

Restroom Access

FAQs

Q: I think my state already has a law that requires restroom access (or why can't we pass a law?)

A: There are currently 20 states that have passed laws requiring businesses to open their restrooms when certain conditions are met. Unfortunately, after passing the laws, patients and volunteers are often disappointed and frustrated there is a lack of awareness and compliance with the laws, as well as an absence of any enforcement mechanism. Years after laws are passed patients are often still denied access.

Q: Why don't we ask for more municipal restrooms?

A: Public restrooms are a great addition to a community, but they take time to build. They also take money to build and maintain, and if maintenance is inadequate, no one will want to use them. In some communities there is limited space to add public buildings, and in some locations, there are objections from neighbors.

Q: How does a tax incentive work?

A: Businesses who choose to participate are given a tax break in exchange for make their restrooms accessible during their normal business hours. They are required to display a sign and list their location in a restroom finder app. The tax break helps offset maintenance costs.

Q: Why would a business opt-in to this program?

A: This model is completely voluntary. Businesses that open their restrooms can promote that they are community-friendly and they can receive the incentive. Businesses that already have open restrooms and list their location in an app would also be eligible for a credit.

Q: Are the restrooms only available to IBD patients?

A: No, the restrooms would be open to anyone who needs them.

Q: Have tax incentives been tried anywhere else?

A: We believe this is a new concept in the U.S. We know that this model is working in parts of the [U.K.](#), as well as [Germany](#) and [Switzerland](#).