



## SWA ENTERS EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIP WITH AIA|DC

Steven Winter Associates, Inc. (SWA) has entered into an innovative educational partnership with the American Institute of Architects in Washington, DC (AIA|DC), the sixth largest AIA chapter in the country. As accessibility continues to be an emerging area of interest among architects, AIA|DC has invited SWA's Accessibility Compliance and Consulting Group to serve as a lead educator to its members on issues pertaining to accessible design and construction.

SWA joined AIA|DC earlier this year as a Corporate Affiliate Member, with the goal of reaching out to the chapter's 2,000 members to promote accessible design throughout the DC Metro area. The need for accessibility expertise became overwhelmingly apparent after SWA's first AIA-hosted training, *Fair Housing – Are You Covered?*, generated interest from nearly 100 attendees.

AIA|DC and SWA are currently collaborating to launch a four-part educational series entirely focused on accessible design. Training topics will include best practices for designing accessible hotels and restaurants, accessibility requirements of the Fair Housing Act, and scoping and technical requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

Each topic area will consist of two sessions: a one-hour introductory course, and a two-hour advanced course, which will provide participants with an in-depth understanding of the subject matter. All member attendees will receive up to 2 AIA LU/HSW credits per session.

For more information on the training series, or to register, visit [aiadc.com](http://aiadc.com). Please contact Victoria Lanteigne at [vlanteigne@swinter.com](mailto:vlanteigne@swinter.com) with any additional questions.

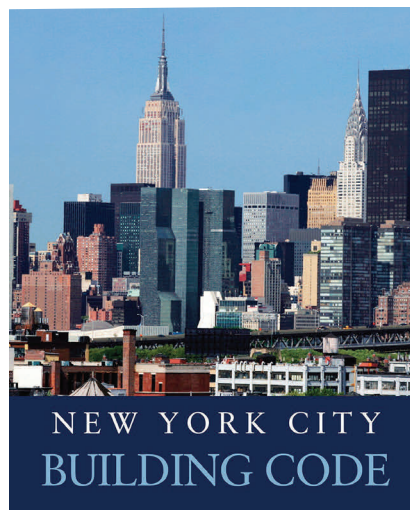


## NEW YORK CITY ADOPTS 2014 BUILDING CODE

On December 30, 2013, former Mayor Michael Bloomberg enacted Local Law 141, formally adopting the 2014 New York City (NYC) Building Code. The 2014 NYC Building Code will go into effect on October 1, 2014, and will be applicable immediately to both new construction and alteration projects. Projects submitted for construction permit approval before September 30, 2014, are subject to the 2008 NYC Building Code. All projects submitted for construction permit approval on or after October 1, 2014 will be subject to the 2014 NYC Building Code.

The 2014 NYC Building Code: Chapter 11 includes additions or modifications (to the 2008 NYC code) that now align with the design and construction requirements of the Fair Housing Act (FHA). For example, the 18-inch grab bar reinforcing requirement in the wall adjacent to Appendix P toilets has been changed to 24 inches of grab bar reinforcing, which aligns with the FHA. Similarly, scoping criteria in the 2008 NYC Building Code requires at least one of each fixture in an Appendix P bathroom to be accessible; that provision has been changed to require all fixtures in an Appendix P bathroom to be accessible, which is aligned with the requirements in the FHA Specification A bathroom equivalent. The 2014 NYC Building Code also introduces an entirely new dwelling unit type called the "NYC Type B" dwelling unit.

SWA was a member of the NYC Department of Buildings Code Revision Accessibility Technical Committee, providing guidance and technical input during the code revision process. For questions regarding the 2014 NYC Building Code, please contact Harold Bravo, Senior Accessibility Consultant at [hbravo@swinter.com](mailto:hbravo@swinter.com).



### EVENTS

#### ACCESSIBLE HOTELS AND OTHER PLACES OF LODGING

- Thursday, July 17  
6:30pm-7:30pm  
HOTELS AND THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT
- Monday, July 28  
6:30pm-8:30pm  
FROM PLANS TO PRACTICE: BEST PRACTICES IN ACCESSIBLE HOTEL DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

Click [here](#) for more information, or to register.

#### RESIDENTIAL UNIVERSAL DESIGN AND AGING IN PLACE

- Wednesday, July 23  
9:00am-5:00pm  
Summer Program at Harvard University Graduate School of Design Executive Education

Click [here](#) for more information, or to register.

## ACCESSIBLE RESTAURANTS – OPEN TO ALL!

According to a national study conducted by Open Doors, 75 percent of people with disabilities are reported to dine out at least once a week, spending over \$35 billion in restaurants a year. Restaurant owners and managers are taking notice of this market trend and are placing accessibility at the top of their agendas.

To address growing demand, Steven Winter Associates, Inc. (SWA) recently joined the Restaurant Association of Metropolitan Washington (RAMW) as an Allied Member. As part of its membership, SWA will offer training sessions and other accessibility consulting services to RAMW members, reaching nearly every major restaurant and foodservice partner throughout the DC Metro area.



SWA's Accessibility Compliance and Consulting Group has worked with the restaurant industry to address the barrier removal requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which requires public accommodations, including restaurants, to remove existing architectural barriers in certain instances, such as steps leading to entrances, inaccessible restrooms, and private dining areas located on an inaccessible route. Through RAMW membership, the Accessibility Group hopes to proactively help prevent non compliance in newly constructed restaurants, and to provide step-by-step guidance to clients on removing barriers to accessibility in existing restaurant facilities.

SWA's collaboration with RAMW is timely, as the Association is championing campaigns designed to raise awareness of accessibility regulations throughout the District. One example is a campaign led by the DC Office of Human Rights to engage DC restaurants to complete a short self-assessment survey, and ultimately take a pledge to become "accessibility friendly." Restaurants that choose to participate will receive a window decal identifying the business as a welcoming place for people with disabilities.

"We're thrilled that SWA has recently joined RAMW as an Allied Member at a time when accessibility is becoming a high priority for our members," said RAMW Managing Director Julie Sproesser. "Our members are always looking for ways to enhance their business practices to make their establishments welcoming to everyone."

For more information on SWA's work with the restaurant industry, please contact Mark Jackson, Senior Accessibility Consultant and Manager of Commercial Building Services at [mjackson@swinter.com](mailto:mjackson@swinter.com).

### TECH NOTES

The criteria in Section 804.5 of ANSI A117.1 2003 and the 2010 ADA Standards require 50% of kitchen storage to be within accessible reach range. Drawers, open shelves, and pantry closet shelves may be used to meet the requirement for accessible storage space.

Here's how we do it:

Step 1: Determine the width of each shelf in all wall and base cabinets; total the width of all shelves (be sure to include the width of all shelves in other types of storage cabinets in the kitchen, such as a pantry).

Step 2: Determine the width of each drawer in all drawer bases; total the width of all drawers.

Step 3: Add the sums of Step 1 and Step 2; then divide that number in half (50%). The result is the amount of cabinet shelf and/or drawer space that must be within accessible reach range.



Accessible Wall Cabinets must be located no higher than 46 inches AFF, measured to the top surface of the lowest shelf.

## Q&A CORNER

Tweet us your questions @\_SWinter #SWAAccess

**Q:** Is it true that HUD now accepts the 2010 ADA Standards (2010 Standards) as an alternative to the Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS) for compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504)?

**A:** Yes. HUD issued a Notice, effective May 23, 2014, that permits recipients of Federal funding to use the 2010 Standards as an alternative to UFAS on projects subject to Section 504. However, HUD has deemed certain provisions of the 2010 Standards to provide less accessibility than is currently required by UFAS. So, be sure to learn about [the exceptions](#) if you choose to apply the 2010 Standards to your next project. HUD's Notice remains in effect until the agency formally adopts an updated accessibility standard for compliance with Section 504.