

Getting More Information

Allegheny County Office of Property Assessments
400 N. Lexington Ave., Suite LL 115
Pittsburgh, PA 15208
412-350-4600
www.county.allegheny.pa.us/opa/act132.aspx

City of Pittsburgh ADA Coordinator
412-255-2102
Richard.Meritzer@city.pittsburgh.pa.us

Concrete Change – Every New Home Visitable
404-378-7455
www.concretechange.org
info@concretechange.org

Center for Universal Design
919-515-3082
www.design.ncsu.edu/cud/index.htm



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COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY



RESIDENTIAL VISITABILITY DESIGN TAX CREDIT PROGRAM

Make your home more Visitable!

With the help of a property tax credit of up to \$2,500, Allegheny County property owners can more easily open their homes to friends and family members who:

- have physical disabilities
- use wheelchairs or walkers
- are pushing strollers or carrying packages
- want to stay in their homes as they age

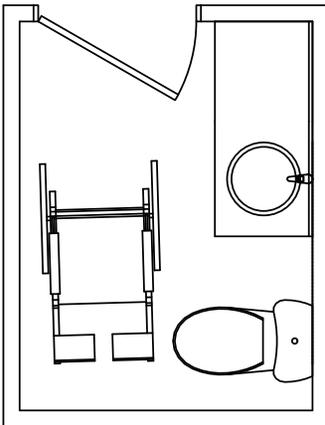
In addition, property owners in participating municipalities in the County, such as the City of Pittsburgh, can qualify for an additional \$2,500 credit towards their individual municipal property taxes. Check with your municipality for more information.



Qualifying for the Tax Credit

Are you renovating or building a single family dwelling, duplex, triplex, townhouse or row house, or adapting an industrial or commercial building to multi-family residential use? If so, you can receive a tax credit by creating a visitable floor in the home by incorporating the following minimum features*:

- at least one “no-step” entrance with a threshold no more than 3/4” high.
- a path to that “no-step” entrance that is firm, stable, and slip-resistant and has an acceptable slope.
- at the end of that path, an entrance door with a minimum 32” clear opening and lever door handles.
- interior circulation paths at least 36” in width and interior doorways (excluding closets and doors to basement steps) with a minimum 32” clear opening.
- a powder room or full bath that can accommodate a person using a wheelchair, has lever handles on the door and plumbing fixtures and includes the proper blocking in the walls for future grab bar installation.
- light switches that are no higher than 48” above the finished floor.



* for more specifics see Allegheny County Council Legislative File ID 2840-06, Ordinance Enactment No. 39-06-OR dated 11/29/2006 at <http://legistar.county.allegheny.pa.us/detailreport/matter.aspx?key=3579>.

Obtaining Your Tax Credit

To make sure that you receive your Allegheny County tax credit, you will need to follow certain procedures*:

Visitability Tax Credit Check List

- Obtain the 1-page Application for Residential Visitability Design Tax Credit (for a copy, visit <http://www.county.allegheny.pa.us/opa/act132.aspx> or contact City of Pittsburgh ADA Coordinator at 412-255-2102)
- Go over the requirements and make sure they are part of your construction plans
- Get a building permit from your municipal office and let them know of your interest in the Visitability Tax Credit
- Check that your municipality’s Building Inspector is aware of your request for the Visitability Tax Credit
- Arrange for Building Inspector to carry out final inspection and complete the 3-page Visitability Design Inspection Report
- Obtain a copy of the Inspector’s Visitability Design Inspection Report
- Within* 90 days of issuance of an Occupancy Permit, submit:
 - 1) Application for Residential Visitability Design Tax Credit,
 - 2) Visitability Design Inspection Report and
 - 3) a copy of Occupancy Permit to:
Attention: Assessor’s Department
Office of Property Assessments
400 N. Lexington Ave., Suite LL 115
Pittsburgh, PA 15208

Keep a copy of all documents.

The Office of Property Assessments will notify the owner in writing by mail within 90 days of receipt of above. Contact 412-350-4600 for any questions regarding the submitted application. The revised assessment should be reflected in the next property tax bill sent to the owner at the beginning of the calendar year.

* Check with your municipality for its specific tax credit application procedures (e.g.: City of Pittsburgh’s application deadline is 30 days)