



The BCA contains technical provisions for the design and construction of buildings and other structures. New buildings are required to provide access to people with disabilities in accordance with the Australian Standard AS 1428.1 - thus the BCA requires mandatory disability access inclusions.

DEEWR sought advice from the state, territory and non-government education authorities responsible for managing the implementation of projects regarding mandatory disability access requirements and requirements for hearing loops for projects funded under the BER. The advice received was broadly consistent, that:

- access requirements are detailed in the DDA and its related regulations
- minimum standards are provided for in the BCA; and
- hearing loops are not a mandatory requirement, though the majority of education authorities indicated that the needs of the students attending the school would be taken into consideration.

The NSW Department of Education and Training indicated that in relation to access requirements, in addition to the DDA and BCA, NSW Government school projects are required to meet the NSW Schools Facilities Standards, which in some areas exceed the BCA standards.