INTERPRETIVE OPINION

Pursuant to §103-50, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), all public buildings, facilities and sites constructed by, or on behalf of the State or any county, shall conform to the 2004 Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (2004 ADAAG) and amendments. In accordance to HRS §103-50 and Chapter 11-216, Hawaii Administrative Rules, the Disability and Communication Access Board has authority to issue interpretive opinions to HRS §103-50 design standards.

**Docket:** DCAB 2018-04: If the change in level at a doorway without a door (cased opening) is greater than the maximum threshold height allowed, can a ramp be used?

**Summary:** Per ADAAG 404.2.5, the maximum door threshold height is ½ inch, ¾ inch for existing or altered thresholds. Since a door threshold is considered a change in level, it is also required to comply with the requirements of ADAAG 302 and 303. ADAAG 303.4 states that changes in level greater than ½ inch are to be ramped and comply with ADAAG 405.

A ramp may be used at a cased opening, provided the requirements of ADAAG 404 and 405 can be met.
Ruling: For buildings or facilities subject to HRS §103-50,

**ADAAG Section 404.2.5 Thresholds**

Where a change in level occurs at a doorway without a door (cased opening), and the change in level exceeds the maximum threshold height allowed by ADAAG 404.2.5, a ramp may be used to navigate the change in level provided the cased opening and ramp complies with the applicable requirements in ADAAG 404 and 405, including but not limited to: slopes, landings, changes in level and clear widths.

![Diagram of ADAAG Section 404.2.5 Thresholds]

**EXAMPLE: SECTION AT CASED OPENING**

[Ruling: 11/15/2018] (Auth and Imp: HRS §103-50)

If you have any questions or comments regarding this ruling, please call us at 586-8121.

DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD