Reserve a Residential Disability Parking Space for Free

By Alex Roederer, CCRA Streets Committee Chair

Under Philadelphia code, there are two types of parking spaces which serve persons with disabilities: Disability parking spaces, and Residential disability parking spaces.

Disability parking spaces are reserved for any vehicle bearing or displaying a disability parking permit (or "placard"). One of these disability parking spaces shall be on each side of each hundred block on which there is metered parking, as close as possible to an accessible curb ramp.

Apply for a **disability parking permit placard** through the PennDOT Bureau of Motor Vehicles, by filling out form MV-145A, "Person With Disability Parking Placard Application," and mailing it in. Details are available on the PA DMV website here.

Residential disability parking spaces are on-street parking spaces reserved for a specific disability parking permit on the block where the person with disability resides. Once designated as a disabled parking zone, the parking spot becomes **license plate specific**, and can only be used for the applicant. An applicant also must have a disability parking permit placard (described above) to apply for one of these spaces.

Eligible disabled residents may apply to the Philadelphia Parking Authority to have a residential disability parking space assigned to them, free of charge.

To apply, the applicant must submit the following:

- a Physician's Certification of Disability form, completed by their treating physician. This will be reviewed and approved or denied at Moss Rehabilitation Hospital.
- A copy of a valid driver's license
- A copy of a Disabled Person Placard ID Card (see instructions above)
- A copy of Person with Disability Placard, if applicable
- A copy of valid vehicle registration, displaying a disabled license plate
- Proof of Residency, if not covered by driver's license.

The vehicle must be registered in the applicant's name, unless the applicant is under the age of 18. Zones are reviewed for continued applicability on a one to three year cycle.

Documents should be submitted to the Philadelphia Parking Authority at the address found on the application form.

The general time frame for application processing is two to four months.

Full details can be found at the Philadelphia Government Website, and as part of the PPA's Residential Parking for People with Disabilities application form.

Lastly, if your request for a residential disability parking space was denied, you can request a hearing to review the decision. Fill out the "Application for appeal of denial of reserved residential parking for people with disabilities" appeal form on this website within 30 days of the date of your denial letter from the PPA.