



Permit & Development Center

809 N. Broadway, Milwaukee, WI 53202 | (414) 286-8211 | milwaukee.gov/permits | DevelopmentCenterInfo@milwaukee.gov

You must submit plans for a new or replacement ramp before a building permit can be issued. The plans will be examined by a plan examiner to ensure they conform to the State of Wisconsin building code and the Milwaukee building and zoning codes.

Plan evaluation

Here are some of the items the plan examiner looks for when evaluating porch and deck plans:

- Ideally, ramps should be placed in the rear yard. When this is not reasonable, the ramp may be constructed in the front, rear street, side street, or side setback provided the following conditions are met:
 - The ramp has skirting material to screen the areas beneath the ramp
 - The ramp is maintained in good condition
 - Trees or shrubs displaced by the ramp are relocated or replaced, and
 - The ramp does not intrude into the public way.
- The ramp must be designed and built to comply with the requirements of section [SPS 321.045](#) of the Uniform Dwelling Code for the State of Wisconsin.

Submitting plans

Walk-in service is available for the review of ramp plans.

Check [online](#) for current hours. Because we cannot predict the number of customers who will arrive for walk-in service on a given day, you may need to wait for service

You need to bring the following materials when you apply for a building permit:

1. Two (2) copies of a certified survey of your property OR a scaled drawing or site plan that shows where the ramp will be located.
2. Two (2) sets of plans for the ramp, drawn to scale, that show:
 - a. The size and height of the ramp
 - b. The type of construction (beam size and spans, size and spacing of joist, decking material, etc.)
 - c. Footing size and placement
 - d. Steps, guardrails, railings, etc.
 - e. Cost of ramp

Permit Fees

Fees are based on the cost of materials and labor to build the project, excluding the cost of HVAC, electrical, plumbing, furniture, equipment, and decorating cost. There is a plan examination fee for review of the documents and permit fee, as well as other associated fees. Click [here](#) for current fee schedule.

Associated Permits

If your project involves installing a new *service door* or *patio door* to access the new ramp, that work must be included on your ramp plans. If you need to demolish an old porch, you may also be required to take out a *demolition permit*.