

Site Accessibility

WCAG 2.0 Checklist

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Table of Contents

1. Section 508 & WCAG 2.0	1
About	1
Inherited 508 Compliance Through WCAG 2.0	1
§ 1194.22 Web-based intranet and internet information and applications.	2
2. Checklist	4
Current Conformance	4
Notable Improvements Since Previous Checklist	4
Areas to Note and Future Improvement	4
Future Goals	5
About the Checklist	5
Success Criteria	6
Text Alternatives	6
<i>Non-text Content</i>	6
Time-based Media	7
<i>Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded)</i>	7
<i>Captions (Prerecorded)</i>	7
<i>Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded)</i>	7
<i>Captions (Live)</i>	7
<i>Audio Description (Prerecorded)</i>	8
<i>Sign Language (Prerecorded)</i>	8
<i>Extended Audio Description (Prerecorded)</i>	8

<i>Media Alternative (Prerecorded)</i>	8
<i>Audio-only (Live)</i>	8
Adaptable	8
<i>Info and Relationships</i>	8
<i>Meaningful Sequence</i>	9
<i>Sensory Characteristics</i>	9
Distinguishable	9
<i>Use of Color</i>	9
<i>Audio Control</i>	9
<i>Contrast (Minimum)</i>	10
<i>Resize text</i>	10
<i>Images of Text</i>	10
<i>Contrast (Enhanced)</i>	10
<i>Low or No Background Audio</i>	11
<i>Visual Presentation</i>	11
<i>Images of Text (No Exception)</i>	12
Keyboard Accessible	12
<i>Keyboard</i>	12
<i>No Keyboard Trap</i>	12
<i>Keyboard (No Exception)</i>	13
Enough Time	13
<i>Timing Adjustable</i>	13
<i>Pause, Stop, Hide</i>	14
<i>No Timing</i>	14
* <i>Interruptions</i>	15
<i>Re-authenticating</i>	15
Seizures	15
<i>Three Flashes or Below Threshold</i>	15
<i>Three Flashes</i>	15
Navigable	16
<i>Bypass Blocks</i>	16
<i>Page Titled</i>	16
<i>Focus Order</i>	16

<i>Link Purpose (In Context)</i>	16
<i>Multiple Ways</i>	16
<i>Headings and Labels</i>	17
<i>Focus Visible</i>	17
<i>Location</i>	17
<i>Link Purpose (Link Only)</i>	17
<i>Section Headings</i>	17
Readable	18
<i>Language of Page</i>	18
<i>Language of Parts</i>	18
<i>Unusual Words</i>	18
<i>Abbreviations</i>	18
<i>Reading Level</i>	18
<i>Pronunciation</i>	19
Predictable	19
<i>On Focus</i>	19
<i>On Input</i>	19
<i>Consistent Navigation</i>	19
<i>Consistent Identification</i>	19
<i>Change on Request</i>	20
Input Assistance	20
<i>Error Identification</i>	20
<i>Labels or Instructions</i>	20
<i>Error Suggestion</i>	20
<i>Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data)</i>	20
<i>Help</i>	21
<i>Error Prevention (All)</i>	21
Compatible	21
<i>Parsing</i>	21
<i>Name, Role, Value</i>	22

1. Section 508 & WCAG 2.0

About

In 1998, Congress amended the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794d) as amended by the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (P.L. 105 - 220), August 7, 1998 to require Federal agencies to make their electronic and information technology (EIT) accessible to people with disabilities.

Specifically, Section 508 of that act requires that when Federal agencies develop, procure, maintain, or use EIT, Federal employees with disabilities have access to and use of information and data that is comparable to the access and use by Federal employees who are not individuals with disabilities, unless an undue burden would be imposed on the agency.

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) are part of a series of Web accessibility guidelines published by the W3C's Web Accessibility Initiative. They consist of a set of guidelines for making content accessible, primarily for disabled users, but also for all user agents, including highly limited devices, such as mobile phones. The current version, 2.0, is also an ISO standard, ISO/IEC 40500:2012. WCAG 2.0 was published as a W3C Recommendation on 11 December 2008.

Inherited 508 Compliance Through WCAG 2.0

Given that WCAG seeks to accomplish what Section 508 does, but in a more recent and comprehensive manner, we can infer 508 compliance through specific WCAG guidelines. The relevant 508 standards map to WCAG as follows:

§ 1194.22 Web-based intranet and internet information and applications.

(a) A text equivalent for every non-text element shall be provided (e.g., via "alt", "longdesc", or in element content).

└ **WCAG 2.0 Guideline 1.1.1**

(b) Equivalent alternatives for any multimedia presentation shall be synchronized with the presentation.

└ **WCAG 2.0 Guideline 1.2.1**

(c) Web pages shall be designed so that all information conveyed with color is also available without color, for example from context or markup.

└ **WCAG 2.0 Guideline 1.4.1**

(d) Documents shall be organized so they are readable without requiring an associated style sheet.

└ **WCAG 2.0 Guideline 1.3**

(e) Redundant text links shall be provided for each active region of a server-side image map.

└ **WCAG 2.0 Guideline 1.3.1**

(f) Client-side image maps shall be provided instead of server-side image maps except where the regions cannot be defined with an available geometric shape.¹

└ **WCAG 2.0 Guideline 1.3.3**

(g) Row and column headers shall be identified for data tables.¹

└ **WCAG 2.0 Guideline 1.3.1**

(h) Markup shall be used to associate data cells and header cells for data tables that have two or more logical levels of row or column headers.

└ **WCAG 2.0 Guideline 1.3.1**

(i) Frames shall be titled with text that facilitates frame identification and navigation.

└ **WCAG 2.0 Guideline 2.4.1**

(j) Pages shall be designed to avoid causing the screen to flicker with a frequency greater than 2 Hz and lower than 55 Hz.

└ **WCAG 2.0 Guideline 2.3.1**

(k) A text-only page, with equivalent information or functionality, shall be provided to make a web site comply with the provisions of this part, when compliance cannot be accomplished in any other way. The content of the text-only page shall be updated whenever the primary page changes.

└ **WCAG 2.0 Guideline 1.1.1**

(l) When pages utilize scripting languages to display content, or to create interface elements, the information provided by the script shall be identified with functional text that can be read by assistive technology.

└ **WCAG 2.0 Guideline 4.1.2**

(m) When a web page requires that an applet, plug-in or other application be present on the client system to interpret page content, the page must provide a link to a plug-in or applet that complies with §1194.21(a) through (l).

└ **No direct mapping to WCAG. We don't require a plug-in/applet.**

(n) When electronic forms are designed to be completed on-line, the form shall allow people using assistive technology to access the information, field elements, and functionality required for completion and submission of the form, including all directions and cues.

└ **WCAG 2.0 Guideline 3.3.2 & 4.1.2**

(o) A method shall be provided that permits users to skip repetitive navigation links.

└ **WCAG 2.0 Guideline 2.4.1**

(p) When a timed response is required, the user shall be alerted and given sufficient time to indicate more time is required.

└ **WCAG 2.0 Guideline 2.2.1**

2. Checklist

Current Conformance

The currently self-assessed WCAG 2.0 conformance level is:

- Level A:** Full Conformance
- Level AA:** Full Conformance
- Level AAA:** Partial Conformance

Notable Improvements Since Previous Checklist

- Uploaded files are now scanned and videos converted in the background. No longer do users have to sit and wait with a spinning process in the foreground. In addition to a better user experience, we feel this assists accessibility as users can see placeholders with progress on the page and are free to leave and return. Long video conversions were especially problematic to anybody with visual or attention considerations.
- Content insertion at multiple points in the portfolio help users avoid having to drag and re-sort content
- The submission interface has been brought inline to improve completion rates
- A student's performance graph on the dashboard now has an ARIA accessible tabular view of the data.

Areas to Note and Future Improvement

It is important to note that certain features of the applications could create accessibility issues between a pair of users. For example the creation of audio comments or video-based course material to be consumed by somebody with an auditory or visual impairment.

While we claim conformance due to there being no native media content created by Chalk & Wire, this area of the system needs improvements.

Future Goals

- Implementation of an audio to text feature, to either transcribe audio comments immediately to text or to support the conversion by the consumer
- Allowing an author to attach a captions set for a video (to be consumed via HTML <track> elements with the video player)
- Deeper review of third party plugins

About the Checklist

This document lists all of the requirements (called "success criteria") from Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0. Each criterion is categorized as either a level "A", "AA" or "AAA" requirement.

Note that all techniques are informative—one does not have to follow them. The "sufficient techniques" listed on the W3C site are considered sufficient to meet the success criteria; however, it is not necessary to use those particular techniques. Anyone can submit new techniques at any time. If techniques are used other than those listed by the Working Group, then some other method for establishing the technique's ability to meet the success criteria would be needed.

In addition to the 'sufficient techniques', there are also advisory techniques that go beyond WCAG 2.0's requirements. Everybody is encouraged to apply all techniques that they are able to, including the advisory techniques, in order to best address the needs of the widest possible range of users.

Note that even content that conforms at the highest level (AAA) will not be accessible to individuals with all types, degrees, or combinations of disability, particularly in the cognitive language and learning areas.

Success Criteria

- ✔ Meets Criteria
- ✘ Doesn't Meet Criteria
- ⊗ Not Applicable/No Relevant Content

Text Alternatives

[Guideline 1.1](#) Provide text alternatives for any non-text content so that it can be changed into other forms people need, such as large print, braille, speech, symbols or simpler language.

✔ **A** Non-text Content

[1.1.1](#) All [non-text content](#) that is presented to the user has a [text alternative](#) that serves the equivalent purpose, except for the situations listed below.

- Controls, Input: If non-text content is a control or accepts user input, then it has a [name](#) that describes its purpose. (Refer to Guideline 4.1 for additional requirements for controls and content that accepts user input.)
- Time-Based Media: If non-text content is time-based media, then text alternatives at least provide descriptive identification of the non-text content. (Refer to Guideline 1.2 for additional requirements for media.)
- Test: If non-text content is a test or exercise that would be invalid if presented in [text](#), then text alternatives at least provide descriptive identification of the non-text content.
- Sensory: If non-text content is primarily intended to create a [specific sensory experience](#), then text alternatives at least provide descriptive identification of the non-text content.
- [CAPTCHA](#): If the purpose of non-text content is to confirm that content is being accessed by a person rather than a computer, then text alternatives that identify and describe the purpose of the non-text content are provided, and alternative forms of CAPTCHA using output modes for different types of sensory perception are provided to accommodate different disabilities.
- Decoration, Formatting, Invisible: If non-text content is [pure decoration](#), is used only for visual formatting, or is not presented to users, then it is implemented in a way that it can be ignored by [assistive technology](#).

Notes

Non-text comment is very uncommon in the application. Virtually all of it is user-created for other users, which is generally exempt from guidelines. However, whenever possible text alternates that we can infer and don't exist, are added.

Time-based Media

[Guideline 1.2](#) Provide alternatives for time-based media.

Note: *Time based media is user-created and thus exempt from alternative versions.*

🔊 **A** Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded)

[1.2.1](#) For [prerecorded audio-only](#) and prerecorded [video-only](#) media, the following are true, except when the audio or video is a [media alternative for text](#) and is clearly labeled as such:

- Prerecorded Audio-only: An [alternative for time-based media](#) is provided that presents equivalent information for prerecorded audio-only content.
- Prerecorded Video-only: Either an alternative for time-based media or an audio track is provided that presents equivalent information for prerecorded video-only content.

🔊 **A** Captions (Prerecorded)

[1.2.2](#) [Captions](#) are provided for all [prerecorded audio](#) content in [synchronized media](#), except when the media is a [media alternative for text](#) and is clearly labeled as such.

🔊 **A** Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded)

[1.2.3](#) An [alternative for time-based media](#) or [audio description](#) of the [prerecorded video](#) content is provided for [synchronized media](#), except when the media is a [media alternative for text](#) and is clearly labeled as such.

🔊 **AA** Captions (Live)

[1.2.4](#) [Captions](#) are provided for all [live audio](#) content in [synchronized media](#). (Level AA)

⊗ **AA Audio Description (Prerecorded)**

[1.2.5 Audio description](#) is provided for all [prerecorded video](#) content in [synchronized media](#). (Level AA)

⊗ **AAA Sign Language (Prerecorded)**

[1.2.6 Sign language interpretation](#) is provided for all [prerecorded audio](#) content in [synchronized media](#). (Level AAA)

⊗ **AAA Extended Audio Description (Prerecorded)**

[1.2.7](#) Where pauses in foreground audio are insufficient to allow [audio descriptions](#) to convey the sense of the video, [extended audio description](#) is provided for all [prerecorded video](#) content in [synchronized media](#). (Level AAA)

⊗ **AAA Media Alternative (Prerecorded)**

[1.2.8](#) An [alternative for time-based media](#) is provided for all [prerecorded synchronized media](#) and for all prerecorded [video-only](#) media. (Level AAA)

⊗ **AAA Audio-only (Live)**

[1.2.9](#) An [alternative for time-based media](#) that presents equivalent information for [live audio-only](#) content is provided. (Level AAA)

Adaptable

[Guideline 1.3](#) Create content that can be presented in different ways (for example simpler layout) without losing information or structure.

✔ **A Info and Relationships**

[1.3.1](#) Information, [structure](#), and [relationships](#) conveyed through [presentation](#) can be [programmatically determined](#) or are available in text. (Level A)

Notes

Uses semantic markup and structure to convey relationships. Content is marked up in a logical sequence. Related information such as labels and table headings for cells is programmatically determinable.

✓ **A** Meaningful Sequence

[1.3.2](#) When the sequence in which content is presented affects its meaning, a [correct reading sequence](#) can be [programmatically determined](#). (Level A)

✓ **A** Sensory Characteristics

[1.3.3](#) Instructions provided for understanding and operating content do not rely solely on sensory characteristics of components such as shape, size, visual location, orientation, or sound. (Level A)

Note: For requirements related to color, refer to Guideline 1.4.

Distinguishable

[Guideline 1.4](#) Make it easier for users to see and hear content including separating foreground from background.

✓ **A** Use of Color

[1.4.1](#) Color is not used as the only visual means of conveying information, indicating an action, prompting a response, or distinguishing a visual element. (Level A)

Note: This success criterion addresses color perception specifically. Other forms of perception are covered in Guideline 1.3 including programmatic access to color and other visual presentation coding.

Notes

Color is only used as a visual enhancement to content.

⊗ **A** Audio Control

[1.4.2](#) If any audio on a Web page plays automatically for more than 3 seconds, either a [mechanism](#) is available to pause or stop the audio, or a mechanism is available to control audio volume independently from the overall system volume level. (Level A)

Note: Since any content that does not meet this success criterion can interfere with a user's ability to use the whole page, all content on the Web page (whether or not it is used to meet other success criteria) must meet this success criterion. See [Conformance Requirement 5: Non-Interference](#).

✓ AA Contrast (Minimum)

[1.4.3](#) The visual presentation of [text](#) and [images of text](#) has a [contrast ratio](#) of at least 4.5:1, except for the following: (Level AA)

- Large Text: [Large-scale](#) text and images of large-scale text have a contrast ratio of at least 3:1;
- Incidental: Text or images of text that are part of an inactive [user interface component](#), that are [pure decoration](#), that are not visible to anyone, or that are part of a picture that contains significant other visual content, have no contrast requirement.
- Logotypes: Text that is part of a logo or brand name has no minimum contrast requirement.

Notes

Color contrast verified when suspect using online tools.

✓ AA Resize text

[1.4.4](#) Except for [captions](#) and [images of text](#), [text](#) can be resized without [assistive technology](#) up to 200 percent without loss of content or functionality. (Level AA)

Notes

Zoom level leverages the existing responsive rules and will adjust the layout and UI elements accordingly.

✓ AA Images of Text

[1.4.5](#) If the technologies being used can achieve the visual presentation, [text](#) is used to convey information rather than [images of text](#) except for the following: (Level AA)

- Customizable: The image of text can be [visually customized](#) to the user's requirements;
- Essential: A particular presentation of text is [essential](#) to the information being conveyed.
- Note: Logotypes (text that is part of a logo or brand name) are considered essential.

Notes

The only image of text in the application is the institution's logotype.

✗ AAA Contrast (Enhanced)

[1.4.6](#) The visual presentation of [text](#) and [images of text](#) has a [contrast ratio](#) of at least 7:1, except for the following: (Level AAA)

- Large Text: [Large-scale](#) text and images of large-scale text have a contrast ratio of at least 4.5:1;

- Incidental: Text or images of text that are part of an inactive [user interface component](#), that are [pure decoration](#), that are not visible to anyone, or that are part of a picture that contains significant other visual content, have no contrast requirement.
- Logotypes: Text that is part of a logo or brand name has no minimum contrast requirement.

Notes

Most content meets this requirement. However, some text colours like the blue of general links cannot reach that contrast ratio without becoming significantly darker (closer to deep navy). It is an intentional design decision to keep the richer medium blue.

🚫 AAA Low or No Background Audio

[1.4.7](#) For [prerecorded audio-only](#) content that (1) contains primarily speech in the foreground, (2) is not an audio [CAPTCHA](#) or audio logo, and (3) is not vocalization intended to be primarily musical expression such as singing or rapping, at least one of the following is true: (Level AAA)

- No Background: The audio does not contain background sounds.
- Turn Off: The background sounds can be turned off.
- 20 dB: The background sounds are at least 20 decibels lower than the foreground speech content, with the exception of occasional sounds that last for only one or two seconds.

Note: Per the definition of "decibel," background sound that meets this requirement will be approximately four times quieter than the foreground speech content.

❌ AAA Visual Presentation

[1.4.8](#) For the visual presentation of [blocks of text](#), a [mechanism](#) is available to achieve the following: (Level AAA)

- Foreground and background colors can be selected by the user.
- Width is no more than 80 characters or glyphs (40 if CJK).
- Text is not justified (aligned to both the left and the right margins).
- Line spacing (leading) is at least space-and-a-half within paragraphs, and paragraph spacing is at least 1.5 times larger than the line spacing.
- Text can be resized without assistive technology up to 200 percent in a way that does not require the user to scroll horizontally to read a line of text [on a full-screen window](#).

Notes

Mostly compliant. Users cannot set foreground/background at this time. Line and paragraph spacing close but not quite that loose. Responsive rules facilitate narrow viewing, though not confirmed at the precise glyph width described.

✓ AAA Images of Text (No Exception)

[1.4.9 Images of text](#) are only used for [pure decoration](#) or where a particular presentation of [text](#) is [essential](#) to the information being conveyed. (Level AAA)

Note: Logotypes (text that is part of a logo or brand name) are considered essential.

Notes

The only image of text in the application is the institution's logotype.

Keyboard Accessible

[Guideline 2.1](#) Make all functionality available from a keyboard.

✓ A Keyboard

[2.1.1](#) All [functionality](#) of the content is operable through a [keyboard interface](#) without requiring specific timings for individual keystrokes, except where the underlying function requires input that depends on the path of the user's movement and not just the endpoints. (Level A)

Note 1: This exception relates to the underlying function, not the input technique. For example, if using handwriting to enter text, the input technique (handwriting) requires path-dependent input but the underlying function (text input) does not.

Note 2: This does not forbid and should not discourage providing mouse input or other input methods in addition to keyboard operation.

✓ A No Keyboard Trap

[2.1.2](#) If keyboard focus can be moved to a component of the page using a [keyboard interface](#), then focus can be moved away from that component using only a keyboard interface, and, if it requires more than unmodified arrow or tab keys or other standard exit methods, the user is advised of the method for moving focus away. (Level A)

Note: Since any content that does not meet this success criterion can interfere with a user's ability to use the whole page, all content on the Web page (whether it is used to meet other success criteria or not) must meet this success criterion. See [Conformance Requirement 5: Non-Interference](#).

✓ ✗ AAA Keyboard (No Exception)

[2.1.3](#) All [functionality](#) of the content is operable through a [keyboard interface](#) without requiring specific timings for individual keystrokes. (Level AAA)

Notes

It is not certain at this time if any path-dependent inputs exist. As such, we are not sure if conformance has been met for this criterion.

Enough Time

[Guideline 2.2](#) Provide users enough time to read and use content.

✓ A Timing Adjustable

[2.2.1](#) For each time limit that is set by the content, at least one of the following is true: (Level A)

- Turn off: The user is allowed to turn off the time limit before encountering it; or
- Adjust: The user is allowed to adjust the time limit before encountering it over a wide range that is at least ten times the length of the default setting; or
- Extend: The user is warned before time expires and given at least 20 seconds to extend the time limit with a simple action (for example, "press the space bar"), and the user is allowed to extend the time limit at least ten times; or
- Real-time Exception: The time limit is a required part of a real-time event (for example, an auction), and no alternative to the time limit is possible; or
- Essential Exception: The time limit is [essential](#) and extending it would invalidate the activity; or
- 20 Hour Exception: The time limit is longer than 20 hours.

Note: This success criterion helps ensure that users can complete tasks without unexpected changes in content or context that are a result of a time limit. This success criterion should be considered in conjunction with Success Criterion 3.2.1, which puts limits on changes of content or context as a result of user action.

Notes

Page expiry is the only time limit in the application. The user is warned to extend 5 minutes before expiry.

✓ **A** Pause, Stop, Hide

[2.2.2](#) For moving, [blinking](#), scrolling, or auto-updating information, all of the following are true: (Level A)

- Moving, blinking, scrolling: For any moving, blinking or scrolling information that (1) starts automatically, (2) lasts more than five seconds, and (3) is presented in parallel with other content, there is a mechanism for the user to [pause](#), stop, or hide it unless the movement, blinking, or scrolling is part of an activity where it is [essential](#); and
- Auto-updating: For any auto-updating information that (1) starts automatically and (2) is presented in parallel with other content, there is a mechanism for the user to pause, stop, or hide it or to control the frequency of the update unless the auto-updating is part of an activity where it is essential.

Note 1: For requirements related to flickering or flashing content, refer to Guideline 2.3.

Note 2: Since any content that does not meet this success criterion can interfere with a user's ability to use the whole page, all content on the Web page (whether it is used to meet other success criteria or not) must meet this success criterion. See [Conformance Requirement 5: Non-Interference](#).

Note 3: Content that is updated periodically by software or that is streamed to the user agent is not required to preserve or present information that is generated or received between the initiation of the pause and resuming presentation, as this may not be technically possible, and in many situations could be misleading to do so.

Note 4: An animation that occurs as part of a preload phase or similar situation can be considered essential if interaction cannot occur during that phase for all users and if not indicating progress could confuse users or cause them to think that content was frozen or broken.

Notes

We do not have any content that fits this description at this time.

✓ **AAA** No Timing

[2.2.3](#) Timing is not an [essential](#) part of the event or activity presented by the content, except for non-interactive [synchronized media](#) and [real-time events](#). (Level AAA)

Notes

Timing does exist in the form of a 30 minute page expiration. But it is renewable and not an integral/essential element to the page's content. As such, we do not consider it a failure of this criterion.

AAA Interruptions

[2.2.4](#) Interruptions can be postponed or suppressed by the user, except interruptions involving an [emergency](#). (Level AAA)

Notes

Certain dynamic content changes might be considered an interruption.

AAA Re-authenticating

[2.2.5](#) When an authenticated session expires, the user can continue the activity without loss of data after re-authenticating. (Level AAA)

Notes

Session expiry is disabled in critical content/data creation areas. However, there are limited cases where data would not be stored should the session expire completely. It is unlikely that we will ever completely conform to this criteria.

Seizures

[Guideline 2.3](#) Do not design content in a way that is known to cause seizures.

A Three Flashes or Below Threshold

[2.3.1](#) [Web pages](#) do not contain anything that flashes more than three times in any one second period, or the [flash](#) is below the [general flash and red flash thresholds](#). (Level A)

Note: Since any content that does not meet this success criterion can interfere with a user's ability to use the whole page, all content on the Web page (whether it is used to meet other success criteria or not) must meet this success criterion. See [Conformance Requirement 5: Non-Interference](#).

AAA Three Flashes

[2.3.2](#) [Web pages](#) do not contain anything that [flashes](#) more than three times in any one second period. (Level AAA)

Notes

We had to replace our loading animation spinner to conform with this criterion. The dashes of the circle as they spun could be argued that they created a type of blinking effect. This was changed to a solid circle. This is the only known example of blinking/flashing content.

Navigable

[Guideline 2.4](#) Provide ways to help users navigate, find content, and determine where they are.

✓ **A** Bypass Blocks

[2.4.1](#) A [mechanism](#) is available to bypass blocks of content that are repeated on multiple [Web pages](#). (Level A)

Notes

Skip links are used in the content to bypass the repeated navigation and jump to the content.

✓ **A** Page Titled

[2.4.2](#) [Web pages](#) have titles that describe topic or purpose. (Level A)

✓ **A** Focus Order

[2.4.3](#) If a [Web page](#) can be [navigated sequentially](#) and the navigation sequences affect meaning or operation, focusable components receive focus in an order that preserves meaning and operability. (Level A)

Notes

Markup is semantic and sequential to content meaning. Focus-related operation is rare, but still maintains sequence and meaning.

✓ **A** Link Purpose (In Context)

[2.4.4](#) The [purpose of each link](#) can be determined from the link text alone or from the link text together with its [programmatically determined link context](#), except where the purpose of the link would be [ambiguous to users in general](#). (Level A)

Notes

Link text is descriptive and contextual. Supplemental content is provided via title attribute whenever necessary. Semantic, contextual markup like lists are used to reinforce meaning in menus.

✓ **AA** Multiple Ways

[2.4.5](#) More than one way is available to locate a [Web page](#) within a [set of Web pages](#) except where the Web Page is the result of, or a step in, a [process](#). (Level AA)

Notes

Navigation menus are re-used with regards to sets and inserted using common include files.

✓ AA Headings and Labels

[2.4.6](#) Headings and [labels](#) describe topic or purpose. (Level AA)

✓ AA Focus Visible

[2.4.7](#) Any keyboard operable user interface has a mode of operation where the keyboard focus indicator is visible. (Level AA)

✗ AAA Location

[2.4.8](#) Information about the user's location within a [set of Web pages](#) is available. (Level AAA)

Notes

Most areas have limited depth that would not benefit from a breadcrumb. Contextual location is generally very clear from headings, however explicit information regarding this does not exist.

✗ AAA Link Purpose (Link Only)

[2.4.9](#) A [mechanism](#) is available to allow the purpose of each link to be identified from link text alone, except where the purpose of the link would be [ambiguous to users in general](#). (Level AAA)

Notes

The application is mostly compliant in this regard. There are however re-usable contextual menus that do not explicitly reference their parent context, which we see as possible failures for this criterion.

✓ AAA Section Headings

[2.4.10](#) [Section](#) headings are used to organize the content. (Level AAA)

Note 1: "Heading" is used in its general sense and includes titles and other ways to add a heading to different types of content.

Note 2: This success criterion covers sections within writing, not [user interface components](#). User Interface components are covered under Success Criterion 4.1.2.

Notes

Headings and informative labels are always used to describe and structure content.

Future Improvement

As a future improvement, we would like to produce an auto-generating jump list based on the heading structure.

Readable

[Guideline 3.1](#) Make text content readable and understandable.

✓ **A** Language of Page

[3.1.1](#) The default [human language](#) of each [Web page](#) can be [programmatically determined](#). (Level A)

Notes

Meta data is used in a common include.

✓ **AA** Language of Parts

[3.1.2](#) The [human language](#) of each passage or phrase in the content can be [programmatically determined](#) except for proper names, technical terms, words of indeterminate language, and words or phrases that have become part of the vernacular of the immediately surrounding text. (Level AA)

Notes

Content at this time does not shift language from the page-level meta description. While it is possible that user-generated content could shift language, it would be exempt for conformance.

✗ **AAA** Unusual Words

[3.1.3](#) A [mechanism](#) is available for identifying specific definitions of words or phrases [used in an unusual or restricted way](#), including [idioms](#) and [jargon](#). (Level AAA)

Notes

There are application and industry terms that are not officially defined and clarified within a singular location or mechanism. It is recommended we develop a glossary for those terms.

✓ **AAA** Abbreviations

[3.1.4](#) A [mechanism](#) for identifying the expanded form or meaning of [abbreviations](#) is available. (Level AAA)

Notes

<abbr> elements are used whenever necessary

✓ ✗ **AAA** Reading Level

[3.1.5](#) When text requires reading ability more advanced than the [lower secondary education level](#) after removal of proper names and titles, [supplemental content](#), or a version that does not require reading ability more advanced than the lower secondary education level, is available. (Level AAA)

Notes

Conformance unsure at this time given the nature of the frequently esoteric content.

AAA Pronunciation

[3.1.6](#) A [mechanism](#) is available for identifying specific pronunciation of words where meaning of the words, in context, is ambiguous without knowing the pronunciation. (Level AAA)

Notes

No instance has been found where this is the case/is necessary.

Predictable

[Guideline 3.2](#) Make Web pages appear and operate in predictable ways.

A On Focus

[3.2.1](#) When any component receives focus, it does not initiate a [change of context](#). (Level A)

A On Input

[3.2.2](#) Changing the setting of any [user interface component](#) does not automatically cause a [change of context](#) unless the user has been advised of the behavior before using the component. (Level A)

Notes

There is one case where this happens (a settings management screen), but it is not a frequently used page and the user *is* advised of the behavior. This page is due to be re-designed.

AA Consistent Navigation

[3.2.3](#) Navigational mechanisms that are repeated on multiple [Web pages](#) within a [set of Web pages](#) occur in the [same relative order](#) each time they are repeated, unless a change is initiated by the user. (Level AA)

AA Consistent Identification

[3.2.4](#) Components that have the [same functionality](#) within a set of [Web pages](#) are identified consistently. (Level AA)

AAA Change on Request

[3.2.5 Changes of context](#) are initiated only by user request or a [mechanism](#) is available to turn off such changes. (Level AAA)

Notes

A few AJAX loads may count here. In some cases the screen refreshes when a setting is changed. See 3.2.2.

Input Assistance

[Guideline 3.3](#) Help users avoid and correct mistakes.

A Error Identification

[3.3.1](#) If an [input error](#) is automatically detected, the item that is in error is identified and the error is described to the user in text. (Level A)

A Labels or Instructions

[3.3.2 Labels](#) or instructions are provided when content requires user input. (Level A)

AA Error Suggestion

[3.3.3](#) If an [input error](#) is automatically detected and suggestions for correction are known, then the suggestions are provided to the user, unless it would jeopardize the security or purpose of the content. (Level AA)

Notes

Efforts have been made to describe what kind of content is missing or wrong in error messages. For example, "You must select a start date."

Future Improvement

Error messages could have jump links to the specific fields in question.

AA Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data)

[3.3.4](#) For [Web pages](#) that cause [legal commitments](#) or financial transactions for the user to occur, that modify or delete [user-controllable](#) data in data storage systems, or that submit user test responses, at least one of the following is true: (Level AA)

- Reversible: Submissions are reversible.
- Checked: Data entered by the user is checked for [input errors](#) and the user is provided an opportunity to correct them.

- Confirmed: A [mechanism](#) is available for reviewing, confirming, and correcting information before finalizing the submission.

Notes

Most data transactions are reversible or editable. Those that are not, require confirmation of the action and warn of the finality of the action.

✓ AAA Help

[3.3.5 Context-sensitive help](#) is available. (Level AAA)

Notes

Context-sensitive help is routinely used in the form of tooltips on buttons, contextual instructions, help badges, quick links to guides and the general user manual. Examples of expected input format are also shown in the few rare instances this is necessary.

✓ AAA Error Prevention (All)

[3.3.6](#) For [Web pages](#) that require the user to submit information, at least one of the following is true: (Level AAA)

- Reversible: Submissions are reversible.
- Checked: Data entered by the user is checked for [input errors](#) and the user is provided an opportunity to correct them.
- Confirmed: A [mechanism](#) is available for reviewing, confirming, and correcting information before finalizing the submission.

Notes

See 3.3.4

Compatible

[Guideline 4.1](#) Maximize compatibility with current and future user agents, including assistive technologies.

✓ A Parsing

[4.1.1](#) In content implemented using markup languages, elements have complete start and end tags, elements are nested according to their specifications, elements do not contain duplicate attributes, and any IDs are unique, except where the specifications allow these features. (Level A)

Note: Start and end tags that are missing a critical character in their formation, such as a closing angle bracket or a mismatched attribute value quotation mark are not complete.

✓ **A** Name, Role, Value

[4.1.2](#) For all [user interface components](#) (including but not limited to: form elements, links and components generated by scripts), the [name](#) and [role](#) can be [programmatically determined](#); states, properties, and values that can be set by the user can be [programmatically set](#); and notification of changes to these items is available to [user agents](#), including [assistive technologies](#). (Level A)

Note: This success criterion is primarily for Web authors who develop or script their own user interface components. For example, standard HTML controls already meet this success criterion when used according to specification.

Future Improvement

There is room for improvement in this area with regards to advanced UI components and the use of advanced WAI-ARIA technologies. ARIA is in use to bolster components. Effort is made to use standard interactive elements like links for any custom component.