

United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development

> RD AN No. <u>4368</u> (1901-E) May 14, 2008

SUBJECT: Agriculture Department 2056, "Building/Site Accessibility Compliance Checklist"

- TO: Rural Development State Directors National Office Officials
- ATTN: Administrative Program Directors State Civil Rights Managers/Coordinators State Architects

PURPOSE/INTENDED OUTCOME:

The attached Agriculture Department (AD) 2056, "Building/Site Accessibility Compliance Checklist," was approved effective October 1, 2007, and is recommended for use by Rural Development State Offices and Service Center Agencies (SCAs) to ensure building/site compliance with the Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standards (ABAAS).

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS AN:

There has not been a previous AN issued on this subject.

IMPLEMENTATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The General Services Administration adopted the Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Guidelines (ABAAG) as the new accessibility guidelines for facilities designed, built, or altered for purchase or lease by Federal agencies after February 6, 2007. Leases entered into after February 6, 2007, must also comply with the ABAAG.

Representatives from each of the SCAs worked jointly to develop the AD-2056, and it has been approved by all of the SCAs Agency Administration.

EXPIRATION DATE: May 31, 2009

FILING INSTRUCTIONS: Preceding RD Instructions 1901-E

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The ABAAG paragraph references are in bold print throughout the checklist, and standard language is italicized. A full copy of the ABAAG is available at <u>http://www.access-board.gov/ada-aba/final.htm</u>. Instructions to reviewers regarding completion of the checklist are provided with the general information on page 1 of the AD-2056.

The AD-2056 has also been approved for use by National Office employees when conducting Management Control or Compliance Reviews. Guidance regarding the ABBAG can be obtained by contacting the Access Board by telephone (800-872-2253); TTY (800-993-2822); e-mail (<u>ta@access-board.gov</u>); or website (<u>www.access-board.gov</u>).

A fillable version of the AD-2056 is now available on the Intranet at the following: <u>https://rd.sc.egov.usda.gov/teamrd/RDOM/gr/Shared%20Documents/AD-</u>2056 Building Site Accessibility Comp 2008.pdf.

If you have questions, please contact the Space Management Branch at 314-335-8185, or the Civil Rights Staff, Program Compliance at 202-692-0097.

(Signed by Clyde Thompson)

CLYDE THOMPSON Deputy Administrator for Operations and Management

Attachment

Sent by electronic mail on $\frac{6/6/08}{1000}$ at 10:00 am by CRS. State Directors and National Office Officials should notify other personnel as appropriate.