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# County School Facilities Consortium 2019 Annual Summit

September 18-19, 2019  
The Westin Sacramento  
4800 Riverside Blvd  
Sacramento, CA

## **Division of the State Architect Update and Universal Design Discussion**

*Ida Clair*  
Acting State Architect  
Division of the State Architect

# Speaker Biography

## Ida Clair Acting State Architect Division of the State Architect

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Ida Clair began serving as Acting State Architect for California's Division of the State Architect in January 2019. As Acting State Architect, Ida leads four regional offices and a headquarters office in providing design and construction oversight of public K-12 schools, community colleges, and various other state-owned and leased facilities.

Concurrently with her responsibilities as Acting State Architect, Ida is the Principal Architect where she manages the accessibility, sustainability, and fire & life safety programs for public K-12 schools and community colleges, directs CALGreen regulatory development applicable to school facilities, directs Access Code regulatory development for the State of California, and administers the Certified Access Specialist (CASp) Program. From 2013-2016 Ida served as DSA's first technical administrator of the CASp Program where she established the Program's professional practice standards. Improved regulatory standards, and provided examination development and training.

Ida has twenty-six years' experience in private architectural practice where she specialized in the design and construction of affordable and sustainable multifamily residential facilities, and provided accessibility compliance surveys and third-party accessibility plan reviews for a major health care provider. A certified access specialist, Ida was instrumental in the creation of the Certified Access Specialist Institute in 2010.







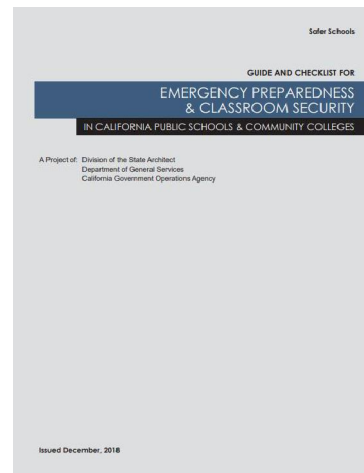


# DSA RESOURCES

New DSA Guidance Document:

## Emergency Preparedness & Classroom Security

- How to establish an Emergency Preparedness Plan
- How to select appropriate security hardware that permits egress and maintains accessibility
- Consult with DSA prior to modification
- Do not use after-market devices



# Universal Design Best Practices

## UNIVERSAL DESIGN DEFINITION

Universal design is the design of equipment, environment and services to be usable by all people to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaption or specialized design. Universal design is the implementation of a process that improves independence by enabling a diverse population to achieve optimal human performance through equal access to facilities and social participation.

## UNIVERSAL DESIGN

- Goes beyond governmental, jurisdictional and code requirements for accessibility
- Envisions maximizing positive user experiences by implementing best practices in programming, design, and construction.
- Recognizes a continuous process of innovation to target improved usability.





## 8 GOALS OF UNIVERSAL DESIGN

- **Body fit:** Accommodating a wide range of body sizes and abilities.
- **Comfort:** Keeping demands within desirable limits of body function and perception.
- **Awareness:** Ensuring that critical information for use is easily perceived.
- **Understanding:** Making methods of operation and use intuitive, clear and unambiguous.

## 8 GOALS OF UNIVERSAL DESIGN

- **Wellness:** Contributing to health promotion, avoidance of disease and prevention of injury.
- **Social Integration:** Treating all groups with dignity and respect.
- **Personalization:** Incorporating opportunities for choice and the expression of individual preferences.
- **Cultural Appropriateness:** Respecting and reinforcing cultural values and the social, economic and environmental context of any design project.

## EQUITABLE USE

Ensure design provides the same means of use:

- Provide identical features whenever possible, and equivalent features when not.
- Make provisions for privacy, security and safety equally available for all users.
- Make the design friendly for all users.



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## FLEXIBILITY IN USE

Design accommodates a wide range of individual preferences and abilities:

- Provide choices in methods of use.
- Accommodate right-handed and left-handed access and use.
- Provide information and equipment controls that are more forgiving of users whose abilities are less accurate and precise.
- Provide adaptability to users' pace.

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## SIMPLE AND INTUITIVE USE

The design is easy to understand, regardless of the user's experience, knowledge, language or cognitive abilities:

- Eliminate unnecessary complexity.
- Be consistent with user expectations and intuition.
- Accommodate a wide range of literacy and language skills.
- Use graphics and colors/shapes for communication elements.
- Arrange information consistent with its importance.



## PERCEPTIBLE INFORMATION

The design communicates necessary information effectively, regardless of ambient conditions or the user's sensory abilities:

- Use different and redundant and redundant presentation of essential information (pictorial, verbal, tactile).
- Maximize legibility of essential information.
- Differentiate elements in ways that can be easily described.
- Provide compatibility with a variety of techniques or devices used by individuals with sensory limitations.



## TOLERANCE FOR ERROR

The design minimizes hazards and the adverse consequences of accidental or unintended actions:

- Arrange elements to minimize hazards, ensuring that hazardous elements are eliminated, isolated, or shielded.
- Provide warnings of hazards.
- Provide fail-safe features.
- Discourage unconscious action in tasks that require vigilance.

## LOW PHYSICAL EFFORT

The design can be used effectively, comfortably and with a minimum of fatigue:

- Allows user to maintain a natural body position.
- Use reasonable operating forces (maximum 5 lbs).
- Minimize repetitive actions.
- Minimize sustained physical effort.



## SIZE AND SPACE FOR USE

The design provides appropriate sizes and shapes for approach, reach, manipulation and use regardless of a user's body size, posture or mobility:

- Provide a clear line of sight to important elements for any seated or standing user.
- Make reach to all components comfortable for any seated or standing user.
- Accommodate variations in hand grip and size.
- Provide adequate space for use of assistive devices.

## IMPLEMENTATION: ENGAGEMENT

Engage stakeholders through project phases:

- Set the stage for your intentions and make meetings accessible to:
  - ✓ Blind or low vision
  - ✓ Individuals with mobility impairments
  - ✓ Deaf or hard of hearing
  - ✓ Families with kids



## IMPLEMENTATION: EVALUATION

Assess and evaluate completed projects:

- ✓ Post-construction experience evaluation
- ✓ Internal validation: observe and document
- ✓ One-year post-occupancy experience evaluation

## BENEFITS OF UNIVERSAL DESIGN

- Making positive impact that is more inclusive, increases satisfaction, and reduces frustration.
- Improves sense of safety and security.
- Smoother implementation and minimization of construction conflicts.
- Reduce operational and capital costs, with fewer retrofits.

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