

ADVERSE WEATHER ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES

Snow and ice events may present a barrier for individuals with disabilities benefiting from University of Rhode Island (“University”) programs and activities. As a covered entity, the University is required to make reasonable efforts to maintain its accessible features. Common problem areas encountered by people with disabilities following a snow or ice event include:

- Accessible parking spaces (including access aisles and curb cuts)
- Routes from accessible parking spaces to facility entrances (including curb cuts)
- Area in front of facility entrances that include operating controls (automatic door openers)
- Sidewalks and pathways
- Crosswalks
- Bus stops

Consistent with applicable law, a public agency must maintain its walkways in an accessible condition, with only isolated or temporary interruptions.

PLANNING ACCORDINGLY

Qualified individuals with disabilities affected by inclement weather may engage in the interactive process by requesting a reasonable accommodation to address travel limitations following a snow event. An accommodation may help to address temporary barriers while snow removal efforts are underway.

- Students with Disabilities: Students may contact Disability, Access, and Inclusion to begin the interactive process <https://web.uri.edu/disability/about-dai/>.
- Employees with Disabilities: Faculty and staff may contact the Office of Human Resources to begin the interactive process: <https://web.uri.edu/hr/personnel-policies/3-30-reasonable-accommodation-for-employees/>.

ADVERSE WEATHER NOTIFICATIONS

- Read the Policy on Adverse Weather and Other Emergencies for details: <https://web.uri.edu/policies/wp-content/uploads/sites/928/Weather-and-Other-Emergencies-20231107-APPVD-01.110.02.pdf>

REPORTING CONCERNS

Maintenance of Accessible Features: Are you aware of needed maintenance of accessible features (e.g., curb cuts) following a snow or ice event? To report obstruction to sidewalks or pathways, contact the Facilities Group.

- Visit <https://web.uri.edu/facilities/work-order-request-form/> to submit a work request or call the Control Center at (401) 874-4060. For TTY assistance, contact R.I. Relay Services at 711.

If you experience physical accessibility challenges on campus, please inform the Facilities Group either by submitting a work order request or by calling the Facilities Operations Control Center. Concerns reported will be addressed as quickly as possible.

Efforts to maintain accessible features are not limited to snow and ice events but include the removal of leaves, debris, or other obstructions.

Emergency: Please report an emergency on campus requiring police, fire, or EMS by dialing 9-1-1 from any telephone. For any other non-emergency assistance from the URI Department of Public Safety, please call 401-874-4910. For TTY assistance, contact R.I. Relay Services at 711.

General Concerns: To report general concerns or to file a discrimination complaint on the basis of disability, contact equalopportunity-group@uri.edu or 401-874-2442.

Class Attendance: For general questions about class attendance, contact your instructor.

Work Attendance: For general questions about work attendance, contact your supervisor.

IT IS THE LAW

The University is committed to maintaining an environment free from discrimination and working to ensure compliance with all applicable laws designed to ensure equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities. For additional information, please see the University's Policy on Nondiscrimination: <https://web.uri.edu/equal-opportunity/discrimination/>.