

Guide for EMS Assessor: Modular ramps

Modular ramps are generally aluminium and made up of interlocking parts that are assembled on site. If the Ministry of Health (MOH) funding is going to be considered, note that the ramp is owned by the MOH and on long term loan to the person for as long as needed. When the ramp is no longer needed the ramp will be removed and refurbished for another person to use.

Considerations for modular ramping

Consider which entrance is the most practical and cost-effective to modify, such as the:

- closest access to where a vehicle can be parked
- total rise and environment

Please note: MOH funding can only be used for one entrance to the home (Section 6.1. of the MOH Housing Modification manual <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/disability-services/contracting-and-working-disability-support-services/equipment-and-modification-services>)

Gradient (height of step/rise x desired gradient = length of ramp)

- Consider how the client mobilises. Are they ambulant and/or do they use mobility equipment?
- The slope/rise is the difference in height between the start to finish point of the ramp
- A 1:12 gradient is generally considered appropriate

Environment

- Consider the slope of land. This may require the ramp to be longer to achieve the desired gradient.
- The position of the ramp must be clear of any areas that may create a risk, (e.g.) an open window (window stays could be used to restrict the opening), a low covered porch, outward opening doors, water tap, air con unit, gully trap, drains or pipes etc.
- Ramps must end on the client's property (i.e. not shared ownership or communal land)

Landing platform

- A landing platform (generally 1200mm long) is required at the door entrance to enable safe use of the door
- Additional landing platforms are generally required when a ramp is longer than 4m

General specifications

- Ramps are 1000mm wide with a 75mm up-stand on both edges
- Handrails are required. Either on one or both sides depending on the environment

EMS Advice

- Required for a ramp with a total rise of over 1m
- Available for consultation regarding MoH eligibility, access criteria or solution

Information for modular ramp applications

Photographs of existing environment

Capture the wider environment. 3 photos are necessary; towards access, away from access and the wider environment (include the vehicle access if relevant) – see examples below.

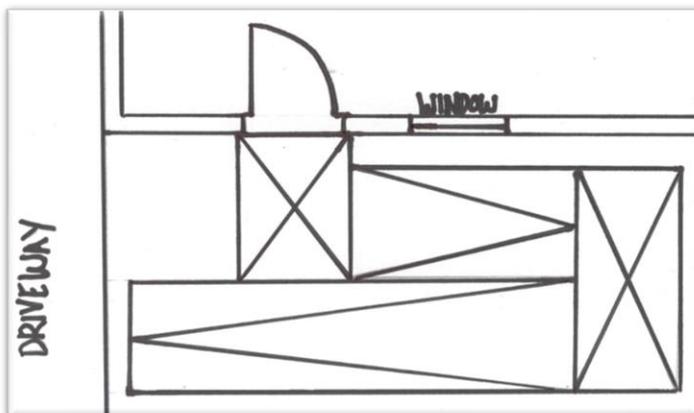


Images courtesy of Able Access

Sketches—existing and proposed

Provide a signed sketch of the existing environment (bird's-eye view) and a sketch of the proposed ramp solution. Use consistent units of measurement e.g. mm (metric)

Bird's-eye view



Side view

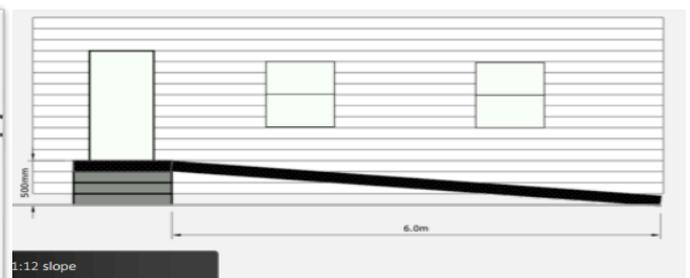


Image courtesy of Able Access

Documents

Completed scheduled summary, signed terms and conditions and property owner approval form will be required.

Acknowledgement

Enable New Zealand would like to acknowledge Able Access, modular ramping specialists, for their help with this guide. Able Access can be contacted on 0800 436 773 www.ableaccess.co.nz