

## DOJ's 2010 ADA Standards Become Mandatory March 15

On March 15, the Department of Justice's updated ADA Standards (2010) will become mandatory for new construction and alterations covered by the ADA. On the date, optional use of the original 1991 ADA standards will no longer be allowed. DOJ adopted the updated standards in September 2010, but permitted continued use of the 1991 standards for 18 months to allow time for transitioning to the 2010 edition.



Under DOJ's ADA regulations, the March 15 effective date applies to the date of the permit application or, where no permit is required, to the physical start of construction or alteration. For public accommodations and commercial facilities covered by title III of the ADA, compliance with the 2010 standards is required where:

- the date the last application for a building permit or permit extension is certified to be complete by a State, county, or local government is on or after March 15, 2012;
- the date the last application for a building permit or permit extension is received by a State, county, or local government (where the government does not certify the completion of applications) is on or after March 15, 2012; or
- the start of physical construction or alteration (if no permit is required) is on or after March 15, 2012.

For state and local government facilities covered by title II, compliance with the 2010 standards is required where the physical start of construction or alteration occurs on or after March 15, 2012. However, public transportation facilities, including bus stops and rail stations, are subject to ADA standards issued by the Department of Transportation (DOT), not DOJ. DOT's updated ADA standards (2006), which are very similar to DOJ's 2010 edition, are already mandatory for public transportation facilities.

Copies of the 2010 standards and related information are available on DOJ's website at [www.ada.gov](http://www.ada.gov).