

Evacuation with access or mobility needs

ACTION CHECKLIST

Plan movement around the person who needs the most assistance. Keep mobility aids, medicines, communication tools and essential care supplies together.

Confirm accessible transport and a suitable destination directly; do not assume a shelter, lift or public rescue vehicle will be available.

[] Identify the actual assistance

Write down transfer needs, walking distance, stairs, powered devices, communication needs and care routines. Ask the person what help is safe and useful.

[] Check the route

Assess exits and stairs before a crisis. Do not use lifts in a fire or damaged building, and do not improvise a dangerous carry.

[] Confirm support

Arrange more than one trusted helper and transport option. Make the responsibility specific rather than assuming someone else will come.

[] Keep essential equipment close

Include medicines, charger, batteries, mobility aids and a concise care note. Keep a portable backup where possible.

[] Verify the destination

Ask about step-free entry, toilets, charging, refrigeration, caregivers and service animals. A general promise of accessibility is not a confirmed arrangement.

WATCH FOR

Do not separate a person from essential equipment or a necessary caregiver if avoidable. An untrained lifting attempt can injure both the person and the helper.

IF HELP IS UNAVAILABLE

Use your confirmed private support network and a destination suited to care needs. If transport cannot be arranged, identify the safest available refuge and communicate the precise assistance required through a safe channel.

Updated 2026-10-02 | Civilian educational guidance. Seek qualified help when reachable and safe; do not delay immediate protective action.

Full guide: <https://ospreyzero.com/emergencies/accessible-evacuation/>

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