
**REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCESSIBLE
PARKING SPACES EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008**

IR 11B-7

References: 2007 California Building Code, Sections 1129B.3 & 1129B.4
Figure 11B-18A, 11B-18B & 11B-18C.

Issued 07-15-08

Discipline: Access Compliance

This Interpretation of Regulations (IR) is intended for use by the Division of the State Architect (DSA) staff, and as a resource for design professionals, to promote more uniform statewide criteria for plan review and construction inspection of projects within the jurisdiction of DSA, which include State of California public elementary and secondary schools (grades K-12), community colleges, and state-owned or state-leased essential services buildings. This IR indicates an acceptable method for achieving compliance with applicable codes and regulations, although other methods proposed by design professionals may be considered by DSA.

This IR is reviewed on a regular basis and is subject to revision at any time. Please check the DSA web site for currently effective IR's. Only IR's listed in the document at <http://www.dsa.dgs.ca.gov/Pubs/default.htm> (click on "DSA Interpretation of Regulations Manual") at the time of plan submittal to DSA are considered applicable.

Purpose: The purpose of this Interpretation of Regulations (IR) is to clarify new requirements for accessible parking.

Background: On October 10, 2007 the Governor of California approved Assembly Bill (AB) 1531 (2007). AB 1531 does the following:

- Amends the requirements for signage and striping at accessible parking spaces,
- Directs that the initial regulations to implement these provisions shall be adopted as emergency regulations,
- Provides that the adoption of these regulations shall be considered by the Department of General Services (DGS) to be an emergency necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, or general welfare.

On May 21, 2008 the California Building Standards Commission approved amended regulations proposed by DGS implementing AB 1531. The amended regulations became effective July 1, 2008 and are contained in California Building Code Sections 1129B.3, 1129B.4, Figures 11B-18A, 11B-18B and 11B-18C.

The amended regulations can be found on the DSA Internet web site at:

http://www.documents.dgs.ca.gov/dsa/pubs/regulations_rev_07-01-08.pdf

Scope: The amended regulations apply to all new construction projects and alterations to existing buildings and facilities covered by California Building Code, Chapter 11B. Construction documents submitted to DSA for review and approval on or after July 1, 2008 must indicate compliance with the amended regulations.

1. Signage Requirements: The amended regulations indicate that the signage at accessible parking spaces shall include "Minimum Fine \$250" below the International Symbol of Accessibility as either an additional sign or additional language. This fine posting requirement is in addition to other signage regulations contained in the California Building Code for accessible parking spaces.

2. Striping Requirements: The revised regulations indicate that the accessible parking space striping shall be as follows:

- The border (perimeter) of the loading and unloading access aisle shall be painted blue.

- The hatching within the loading and unloading access aisle shall be painted a suitable contrasting color to the parking space at 3'-0" maximum on center. Blue or white paint is preferred.

The amended regulations for the border and hatching at the loading and unloading access aisle are in addition to other requirements indicated in the California Building Code for accessible parking spaces.

The requirement that the hatching at the loading and unloading access aisle be a suitable contrasting color to the parking space is intended to ensure that the hatching is visually distinct from the background to which it is applied, and thus can be more easily seen. As hatching is generally recognized as a no-parking area, this difference in contrast assists drivers in providing a conspicuous visual deterrent to parking in the loading and unloading access aisle.

3. Acceptable Designs: Asphalt is often the parking surface material used at accessible parking spaces. Asphalt is generally considered to be fairly dark in appearance. In order to provide a suitable contrasting color at the hatched area of the loading and unloading access aisle, a light color hatching must be used at locations where asphalt is the parking surface material. Although white paint is preferred (and traditionally the color most often used), its use is not mandatory under the CBC.

In order to provide a suitable contrast at the hatching of the loading and unloading access aisle in locations where light concrete is used as the parking surface material (such as at concrete parking garages), a dark color hatching must be used. Although blue paint is preferred, its use is not mandatory under the CBC.

**EXPRESS TERMS
FOR
PROPOSED BUILDING STANDARDS
OF THE
DIVISION OF THE STATE ARCHITECT - ACCESS COMPLIANCE (DSA)
REGARDING THE 2007 CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 24, PART 2
CONCERNING**

Section 1129B – Accessible Parking Required

LEGEND FOR EXPRESS TERMS:

1. Existing California amendments or code language being modified: All such language appears in *italics*, modified language is underlined.
2. New California amendments: All such language appears underlined and in italics.
3. Repealed text: All such language appears in ~~strikeout and in italics~~.

**CH 11B – ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS,
COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS AND PUBLICLY FUNDED HOUSING**

**SECTION 1129B
ACCESSIBLE PARKING REQUIRED**

1129B.1 General. *Each lot or parking structure ...*

1129B.2 Medical Care Outpatient Facilities. *At facilities providing medical care ...*

1129B.3 Parking Space Size. *Accessible parking spaces shall be located as near as practical to a primary entrance and shall be sized as follows:*

1. **Dimensions.** *Where single spaces are provided, they shall be 14 feet (4267 mm) wide and lined to provide a 9-foot (2743 mm) parking area and a 5-foot (1524 mm) loading and unloading access aisle on the passenger side of the vehicle. When more than one space is provided in lieu of providing a 14-foot-wide (4267 mm) space for each parking space, two spaces can be provided within a 23-foot-wide (7010 mm) area lined to provide a 9-foot (2743 mm) parking area on each side of a 5-foot (1524 mm) loading and unloading access aisle in the center. The loading and unloading access aisle shall be marked by a border painted blue. Within the blue border, hatched lines a maximum of 36 inches (914 mm) on center shall be painted a color contrasting with the parking surface, preferably blue or white. See Figure 11B-18A. Parking access aisles shall be part of an accessible route of travel (complying with Section 1114B.1.2) to the building or facility entrance. Parked vehicle overhangs shall not reduce the clear width of an accessible route. The minimum length of each parking space shall be 18 feet (5486 mm). The words NO PARKING shall be painted on the ground within each five-foot (1524 mm) loading and unloading access aisle. This notice shall be painted in white letters no less than 12 inches (305 mm) high and located so that it is visible to traffic enforcement officials. See Figures 11B-18A, 11B-18B and 11B-18C.*
2. **Van space(s).** *One in every eight accessible spaces, but not less than one, shall be served by ~~an~~ a loading and unloading access aisle 96 inches (2438 mm) wide minimum placed on the side opposite the driver's side when the vehicle is going forward into the parking space and shall be designated van accessible as required by Section 1129B.4. All such spaces may be grouped on*

one level of a parking structure. The loading and unloading access aisle shall be marked by a border painted blue. Within the blue border, hatched lines a maximum of 36 inches (914 mm) on center shall be painted a color contrasting with the parking surface, preferably blue or white. The words NO PARKING shall be painted on the ground within each eight-foot (2438 mm) loading and unloading access aisle. This notice shall be painted in white letters no less than 12 inches (305 mm) high and located so that it is visible to traffic enforcement officials. See Figures 11B-18A, 11B-18B and 11B-18C.

3. **Arrangement of parking space.** In each parking area, ...

4. **Slope of parking space.** Surface slopes of accessible parking spaces ...

1129B.4 Identification of Parking Spaces for Off-Street Parking Facilities. Each parking space reserved for persons with disabilities shall be identified by a reflectorized sign permanently posted immediately adjacent to and visible from each stall or space, consisting of the International Symbol of Accessibility in white on dark blue background. The sign shall not be smaller than 70 square inches (4516 mm²) in area and, when in a path of travel, shall be posted at a minimum height of 80 inches (2032 mm) from the bottom of the sign to the parking space finished grade. Signs may also be centered on the wall at the interior end of the parking space. An additional sign or additional language below the symbol of accessibility shall state "Minimum Fine \$250". Spaces complying with Section 1129B.3, Item 2 shall have an additional sign stating "Van-Accessible" mounted below the symbol of accessibility. Signs identifying accessible parking spaces shall be located so they cannot be obscured by a vehicle parked in the space.

Related Code Changes

FIGURE 11B-18A DOUBLE PARKING STALLS – The DSA-AC is amending this figure to be consistent with the proposed code changes to Section 1129B.3 Items 1 and 2. The dimension indicating the distance between hatched lines within the loading and unloading access aisle is being revised to read "STRIPES AT 36" MAXIMUM ON CENTER".

FIGURE 11B-18B SINGLE PARKING STALLS – The DSA-AC is amending this figure to be consistent with the proposed code changes to Section 1129B.3 Items 1 and 2. The dimension indicating the distance between hatched lines within the loading and unloading access aisle is being revised to read "STRIPES AT 36" MAXIMUM ON CENTER".

FIGURE 11B-18C DIAGONAL PARKING STALLS – The DSA-AC is amending this figure to be consistent with the proposed code changes to Section 1129B.3 Items 1 and 2. The dimension indicating the distance between hatched lines within the loading and unloading access aisle is being revised to read "STRIPES AT 36" MAXIMUM ON CENTER".

NOTATION

Authority: Government Code Sections 4450, 14679, and Vehicle Code Section 22511.8.

Reference: Government Code Sections 4450 through 4461, 12955.1(d), 14679, Vehicle Code Section 22511.8, and Health and Safety Code Sections 18949.1, 19952 through 19959.