

CHANGE TYPE: Clarification

CHANGE SUMMARY: Access to children’s play areas is now specifically required where those areas contain play components.

2018 CODE: **1110.4.13 Play areas.** Play areas containing play components designed and constructed for children shall be located on an accessible route.

CHANGE SIGNIFICANCE: The 2015 IBC introduced scoping provisions regarding the accessibility of recreational facilities so that persons with mobility impairments can participate to the best of their ability. The extent of the provisions is not to change any essential aspects of that specific recreational activity, but rather to allow increased participation in a variety of activities such as court sports, boating, exercise, and swimming. Access to children’s play areas is now specifically required where those play areas contain play components.

Although the general provisions of Section 1110.3 mandate that recreational facilities be accessible, Section 1110.4 further scopes the extent of such accessibility for specific recreational activities. In order to make it clear that accessibility to playgrounds and similar play areas with play components intended for children’s use is required, this type of recreational feature is now specifically addressed. This requirement is also set forth in the *2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design*. It should be emphasized that the requirement is only applicable to the route to the play area and not to each individual play component. There is also no requirement for the play components themselves to be accessible.



Children’s playground

1110.4.13

Access to Play Areas for Children



This excerpt is taken from *Significant Changes to the International Building Code®, 2018 Edition*.

Significant Changes publications take you directly to the most important changes that impact projects. Key changes are identified then followed by in-depth discussion of how the change affects real-world application. Photos, tables and illustrations are included to further clarify application. Available for the IBC, IRC, IFC and IPC/IMC/IFGC, the Significant Changes publications are very useful training and review tools for transitioning to a new code edition.