

Introduction

On July 26, 1990 the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) became law establishing the nation's first comprehensive civil rights law for people with disabilities. Title II of ADA requires that all public entities such as Cal Poly provide access to all its services, programs, and activities. In the event architectural barrier removal is required to achieve this accessibility, ADA requires a Transition Plan be prepared listing these barriers and prioritizing their removal.

In January 1993 Building Analytics, a consultant to the Chancellor's Office, completed a campus survey. The resulting computer database contains all technical violations of ADA guidelines holding the existing facilities up to the standard of a new facility. Although this document is a valuable tool, it fell short of a Transition Plan on two counts; first, it did not evaluate the architectural barriers in light of program access, and second, it was not a project list of specific barriers that we intend to remove.

Cal Poly's first Transition Plan was the result of the forming of the Facilities Access Committee, a subcommittee of the then Disabled Students Advisory Committee, and their extensive effort from October 1993 to November 1995. Considering program access, the committee developed priorities and strategies that resulted in lists of barrier removal projects, of which many have been implemented.

On January 1, 2005 Executive Order 926 from the CSU became effective. It required among other things an update of all CSU campus' Transition Plans so that they reflect current status. Although barrier removal and access projects have continued non-stop, Cal Poly's Transition Plan had not been updated since 1999.

The Physical Access Sub-Committee of the now Disability Access and Compliance Committee formally began updating the plan October 2009.

We envision a Transition Plan with a tangible finish line, not a plan that serves as an endless list of barriers. Although complete implementation of the plan will not happen overnight and barrier removal will continue after we're done; we strive for a time when no physical barrier will block access to any of Cal Poly's programs.

On February 12, 2010 the draft framework of the new plan was posted on Cal Poly's web site and has been continuously updated since.

<http://www.afd.calpoly.edu/facilities/accessibilityADATP.asp>

The Disability Access and Compliance Committee actively encourage participation from the campus community in monitoring the update of the Cal Poly Transition Plan.

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