

# accessible SWIMMING POOLS

**1 What is ADA?**  
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a wide-ranging civil rights law that prohibits discrimination based on disability. Enforcement of ADA laws are carried out by the Department of Justice (DOJ).

**2 Which parts of ADA are relevant for swimming pools?**  
**Title II (Public Industry)**  
Title II prohibits disability discrimination by all public entities at the local and state levels. Examples of Title II entities would be: School Districts, Municipalities, Cities, and Counties.

**Title III (Private Industry)**  
Title III prohibits disability discrimination by any place of public accommodation (commercial facilities). Examples of Title III entities would be: Lodging, Recreations, Education, Transportation, Etc.

**3 What are the swimming pool specific requirements?**  
Both Title II and III entities are required to provide "accessible means of entry for pools". Larger pools (>300 linear feet) require at least two means of access and smaller pools (<300 linear feet) require at least one means of access.

**4 Are there service requirements for ADA equipment?**  
Yes, there is a "Maintenance of Accessible Features" provision which states that "a public accommodation shall maintain in operable working condition those features of facilities and equipment that are required to be readily accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities."

**5 What are the permitted means of access?**  
Pool lifts and sloped entries (ramps) are the required primary means of access for swimming pools. Additional means of access are recognized (i.e. Transfer Walls, Transfer Systems, Stairs) but only as secondary measures. Pool lifts and sloped entries may also be used to meet secondary means of access requirements.

**6 What are my S.R. Smith ADA compliant pool lift options?**



PAL (Portable)



Splash! (Removable)



aXs (Removable)

Find out which lift is best for you—Visit: [www.poolliftbuilder.com](http://www.poolliftbuilder.com)

**7 Are there other accessible elements that I should consider for my pool?**



**MAC**  
MAC's (Mobile Aquatic Chairs) are essential for sloped entry use and can also serve as a interfacility user transportation device.



**RAILS**  
Hand rails are required for sloped entries and also serve as a steadying influence around pool steps.

PERMITTED MEANS OF ACCESS					
MEANS OF ACCESS	Pool Lift	Sloped Entry	Transfer Wall	Transfer System	Stairs
APPLICATION TYPE	Primary (Secondary)		Secondary		
Swimming Pool <300 Linear Feet (1 means of access required)	■	■			
Swimming Pool >300 Linear Feet (2 means of access required —1 must be a primary means)	■	■	■	■	■
Wave action, lazy river, and other pools where user entry is limited to one area	■	■		■	
Wading Pools		■			
Spas	■		■	■	

**8 Where can I learn more about swimming pool accessibility?**  
Visit [www.poollifts.com](http://www.poollifts.com) and register for accessibility updates or visit [www.ADA.gov](http://www.ADA.gov)

**9 I'm interested in talking to a pool lift expert.**  
Call 1-877-325-0768 or email us at: [access@srsmith.com](mailto:access@srsmith.com) and we will contact you.