



ADA+ Assessments from MaxHousing (formerly Maximum Accessible Housing of Ohio)

ADA+ Assessments are an activity of MAHO's Anderson Center for Accessible Living program. These assessments are beneficial for businesses, community spaces, and cultural institutions looking to increase their customer base, provide more inclusive services and spaces, and avoid potential non-compliance claims under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). In addition to ADA compliance, the assessments address the experience and overall inclusion of people with disabilities and seniors.

The assessment process includes:

- Research on the property history, with focus on the area(s) identified for the assessment
- Site visit(s) to identify barriers, which includes taking measurements and taking photographs and video of the site
- A detailed report with recommendations, which includes a review meeting with the property owner and/or staff representatives to discuss the report and recommendations
- Additional consultation access with Anderson Center program staff for any renovations, or modifications that are planned or completed as a direct result of the assessment

We work with the organization to identify renovation priorities, affordable solutions, and temporary fixes to issues. The ADA+ Assessments are meant to function as an aid to entities who wish to make their space compliant with the law and/or inclusive of all their community members. ADA+ Assessments are often treated as the first step in what is called "readily achievable barrier removal." This is the process required by the ADA of identifying physical barriers that are not within compliance and removing them each time the physical space is altered during a renovation. Organizations often find that knowing about compliance issues is the first step to fixing them. If a third party were to make a complaint that could escalate legally, the organization would have evidence that the issue is already known and being addressed and that there is no need for the complaint to escalate. (This statement is not legal advice.)

Each assessment is unique: the variables include the age of the property and the scope of the assessment; an assessment may consist of just one area of the property or its entirety, depending upon the organization's need. An assessment consists of eight to 20 hours of work conducted by the Anderson Center team. Cost typically ranges from \$800 to \$2000 per assessment. All of our ADA+ Assessments are kept confidential between MAHO and the organization. The team is headed by Anderson Center Director Beth Glas and Outreach Coordinator Mara Layne. Together, this team has nearly 20 years of experience in creating accessible spaces and inclusive communities. Layne is a certified ADA Coordinator. References are available upon request.

To book an ADA+ Assessment, contact Beth Glas, Director of the Anderson Center, at 216-231-7221 or bglas@maxhousing.org.