

Summary of Modifications/Changes in this Update

This Summary of Changes is for information only.
It is not a part of the referenced document, and should not be used for project documentation.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ♦ Office of Construction & Facilities Management

DATE OF THIS VERSION:

February 19, 2025

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

VA Signage Design Manual

DATE OF VERSION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

May 16, 2025

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

Manual for preparing signage for VA facilities

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

1. On page 281 the term “all-gender” was removed once and replaced with the term “single-occupant”.
2. On page 795, the term “all-gender” was removed once and replaced with the term “single-occupant”.
3. On page 853, the term “gender-neutral” was removed 3 times and replaced with the term “single-occupant”.

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DATE OF THIS VERSION:

May 16, 2023

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

VA Signage Design Manual

DATE OF VERSION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

February 10, 2021

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

Manual for preparing signage for VA facilities

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

1. Design Manual was completely revamped.

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DATE OF THIS VERSION:

February 10, 2021

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

VA Signage Design Manual

DATE OF VERSION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

April 1, 2017

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

Previously Signage Design Guide. Manual for preparing signage for VA facilities

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

1. These changes occur in Section 9 of the manual. Pages 9-5-101 and 9-5-102 are rescinded and removed. Recent revision (January 2021) to NFPA 80 code for elevator signage no longer allows any type of applied digital image and graphic text on elevator doors.

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DATE OF THIS REVISION:

April 1, 2017

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

VA Signage Design Guide

DATE OF VERSION BEING UPDATED:

July 14, 2014

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

Guide for preparing signage for VA facilities.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

This change occurs in Section 11 of the manual, on page 11-4-37.

4th paragraph revised, and verbiage under “Graphic Process” revised.

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DATE OF THIS VERSION:

July 14, 2014

Rev 8/1/2014

TITLE OF DOCUMENT:

VA Signage Design Guide

DATE OF VERSION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

October 1, 2013

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

Guide for preparing signage for VA facilities.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

This change occurs in Section 01 of the manual, on page 1-1-10.

For Colors, "B18 and B19", the "MP" numbers should be reversed.

- Color **B18** should show number MP09829 next to it, *not* MP09144.
- Color **B19** should have number MP09144 next to it, *not* MP09829.

All traffic sign faces should use the prescribed colors as listed in the Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

All OSHA Safety Colors are to meet ANSI specification Z53.1/OSHA.

B17	Red (OSHA)	White	MP09251	SIGNM09251
B18	New VA Blue	White	MP09144	SIGNM09144
B19	Yellow (OSHA)	Black	MP09829	SIGNM09829
B20	White	Black, Red, Purple	MP32071	SIGNM32071

B19 - White can be paint, white opaque vinyl application or translucent white vinyl application for illuminated signs

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DATE OF THIS VERSION (new)

October 1, 2013

TITLE OF DOCUMENT (new title if applicable):

VA Signage Design Guide, Chapter 8 Code and Life Safety Signs

DATE OF VERSION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

December 1, 2012

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

VA Signage Design Guide, Chapter 8 Code and Life Safety Signs

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

Updated Sections

Section 8 Code and Life Safety Signs changes.

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DATE OF THIS VERSION (new)

December 1, 2012

TITLE OF DOCUMENT (new title if applicable):

VA Signage Design Guide

DATE OF VERSION BEING SUPERSEDED (old):

February 1, 2005

DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT (previous title, number, other identifying data):

VA Signage Design Guide

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THIS VERSION:

Updated Sections

- Proper/Improper use of VA Seal/Signature.
- Interior sign types and their specification, layout, construction, and installation guidelines. Along with new interior sign products and expanded sign type families.
- Exterior sign types and their specifications, layout and construction. New sign products, expanded sign type families and new illumination methods.
- Expanded exterior building mounted marquee signs (both illuminated and non-illuminated).
- Mandatory VA policy signs containing specific text, layout, size, placement, and location requirements that cannot be altered.
- Added Specialty Signs including construction site signs, construction site safety sign, banners, memory boxes, freestanding sanitizing stations signs plus others.
- An expanded Code and Life Safety signs section with additional pictorials for installation of stairwell signs and those surrounding it.

- A greatly expanded wayfinding discussion in both the interior and exterior sign sections.
- Expanded campus/site plan design/layout options.
- Expanded “Need a Sign Program” chapter.
- Expanded “Room & Floor Renumbering” chapter.
- New signs added to Mandatory “VA Policy Signs by Directive”.
- Additional options have been added to the monument sign design.
- Various topics within the sections were revised to include more information and details.
- Within sections new subjects have been added on how to review shop drawings and submittals, how to select the correct type of sign company.
- New colors for exterior and interior signs have been provided along with updated colors for parking lot and parking structures.
- An expanded section discussing room renumbering and floor renumbering.
- Additional subjects that were revised include “Tips and Hints” and “Construction and Assembly Details”.

New Sections

- A section on Your Are Here Maps and Directories.
- A section on Parking Lot Signs.
- A section devoted to National Cemetery Signs.
- A glossary of terms used in the sign industry.
- A new section in the Appendix titled, “Emerging Sign Technologies” provides an overview of conceptual developments toward the use of new products and technology. The section also discusses applications of new technologies.

The revised VA Signage Design Guide is a living document that will be periodically updated. When changes do occur, “*Design Alerts*” will be e-mailed with the included changes.

The VA Signage Design Guide incorporates guidelines from ABAAS, ABA/ADA and NFPA.