

The **Center for Inclusive Design and Environmental Access (IDeA Center)** is dedicated to making environments and products more usable, safer, and healthier. Since 1984, the IDeA Center has been a center of excellence in Universal Design.

**Universal Design is a process that enables and empowers a diverse population by improving human performance, health and wellness, and social participation.**

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## The 8 Goals of Universal Design

The **IDeA Center** developed the 8 goals of Universal Design expand UD's original focus to also include social participation and health and wellness. These 8 goals define the outcomes of UD practice in ways that can be measured and applied to all design domains within the constraints of existing resources. In addition, they encompass functional, social, and emotional dimensions. Moreover, each goal is supported by an interdisciplinary knowledge base (e.g., anthropometrics, biomechanics, perception, cognition, safety, health promotion, and social interaction).

- **Body Fit**  
*Accommodating a wide range of body sizes and abilities*
- **Comfort**  
*Keeping demands within desirable limits of body function and perception*
- **Awareness**  
*Ensuring that critical information for use is easily perceived*
- **Understanding**  
*Making methods of operation and use intuitive, clear, and unambiguous*
- **Wellness**  
*Contributing to health promotion, avoidance of disease, and protection from hazards*
- **Social Integration**  
*Treating all groups with dignity and respect*
- **Personalization**  
*Incorporating opportunities for choice and the expression of individual preferences*
- **Cultural Appropriateness**  
*Respecting and reinforcing cultural values, and the social and environmental contexts of any design project*