



## Supporting Your Professional Practice

### Resources to Support your OT Attention to Accessibility Issues

Occupational therapists play important roles in assessing and modifying built environments in the home, office, school or community to enable people to participate in activities that are meaningful and important to them.

The following resources are collated to support your OT practice in;

- Direct client care
- Community based client consultation services regarding home modifications
- Consultation roles to schools, employers, municipalities, etc.
- Advocacy roles promoting accessible environments, accessibility policies, etc.

Ontario has a goal to achieve an accessible Ontario by 2025. OTs can help!

### Accessibility

- [Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act \(AODA\) \(Law and regulations\)](#)
- [Guide to the AODA \(AODA Alliance\)](#)
- [A Guide to the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation, 2014](#)
  - [Customer Service Standards](#) - To help remove barriers for people with disabilities so they can access goods, services or facilities.
  - [Information and Communications Standards](#) - To help organizations make their information accessible to people with disabilities.
  - [Transportation Standards](#) - To make it easier for everyone to travel in the province.
  - [The Employment standards](#) - To help make hiring and employee support practices more accessible
  - [The Design of public spaces standards](#) - To help organizations make new and redeveloped outdoor public areas accessible

- [Barrier-Free Design Consultation](#) (*March of Dimes*)
- [Guidelines for Barrier-free Design of Ontario Government Facilities](#)
- [Ontario Accessibility Laws](#)
  - Complimentary webinars on accessibility standards & accessibility issues – [view here](#)
- [Ontario Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility](#)
- [Access Forward](#) – provides free training modules to address components of Ontario’s accessibility laws (developed in partnership with Ontario government).
- [Age Friendly Communities Planning Guide – Ontario](#) - supports anyone involved in the development, implementation and evaluation of plans for accessible and inclusive age-friendly communities.
- [Government of Canada Accessibility Resource Centre](#)
- [Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation - Adaptable Housing](#) - Adaptable housing design allows homes to be easily modified to meet changing needs over time, while reducing future renovation costs. Resources related to housing for persons living with dementia, preventing falls, flex housing, accessible design for seniors

### Building Code

- [Ontario Building Code](#) (*Ontario Building code overview, fact sheets, etc.*)
- [Building Code Updates](#) (*Monitor changes impacting Building Code requirements*)
- [National Model Construction Codes and Guides](#) (*for First Nations*)

### Ontario Human Rights Code

- The Ontario [Human Rights Code](#) is a provincial law that gives everybody equal rights and opportunities without discrimination in specific social areas such as jobs, housing, services, facilities, and contracts or agreements. The *Code’s* goal is to prevent discrimination and harassment because of race, sex, disability, and age, to name a few of the 17 grounds. All other Ontario laws must agree/align with the *Code*.

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