

Stand-on Scale Accessibility and Compliance Guide



Safety and accessibility – two critical features Health o meter® Professional Scales has always considered when designing new products. Following ADA guidelines is also a priority when providing essential equipment to the healthcare market. As the leading medical scale manufacturer in the U.S., it is our responsibility to provide guidance and support when the market's requirements change.

In July 2024 the U.S. Access Board published technical standards for medical diagnostic equipment (MDE) such as examination chairs, weight scales, and mammography equipment. The purpose of these technical requirements is to ensure any person with a disability can receive the medical treatment as conveniently, safely, and comfortably as any other patient within a healthcare setting. In light of this ruling, healthcare providers will need to have equipment that meets the new MDE standards and within a specified timeline.

- ✓ **Starting October 8th, 2024:** All medical device equipment acquired by state and local government entities, lease, or otherwise acquire must be accessible, until the entities have the amount of accessible MDE that the rule requires.
- ✓ **Facilities have until August 9, 2026,** to have at least 10% of the total units, but no fewer than one unit, meeting the standards (20% for mobility rehabilitation facilities).

For example: If a hospital has 10 scales, they must have at least 1 unit that meets the standards.

These [new requirements will be enforced by the Department of Justice under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\)](#). If facilities fail to follow these new guidelines they may face lawsuits or settle agreements for not meeting their obligations to ensure accessibility under the ADA.

Taking Steps to Ensure Your Equipment Meets the New MDE Requirements

The ADA was established to protect the rights and prohibit discrimination of those with disabilities. Disability is defined as physical or mental impairment, which is not solely limited to people in a wheelchair. The ADA promotes accessibility for both wheelchair bound individuals as well as persons with impaired mobility. Impaired mobility refers to impaired gait, weakness, decreased lower extremity mobility, and decreased coordination and balance.

In addition to meeting ADA compliance requirements, utilizing a stand-on scale with handrail supports and a slip resistant platform can help facilities prevent in-patient falls. Facilities that have occurrences of patient falls are at risk of reduced Medicare/Medicaid reimbursements through the [Hospital-Acquired Condition \(HAC\) Reduction Program](#). Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) monitors facilities’ “In-hospital Fall-Associated Fracture Rate” as part of the HAC program to improve health care quality and patient safety.

Providers should look to the equipment manufacturers for guidance on the applicable requirements. For stand-on scales specifically, facilities should look for third-party product certification and ensure the scale incorporates the features outlined in the [MDE accessibility standards](#).

Access Board Requirements (MDE) for Stand-on Scales

Applicable chapter sections as noted. For full list of technical requirements: <https://www.access-board.gov/mde/chapter-m3/>

- 1

Slip Resistant (M304.2.1)

The surface on which the patient stands shall be slip resistant



- 2

Standing Supports (M304.2.2)

Standing supports shall be provided on two sides of the standing surface



- 3

Horizontal Position (M305.3.2.1)

The height of the top of the gripping surface on horizontal standing supports shall be 34 inches (865 mm) minimum and 38 inches (965 mm) maximum above the standing surface



ADA Compliant Stand-on Scales

Health o meter® Professional Scales has prioritized inclusive design by developing products with ADA compliance in mind. Our ADA-compliant stand-on scales, the 1100KL and 2101KL series, are thoughtfully engineered to support facilities in meeting accessibility standards. These scales comply with the latest Medical Diagnostic Equipment (MDE) standards for accessible diagnostic equipment and are the only ADA Compliant stand-on scales in the market that are independently certified by a third party for ADA compliance. Key features include:

- ✓ Slip resistant platform
- ✓ Handrail supports on both sides of platform
- ✓ 34" - 38" max. handrail height from platform



Learn More



2101KL
Digital Platform
Scale

REVIEWED FOR ADA COMPLIANCE
CERTIFICATION N° 5849459



1100KL
Digital Platform
Scale with Extra-wide
Handrails

REVIEWED FOR ADA COMPLIANCE
CERTIFICATION N° 5776764



Sources:

1. U.S. Department of Justice. (2024). *Medical diagnostic equipment accessibility standards*. ADA.gov. <https://www.ada.gov/resources/2024-08-08-mde-fact-sheet/>
2. U.S. Access Board. (2024). *Medical diagnostic equipment accessibility standards*. Access Board. <https://www.access-board.gov/mde/>
3. U.S. Access Board. (2024). *Medical diagnostic equipment accessibility standards: Chapter 3*. Access Board <https://www.access-board.gov/mde/chapter-m3/>
4. Hospital-Acquired Condition (HAC) Reduction Program. (2024). Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/fy-2025-hac-reduction-program-fact-sheet.pdf>

