Why handicapped parking spaces vary

Maryland does not have a state-mandated standard-sized handicapped parking space as some other states. Specific counties have their own rule that mandates a larger size than the minimum the ADA requires. Be prepared to see a variety of possible sized handicapped spots depending on county.

Handicapped parking restrictions

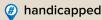
Restrictions such as time limits, patronage, and other rules may apply to handicapped parking spaces. Accommodations for motorists with disabilities do not apply to zones where stopping, standing, or parking is prohibited to all vehicles, and spaces which are reserved for special types of vehicles. Accommodations are not available where there is a local ordinance prohibiting any parking during heavy traffic periods or where parking is clearly a traffic hazard or where there is a local ordinance that restricts parking for vehicles that do not display a specified residential parking permit. Always check specific posted signs before you park, since you cannot disregard zones prohibiting all vehicles.

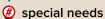
Residential handicapped parking

A designated area on a public street in which Maryland residents with permanent disabilities, who have no other alternative parking spaces near their homes, are allowed to park. The residential handicapped parking space is marked by poles and signage.

Van accessible handicapped parking

Some disability spaces are marked "van accessible." These spaces are designed with extra wide access aisles (eight feet wide) to accommodate vans with lifts and minivans with ramps, which require more space. Drivers with a disability placard or plate who do not have these special vehicles, should park in regular disability spaces first and only park in van accessible spaces if all other disability spaces are filled.







bus stop

These streets may be blocked for the Farmer's Market

Special needs parking

These are spaces which do not require a permit but have been offered in-kind, such as spaces designated for pregnant mothers or veterans.



Display your placard and plates

Placards must be hung on the inside rearview mirror. If the vehicle does not have an inside mirror, or the inside mirror is not visible from the rear, you may display the placard on top of the dashboard on the driver's side. Please make sure the placard side displayed shows the expiration date of the disability placard. Note: You must remove all hanging placards from the rearview mirror while your vehicle is in motion. You must always have your copy of the medical certification in your possession whenever you use the placard or plates. This certification must be presented to law enforcement upon request.

Illegal use of handicapped parking

In Maryland, illegal use of a handicapped parking pass can get you a fine of up to \$350, as of June 2010. This fine applies both if you obtain a parking pass through fraudulent means or if you use someone else's handicapped parking pass when that person is not in the vehicle with you. If you are seen by a MVA or police officer, you can be fined on the spot.

A vehicle in a handicapped space can be towed

Some reasons may be improper display of handicap status, violation of a local ordinance such as a time limit, or parking on private property such as an apartment complex or restaurant lot.

Electric vehicle charging stations

Electric Vehicles are Zero Emission Vehicles (ZEVs). ZEVs have the ability to produce zero tailpipe emissions. This helps reduce pollution from motor vehicles, one of the largest contributing sectors to Maryland's ozone problem. Refueling an electric vehicle is different from refueling a conventional internal combustion engine. Electric vehicles need to be plugged into the grid to recharge their batteries.

Reference: mva.maryland.gov mde.maryland.gov











