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| Washington State Disability Support Services Council | DSSC |
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Dear WSSSC Council:

The Disability Support Services Council (DSSC) is writing to address membership concerns regarding accessibility at the Spring 2017 WSSSC conference. Various examples of inaccessibility were observed by multiple members including, but not limited to: accessible seating, signage, ramps, accessible space in break-out sessions, staging, conference materials, and accessibility of the built environment.

It is the Council’s recommendation that the need for accessibility be addressed at future conferences, beyond mere legal compliance and with an eye toward all attendee’s varied needs.

To this end, in the DSSC Winter Meeting on January 25, 2018, a motion was made, seconded, and approved recommending that an individual serving on the WSSSC Planning Committee be responsible for the accessibility of the triennial WSSSC Conference event. It is the membership’s recommendation that this individual be someone within the V.P./Dean’s Council. The appointed individual may ask for assistance coordinating accessibility from members of other councils with accessibility expertise, such as the DSSC.

Details to consider for accessibility include: travel, parking, signage, lodging, and navigation in all aspects of the conference such as seating, closed captioning on video materials, access aisles, staging, ramps, break-out sessions, reasonable height of banquet serving tables, ASL interpreters, etc.

Some helpful resources for accessible conference planning are the ADA Accessible Planning Guidelines: [www.ADAhospitality.org](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ADAhospitality.org&data=02%7C01%7CAimee.Elber%40scc.spokane.edu%7Cb8b35ead82a449e7906808d5676d3580%7C4dedfefa6bd04442a06c98aed0b4b8da%7C1%7C0%7C636528641112417028&sdata=czF7iGeQH4kOCEmg8O2kIuCrBy3W9nhjq3%2FpnRUye3o%3D&reserved=0), as well as [www.ADA.gov](http://www.ADA.gov).

Please consider appointing a WSSSC Council member to facilitate accessibility at future WSSSC Conferences and events.

Respectfully submitted,

DSSC Board, on behalf of DSSC Council Members