

Administration on Developmental Disabilities 2011 Technical Assistance Institute

Accessibility Guide

To help facilitate a more accommodating Technical Assistance Institute (TAI) This guide has been prepared to help you with your needs while traveling.



Travel Tips:

- ✓ Keep in mind if a power wheelchair is taken to the airport they have to take it apart to stow it. Many chairs never work the same after being taken apart by well meaning airport personnel. The team suggests when traveling use a manual wheelchair.
- ✓ Although every corner does have a curb cut, at night be careful because they are not all lit and can be hard to see.
- ✓ Don't hesitate to contact the concierge if you need anything moved in your room or need assistance of any kind.
- ✓ Bottled water is available in each guest room for \$4 and \$6 each. You may want to visit Union Station or a corner store to stock up on less expensive items.
- ✓ The entrance into the hotel features a large revolving door and a standard door. There is a doorman present to assist with entrance. Please don't hesitate to ask the hotel staff to assist with doors.

Transportation

From Reagan National Airport (DCA) to the hotel in Washington, DC there are a number of options for wheelchair transportation.

Airport Shuttle: SuperShuttle is a door-to-door service that operates on a shared ride-on demand basis. For information or to book online call 1-800-BLUEVAN or go to www.supershuttle.com. Upon arrival proceed to the information desk by the bag claim area and speak with a SuperShuttle representative. After hours, call 1-800-258-3826 and press 1 for dispatch or 2 for reservations.

Super Shuttle also provides accessible transportation to/from area airports. The website is: www.supershuttle.com; phone number – 202-258-3826.

Accessible Taxi Service:

Red Top Wheelchair Accessible Van Service -- vans are equipped with ramps and tie downs for motorized wheelchairs and our Accessible Van drivers are all specially trained. Reservations are available over the phone (703) 522-3333 or via the online reservation system at www.redtopcab.com.

Yellow Cab Company of D.C., Inc. - <http://www.dcyellowcab.com/wheelchaircabs/>. The link also provides additional information about other companies to contact for transportation to/from area airports.

Note: A taxi ride from Regan National is about \$13.00 without tip (price checked 7/6/2011).

Metrorail: For customers with disabilities, Metrorail offers an ideal way to travel throughout the Washington, DC area. Metrorail stations are easily identifiable from street level - simply look for the familiar pylons with station names, rail line colors, elevator locations, and accessible entrances indicated by the International Symbol of Accessibility (ISA). Emergency intercoms are located on every platform, on elevator call buttons and in mini-mezzanines; station managers may not be visible, but have camera view of the area. Station managers and rail station employees have received ADA Customer Service Training and are ready to assist people with disabilities and senior citizens. For more information or to make a travel plan go to www.wmata.com.

From National Airport take the yellow line (Fort Totten) to Gallery Place/China Town. From Gallery Place/China Town, transfer to the red line (Silver Spring) and take the Union Station exit.

From the Union Station Metro Stop to The Liaison Capitol Hill--exit station using MASSACHUSETTS AVE NE & 1ST ST NE exit, Head south on 1st St NE toward Massachusetts Ave NE; Stay right to continue walking onto E St NE; Turn left at New Jersey Ave, NW; Destination will be on the left--415 New Jersey Ave NW, Washington, DC 20001

Parking: Parking at the hotel is valet only and taken care of right at the front door.

Food, Fun and Necessities

Within a short distance of the hotel there are several restaurant choices. There will be a complete restaurant list, with directions, included in the TAI check in information packet.

Union Station is located approximately two blocks from the hotel. Union Station features a large food court, several restaurants, and various retail stores. For more information, go to <http://www.unionstationdc.com/>.

If needed, Alliance Convalescent & Surgical Supply, Inc, at 202-526-2066 and B.W. Surgical Supply, Inc., at 301-946-1888 are durable medical equipment supply stores. Both deliver and pickup from area hotels.

Emergency Evacuation Procedures

The hotel does have an evacuation plan in place. The front desk consistently keeps a list of guests in accessible rooms. In case of an emergency, this list is immediately handed to the firefighters upon arrival and they report first to these rooms to check.

Other tips from emergency personnel:

Stairway evacuation: Firefighters will call down the elevators and keep them on the main floor as soon as they arrive on scene. Be familiar with the hotel exits and where the stairwell door on the floor is located. Because of the hotel's smoke handling system, which is designed to pull smoke out of the stairwell, it is actually the safest place to be in an emergency. If the stairwell can be reached, stop and wait on the landing for emergency personnel. Firefighters will be using the stairs too so they will run right into a person using a wheelchair or needing help down the stairs. They have the resources and personnel to evacuate someone safely and quickly. It is advised that evacuation of wheelchair users should be conducted by trained professionals (i.e. the fire department or other trained emergency responders). Only in situations of extreme danger should untrained people attempt to evacuate wheelchair users. Moving a wheelchair down the stairs is never safe.

Stay in Place: All the hotel room doors are fire resistant and phone lines are expected to remain in service during most building emergencies. With this approach, the guest may keep in contact with the front desk or emergency services by dialing 911 and reporting his or her location directly. If the phone lines fail, the individual can signal from the window by waving a cloth or other visible object. Remember, the front desk keeps a list of guests who use accessible rooms. The list is immediately handed over to the firefighters when they arrive and they respond to these rooms first.