

ACCESSIBILITY FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

A PATH TO COMPLIANCE



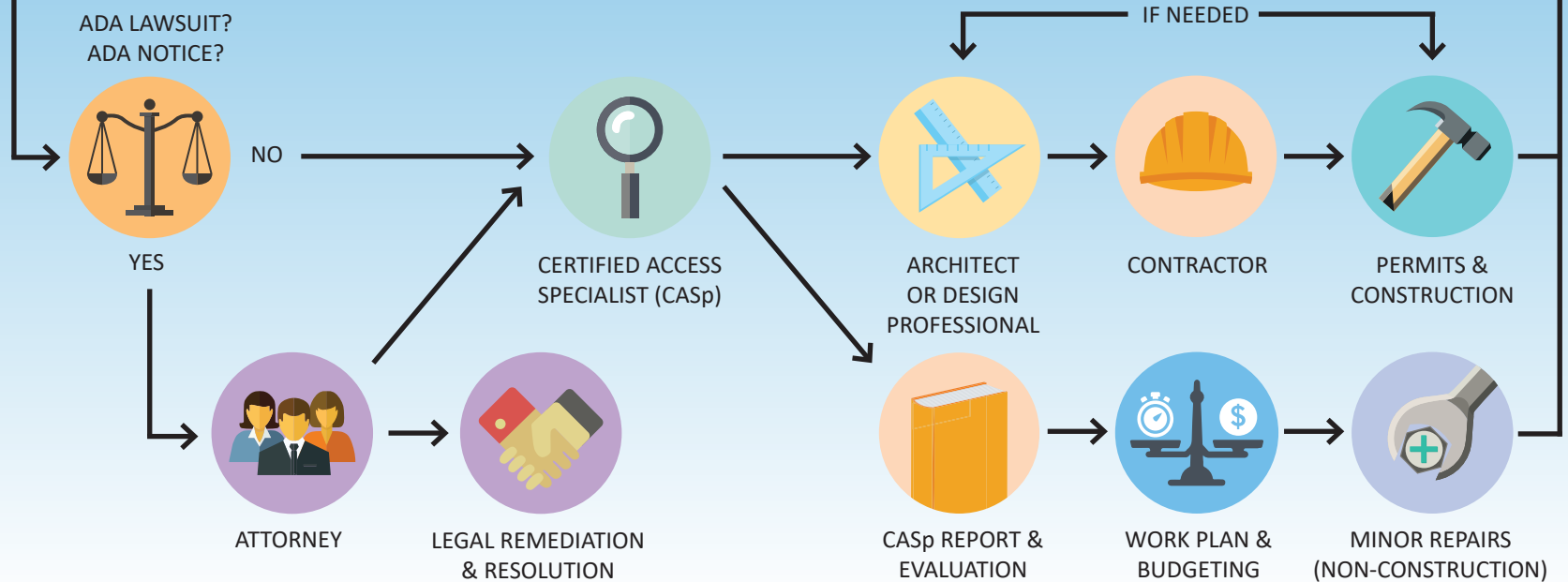
ACCESSIBLE BUSINESS??

Is your business compliant with Federal and State accessibility laws? How would a small business owner know? Has your business or property been served with an ADA notice or lawsuit?

Understanding and complying with accessibility regulations can be a difficult task, but there are resources here to help. Below is a BIG PICTURE path to compliance with many resources along the way to help make your business accessible to the public.



ACCESSIBLE BUSINESS!!



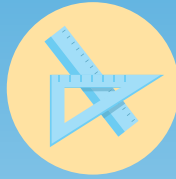
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ADA LAWSUIT? ADA NOTICE?

For many business and property owners, their first interaction with accessibility is through an ADA lawsuit or a legal notice. Many are left wondering what the next steps are or the best course of action. Certified Access Specialists (CASp) and attorneys are resources available to assist in identifying accessibility shortfalls and your legal options.



ARCHITECT OR DESIGN PROFESSIONAL

Sometimes access requires a solution from an Architect or design professional. Contact the American Institute of Architects today!



CASp REPORT & EVALUATION

The main role of a CASp is to evaluate the existing conditions at the business or property and report the findings. Think of it like an audit for access compliance. This evaluation will help the business or property owner understand where the access issues are.



ATTORNEY

There are attorneys that specialize in accessibility lawsuits and can offer legal counseling. There may also be legal benefits to obtaining a CASp inspection which an attorney can advise on. Contact the American Bar Association for an attorney in your area that can assist!



CONTRACTOR

Contractors play a major role in ensuring the design solution is constructed per plans. Find an experienced contractor that knows how to work with a design professional and CASp to ensure compliance during construction.



WORK PLAN & BUDGETING

Based on the CASp report findings, a budget and work plan can be developed to clarify next steps.



CERTIFIED ACCESS SPECIALIST (CASp)

A Certified Access Specialist (CASp) has unique knowledge of accessibility requirements and can offer inspections of your business or property. Depending on pending legal action, a CASp inspection may offer legal benefits as well as shed light on accessibility issues. The Division of the State Architect maintains a list of CASps across the state.



PERMITS & CONSTRUCTION

Many cities like Fresno and San Francisco have special programs and ordinances for access compliance. Talk with your Contractor and CASp for local requirements.



MINOR REPAIRS (NON-CONSTRUCTION)

Minor repairs include moving temporary obstacles, new signs, and other non-construction related items. These quick changes can make a big difference to customers with disabilities.