

The most efficient and timesaving way for designing a signage system is to first establish a sign type family. The sign type family is the catalog of all directional, identification, and informational / regulatory signage applications. It functions as a tool for ordering, producing, and replacing signs. A typical sign family includes:

- Multiple size and placement options for all sign types. All currently known conditions campus-wide, addressed with various mounting options. For example, identity signs may require applications for interior & exterior conditions, ceiling mounted, size adjustments, or location modifications due to architectural details.
- Document specifications for signage includes sizing, fonts, colors, symbols (if necessary), and materials, as well as fabrication and installation requirements.

Legibility:

Legibility is another important factor in the process of creating an effective signage system. Legibility is defined as the recognition of various elements that make a message or symbol understandable. Additional factors that may affect legibility include size, placement, lighting, contrast, and viewing angle.

It is necessary to have consistent placement and presentation of messaging on signs that are viewable to vehicular or pedestrian traffic. This includes the sign's height above grade, and the overall size of the sign, including its support structure. This will minimize misinterpretation of the intended direction and uses of the facility. The sign location and surroundings will determine the range of visibility for the viewer to interpret the information. If the viewer is given the appropriate distance to comprehend the messages, they will be able to make a decision to change direction, or stay on the same pathway. It is also necessary to create a consistent size for text and symbols throughout the facility campus. This will create a repetitive display of information which, in turn, will make interpretation and comprehension much easier.

