GENDER-INCLUSIVE, ADA-ACCESSIBLE, AND FAMILY-FRIENDLY RESTROOMS

OVERVIEW

The University of California, Santa Barbara is committed to recruiting and retaining a campus community of diverse students, faculty, and staff and to creating and sustaining a campus environment that supports and values all members of our community. As part of that commitment, single-stall unisex restrooms have been established across the campus to provide safe, accessible, and convenient restroom facilities. These restrooms may be used by anyone; however, they are especially welcoming for those with different gender identities or expressions, the disabled and their caregivers, and parents with small children.

Gender-inclusive single-stall restrooms reduce the potential for and fear of harassment and discrimination which transgender and gender non-conforming individuals may face when using gender-specific restrooms. Moreover, these facilities address the unique challenges that face individuals with disabilities and their caregivers, as well as parents with children. Adding changing tables to these restrooms enhances the care for young children and infants.

As the campus grows, the number of these safe, accessible, and convenient restrooms also needs to increase. The building practice would provide for this increase by establishing a campus building standard that includes at least one gender-inclusive, single-stall, ADA-accessible restroom, with a changing table, in specified new building or major renovation projects at UCSB. The increase in facilities will continue to help reduce our community’s challenges and fears and demonstrate the University supports and values all members of our campus community.

I. RESPONSIBILITIES

The Vice Chancellor for Administrative Services or designate, the campus building official, and Campus Design and Construction are responsible for overseeing and implementing these building standards. The Women, Gender, and Sexual Equity Programs offer support and resources to students, faculty, and staff who might face challenges due to their identity. The ADA Compliance Office ensures that individuals with disabilities have equal opportunity to enjoy campus programs, activities, and benefits. The Disabled Students Program works with a variety of campus departments to ensure that equal access is provided to all disabled students.

II. SCOPE

The building standard applies to all major building renovations and modifications, and new building construction, with a total area of 20,000 assignable square feet (ASF) or more, on all University owned or leased property or third party lease-backs, with project approval.
received after May 1, 2014. Project approval is defined as Chancellor or Regent approval, as applicable for the building project.

III. BUILDING STANDARDS – NEW CONSTRUCTION & RENOVATIONS

Working within budgetary, regulatory, safety, and programmatic constraints, the campus building standards shall include the provision for at least one single-stall, ADA-accessible, family-friendly restroom with a changing table, in each major renovation, modification, or newly constructed building, with a total area of 20,000 ASF or more.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW MECHANISMS

The Vice Chancellor for Administrative Services or designate, when implementing these building standards, will collaborate with appropriate individuals, building committees and councils as needed to balance budgetary, regulatory and programmatic constraints with the building standards.

V. RESOURCES

A. Women, Gender, and Sexual Equity Programs
B. Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance Office
C. Disabled Students Program

Please direct questions about this policy to Women, Gender, and Sexual Equity Programs. For general policy questions or comments about this website, please contact policy@ucsb.edu.