



Almost **50%** of Canadian adults have or have experienced a temporary or permanent disability—or live with someone who has.

**Imagine a Canada where everyone can participate and contribute to their community. It's time to rethink how people of all abilities access and use our public spaces.**

Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification™ (RHFAC) is a rating system that measures the accessibility of buildings, sites, and final design plans, and promotes increased access through the adoption of Universal Design principles. Whether you are a property owner, building or facilities manager, architect, or engineer, RHFAC will give you a real snapshot of your building's current level of access and a roadmap on where and how to improve.

#### **RHFAC is the first program of its kind to:**

- ✓ **Measure the level of meaningful access**, based on the holistic user experience of people with varying disabilities affecting their mobility, vision, and hearing;
- ✓ **Qualify RHFAC Professionals to conduct ratings** through a RHFAC Professional designation; and,
- ✓ **Recognize an organization's commitment to accessibility** through formal certification as 'RHF Accessibility Certified' or 'RHF Accessibility Certified Gold.'

**Getting rated will position your organization as a leader in building a sustainable Canada that's accessible for all.**



## Why plan for accessibility?



### **Be prepared for Canada's changing demographics.**

Recent research from the Conference Board of Canada shows real spending by Canadians with disabilities will rise from 14 to 21 per cent of the total consumer market. Increasing overall accessibility will allow you to serve more customers and attract a wider pool of qualified employees.



### **Get ready for changing regulations.**

Prepare for impending federal government accessibility legislation by understanding your Site's current level of accessibility and learning where to improve.



### **Be recognized for your commitment to accessibility—be among the first in your industry to be certified.**

You can publicly list your certification through the online RHFAC Registry (hosted by CSA Group), download a free e-label and purchase a window decal or plaque to showcase your achievement.

## Aren't building codes enough?

Existing building codes vary widely by municipality and province. RHFAC provides a universal rating scale that enables national comparability.

While Sites may have certain accessible features, overall, they generally fall short of the actual needs of people with disabilities. Rating an entire Site from a user experience perspective ensures that it can accommodate everyone—parents with strollers, older adults and seniors, and people with temporary and permanent disabilities—and that it is inclusive of people's needs across their lifespan.



## Follow these 6 easy steps to get your Site rated:

### Plan

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#### Create your Organization Account on the RHFAC Registry

Once you submit your request, CSA Group finalizes registration via e-mail. This process typically takes three business days. For the RHFAC Registry, visit [rhfac.csaregistries.ca](http://rhfac.csaregistries.ca).



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#### Find a designated RHFAC Professional

1. While you await confirmation of your Organization account, find an RHFAC Professional to work with. The RHFAC Professional Directory can be found at [rickhansen.com/RHFAC-professional-directory](http://rickhansen.com/RHFAC-professional-directory).
2. Note that you must have an agreement with an RHFAC Professional before you can register your Site(s).



### Do

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#### Register Site(s) to be Rated

Login to your account and register each Site you want to have rated.



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#### Schedule your On-site Visit

Work with your RHFAC Professional to schedule a time for your on-site visit and determine estimated timelines to complete the rating.



**Note:** If you have registered a Site for a Pre-Construction Rating, final design drawings and other details are required in-lieu of an on-site visit.

### Celebrate

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#### Discover your Rating

Once CSA Group has received payment for the Application Fee and the rating has been adjudicated, you will receive a Scorecard, Letter of Certification, and Rating Summary on your dashboard (found in your Organization account) on the RHFAC Registry.



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#### Celebrate your Accessibility

1. If your Site achieves certification, list publicly on the RHFAC Registry and receive a complimentary e-label. You can also order plaques and window decals for an additional fee.
2. If your Site does not achieve certification, the Scorecard and Rating Summary will still provide valuable information about the current level of accessibility and highlight areas for improvement for your Site.



Even if your Site is not certified under RHFAC, your Scorecard and Rating Summary will provide valuable information about the current level of accessibility of your Site, and highlight areas of improvement.

### Do I have to list publicly?

Having your Site rated is risk-free. Ratings are designed to provide building owners with an understanding of the level of meaningful access of their Site. All building owners will receive a Scorecard and Rating Summary that outline areas of potential improvement; this information will help to guide you in undertaking accessibility improvements. The Scorecard is not published unless the building owner chooses to have the venue listed on the RHFAC Registry.

### Fee Structure

All participants must pay an Application Fee and RHFAC Professional Rating Fee.

#### A) Application Fee

The Application Fee of \$2,350 will be invoiced by CSA Group when you sign up your Site with the RHFAC Registry.

#### B) RHFAC Professional Rating Fee

The Rating Fee is charged by your RHFAC Professional to conduct an on-site rating, and to complete and submit the rating on the RHFAC Registry for adjudication. The entire process varies based on the size and complexity of a Site. *Please speak to your RHFAC Professional directly for rates.*

For a full fee breakdown, please see the Guide to RHF Accessibility Certification:

[rickhansen.com/RHFAC-Certification-Guide](http://rickhansen.com/RHFAC-Certification-Guide)

**Book your rating today. Visit [RickHansen.com/RHFAC](http://RickHansen.com/RHFAC) to get started.**