

## 521 CMR: ARCHITECTURAL ACCESS BOARD

### 521 CMR 39.00: CONTROLS

#### **39.1 GENERAL**

Controls and operating mechanisms in *accessible spaces*, along *accessible routes*, or as parts of *accessible elements* shall be *accessible* and shall comply with 521 CMR 39. For example: light switches and dispenser controls shall be accessible and shall comply with the requirements of 521 CMR 39.00.

#### **39.2 CLEAR FLOOR SPACE**

*Clear floor space* that allows a forward or a parallel approach by a person using a wheelchair shall be provided at controls, dispensers, receptacles, and other operable equipment.

#### **39.3 HEIGHT**

The highest operable part of controls, dispensers, receptacles, and other operable equipment shall be placed within at least one of the reach ranges specified in **521 CMR 6.5, Forward Reach** and **521 CMR 6.6, Side Reach**.

39.3.1 Electrical and communications system receptacles on walls shall be mounted between 15 inches (15" = 381mm) and 48 inches (48" = 1219mm) above the floor, measured at the centerline of the lowest receptacle.

Exception: These requirements do not apply where the use of special equipment dictates otherwise or where electrical and communications systems receptacles are not normally intended for use by building occupants.

#### **39.4 LOCATION**

All such controls shall be located at least 18 inches (18" = 457mm) from an interior corner.

#### **39.5 OPERATION**

Controls and operating mechanisms shall be operable with one hand and shall not require tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist. The force required to activate controls shall be no greater than five lbs.

#### **39.6 WINDOWS: RESERVED**