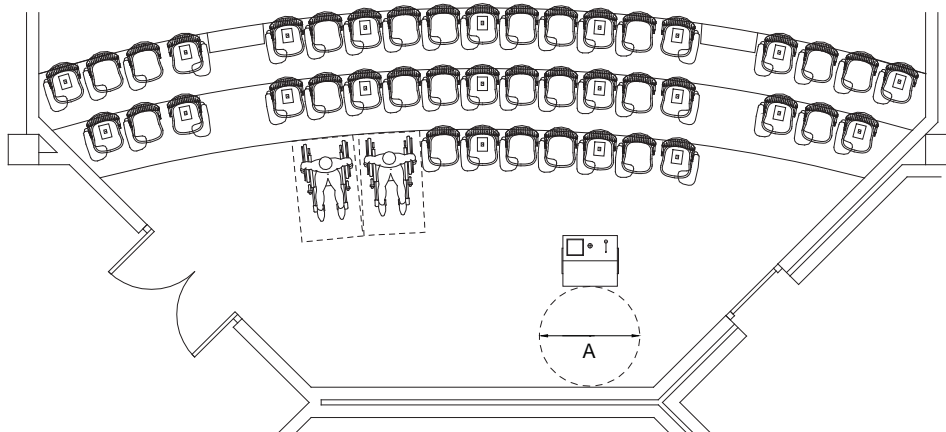
All entrances to have vision panel to see in/out of classroom, starting no more than 900mm / 35.5" from floor

Power doors are not required

Recommend minimum 1 power door for all classroom capacity 60 and above.



- A 915mm / 36" min width opening
- B 900mm / 35.5" max dist vision panel to floor
- C Vision panel (non opaque) either on wall or door to allow accessible view in and out of room. Prefer slot running from full height (+- 6') to 35.5" from floor



Sample introduction of accessible stations in existing hall

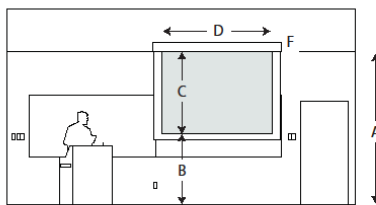
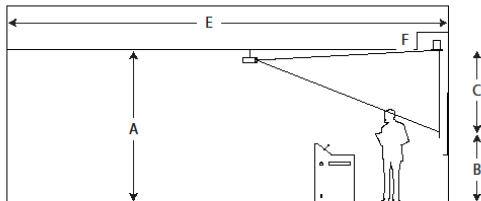
Wheelchair turnaround (A - 1500mm) at the control area of any fixed A/V control station



DESIGN CRITERIA FOR CLASSROOMS

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

2012



- A Clear ceiling height - in this example 9'9"
- B Image to floor - always min. 4'6"
- C Image height, here 5'3"
- D Image width, here 7' (can be read from 7x4'-28')
- E Room depth, here 28'
- F Screen housing is inset in cove/ceiling to raise image