THE IOWA STATE FAIR. America’s classic state fair, welcomes everyone to Iowa’s largest celebration held annually in August.

THE FAIR BOARD is committed to making the Fair’s facilities accessible to all. No qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participating in or be denied the benefits of public services, programs or activities held on the Fairgrounds.

SUGGESTIONS for improvements and additional services are always welcomed by the Fair Board, which will continue efforts to make the Fairgrounds accessible to everyone.

RENOVATION always complies with federal specifications and guidelines related to accessibility. As maintenance and modernization funds become available, the special needs of all Iowans will be kept foremost.

Services that provide convenient assistance and accessibility to Fairgoers:

ADA/ACCESSIBLE PARKING: parking located in the North Lot, University Lot and Northeast Lot. Admission to this lot is through Gate 2 at East 33rd Street and East University Avenue. Vehicles with a DOT parking permit or a license plate designating a disabled driver or passenger will be directed to the parking area inside Gate 2. Vehicle parking is $10 on a space-available basis.

Some hard-packed surface parking is available; however, the rolling nature of the terrain means most of the parking area is unpaved. Designated accessible parking spaces on main streets in the inner grounds will not be available during the Fair. Parking personnel will do their best to direct visitors to the closest, most convenient parking available.

ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES: Available in the John and Emily Putney Family Cattle barn Penningroth Media Center, Pioneer Livestock Pavilion, Sheep Barn Sale Ring, Swine Barn Sale Ring and Richard O. Jacobson Exhibition Center when the State Fair sound system is being used. For more information, call 515-262-3111, ext. 322, at least 72 hours in advance.

During the 11 days of the Fair, a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) will be available 8 a.m.-6 p.m. for outgoing local/credit calls located in the Administration Building.

BUILDINGS: Ramps, curb cuts, street-level entrances and observation ramps make most buildings and facilities accessible to those using mobility aids. Accessible seating is available in the Grandstand, Pioneer Livestock Pavilion and Jacobson Center. Donations from Iowans across the state have paid for the replacement of many blocks of sidewalks each year to help eliminate and reduce barriers that impact those with mobility aids.

DART STATE FAIR PARK & RIDE BUSES: Fairgoers can park their car for free and ride DART buses for a quick and easy, direct trip to the Iowa State Fair. Free parking is available at three locations from 8:30 a.m. to midnight every day of the Fair.

FIRST AID: The Hy-Vee Health and First Aid Center is located east of the John Deere Agriculture Building. A satellite station is located in the Robert G. Horner and Sheri Avis Horner Service Center, west of the Administration Building. Both are staffed by Des Moines Fire and Rescue.

Baby Diaper Changing/Nursing Station: Nursing stations located in both the Paul R. Knapp Animal Learning Center and Walnut Center provide parents and children with a safe, comfortable and private atmosphere. Rocking chairs and an area for diaper changing are available. Diaper changing and family restrooms are also available at the Heritage Village restroom facility adjacent to the Susan Knapp Amphitheater, north of Ye Old Mill and inside the Richard O. Jacobson Exhibition Center. An adult changing station is available in the Hy-Vee Health and First Aid Center east of the John Deere Agriculture Building.

GRANDSTAND SEATING: When ordering Grandstand tickets through etix.com or the State Fair Ticket Office, please request ADA/accessible seating; room for one person and one companion will be
For convenience the Fair will provide the Blue Line Parking Shuttle which is a free tram that runs daily from 5 a.m. until 1 a.m. The Blue Line Parking Shuttle has 4 routine stops that include the North Lot, University, and the Northeast lot and will stop at Gate 13 & 15 for entry to the Fair.

Campground Shuttle: Campground shuttles will run from the First Church to the campgrounds and will be stopping at Pioneer Hall. Due to safety protocols, the inner grounds trams will not be running. Please plan accordingly for additional walking or contact HomeTown Mobility at 1-877-928-5388 to reserve a scooter. Scooters are available at Gate 8, 10, 11, 13 & 15. Personal golf carts are not allowed on the Fairgrounds.

PAGING: Representatives of the Iowa State Fair Police offer paging for lost children, senior citizens and emergencies ONLY from 8 a.m. to midnight in The Hall of Law, located East side of the Grandstand. After noon, there may be a few tractors that fire up before noon to warm up. We will try to quiet as much as we can, but if you or someone you are with is sensitive to sounds, please plan accordingly for headphones or to be inside buildings. A Calming Room will be open all days of the Fair in the Robert G. Horner and Sheri Avis Horner Service Center. It will be open and staffed during the Sensory Friendly morning, but upon request from the nearby First Aid Station, it can be opened for special circumstances throughout the Fair.

RESTROOMS: Facilities with ramps, widened doorways, handrails and stalls to accommodate those using mobility aids are available in major buildings across the Fairgrounds. They include The Robert G. Horner & Sheri Avis Horner Service Center, Grandstand, Walnut Center, Patty & Jim Cownie Cultural Center, Elwell Family Food Center, Richard O. Jacobson Exhibition Center, Bruce L. Rastetter 4-H Exhibits Building, Paul R. Knapp Animal Learning Center, William C. Knapp Varied Industries Buildings, Stalling Barn, Putney Family Cattle Barn, Pioneer Livestock Pavilion, plus MidAmerican Energy facilities east of the Susan Knapp Amphitheater, north of Gate 15 and north of Ye Old Mill. Locations are identified on the map located within this guide.

SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS: To arrange for a sign language interpreter for a specific event, please call 515-262-3111, ext. 287 at least two weeks in advance of the event.

WHEELCHAIR & SCOOTER RENTAL: HomeTown Mobility accepts reservations online or by calling 1-877-928-5388 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday – Friday. They are also open 7 days a week during the Fair to accept call-in reservations and answer questions. There is an additional $5 processing fee for all call-in reservations. To avoid the processing fee, reserve online at HTMIA.com. A limited number of wheelchairs and scooters are held for walk-up customers on a first come first serve basis. Reservations will only be accepted for full day Scooter and Wheelchair rentals. Reservations need to be made 24 hours in advance. A driver’s license or state ID is required for all rentals. Cancellations must be made 48 hours in advance to receive a full refund, less a $5 cancellation fee. Rental locations are: Gate 8, 10, 11, 13 & 15.

Scooters: $65 per full day (8 a.m. to 11 p.m.); $45 per half day (8 a.m. to 3 p.m. or 3 p.m. to 11 p.m.)

Wheelchairs: $25 per day

Iowa State Fair Scooter Policy

Three to four wheeled, manual or electrically driven (at a walking pace) scooters are permitted to be used in all areas open to pedestrian use. These devices shall be single rider only devices that cannot exceed 36” wide x 52” long. Scooters are available for rental, during the fair, at Gates 8, 10, 11, 13 and 15.

Other power driven mobility devices are not permitted on the Iowa State Fairgrounds due to legitimate safety concerns. These concerns involve the risk of potential harm to the operator and others by the operation of the mobility device and have been determined by the following standards:

- The type, size, weight, dimensions and speed of the device.
- The Iowa State Fairgrounds volume of pedestrian traffic.
- The type, size, weight, dimensions and speed of the device.
- The Iowa State Fairgrounds design and operational characteristics.
- Whether legitimate safety requirements can be established to permit the safe operation of the device.
- Scooters may not exceed the 36" wide x 52" long size dimensions. Scooters must fit within the sizing mats at the gates.

SENSORY-FRIENDLY MORNING

The lights and sounds of the Iowa State Fair will be a little lower on Wednesday, August 17, 2022 for the first ever Sensory-Friendly Morning at the Fair, presented by ChildServe. At the Sensory-Friendly Morning, we will create an environment designed with children and adults with autism or sensory processing disorders in mind. Our goal for the morning is to enable families who have a member, whether child or adult, with special needs to visit, explore and enjoy the Fair.

Although the Truck and Tractor Pulls do not start until noon, there may be a few tractors that fire up before noon to warm up. We will try to quiet as much as we can, but if you or someone you are with is sensitive to sounds, please plan accordingly for headphones or to be inside buildings.

Questions? Call 515/262-3111 or 800/545-FAIR
Additional information is also available at: iowastatefair.org

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The Adult Changing Station is located in the First Aid Building marked with a red cross under the sky glider near Fun Forest. It is fully automatic and moves from 6 inches to table height. It is open from 9 a.m. to Midnight each day. The only animals allowed on grounds and in buildings are those that align with the ADA’s service animal classification for animals specifically trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities. Animals whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals under the ADA and are therefore not allowed on grounds or in buildings.

2022 ACCESSIBILITY GUIDE

Features and Facilities
Making the Iowa State Fair Accessible