Accessibility Compliance

Web Services



What is Web Accessibility?

- All web users have equal access to the same or equivalent information and functionality.
- The practice of removing barriers that prevent equal access to information on websites by people with disabilities.



Applies to who? Everyone!

- Including, but not limited to individuals who:
 - Have lost some degree of limb function
 - Experience vertigo and other vestibular disorders
 - Possess degrees of color blindness
 - Are susceptible to seizures caused by flickering lights
 - Possess varying levels of cognitive ability
- <u>Screen Reader Demonstration</u>



Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)



- Passed in 1990
- To provide "full and equal enjoyment" to people with varying levels of physical and mental abilities.
- Over time, bill has adapted to the digital world.



Physical Spaces & Digital Spaces



 Citizens can file complaint with the Department of Justice against digital properties that are in violation of the ADA Act.



Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act

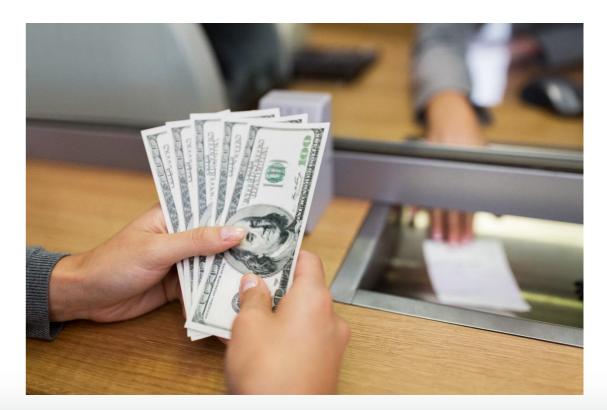
 Requires all electronic information and communication technology used or maintained by the federal government to be accessible.





Why does this matter?

- YOU are responsible
- 20% of users are impacted
- Harvard, MIT, Miami University
- Fines \$\$\$\$





Deadline for Section 508

January 18th, 2018



What is WCAG 2.1?

- The most modern version of the accessibility guidelines
- A single shared standard
- Created by the Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI), a part of the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)
- Conformance: Levels A, AA & AAA
- Jan. 2017- the federal gov. adopted WCAG 2.0 AA as standard



What's the difference?

- Section 508 defines the minimum level of web accessibility
- WCAG 2.0 higher level of accessibility
- Differences:
 - audio control for videos that play automatically
 - specified contrast between foreground and background of text
 - Heading levels
 - Image descriptions
 - Even more

- The WCAG 2.0 consists of 12 guidelines organized under four principles:
 - **P**ERCEIVABLE
 - OPERABLE
 - UNDERSTANDABLE
 - ROBUST



Perceivable

- Provide **text alternatives** for non-text content.
- Provide captions and text-alternatives for multimedia.
- Create content that can be presented in different ways.
- Make it easier for users to see and hear content.



Operable

- Make all functionality available from a keyboard.
- Give users enough time to read and use content.
- Do not use content that causes **seizures**.
- Help users navigate and find content.



Understandable

- Make text readable and understandable.
- Make content appear and operate in predictable ways.
- Help users avoid and correct mistakes.



Robust

• Maximize **compatibility** with current and future user tools.



Remember

- Accessibility issues are easier to address before they manifest on your site, not after.
- The best defense is to incorporate accessibility planning into your daily, monthly and yearly site planning.



Data Collection

- No Protected Data
 - SSN
 - Tax info
 - Banking Info
- FERPA
 - No Student ID
 - No GPA
- Stop and Think

Data Collection web page



Checklist - Content

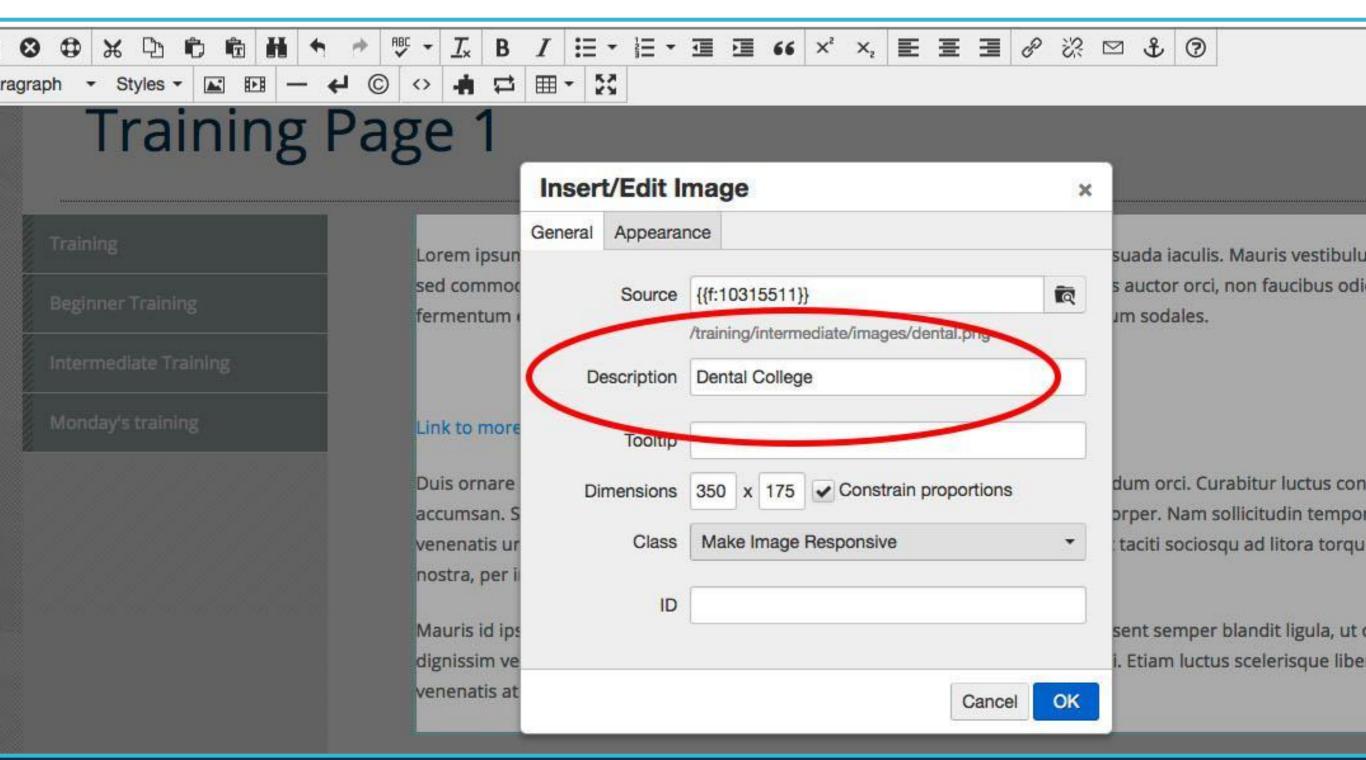
Provide a text-alternative for images

- Describe what is happening in the image
- Alt text (aka image description) is searchable

This allows non-sighted users using "talking" browsers and for users on slow connection to visualize the image



Alt Text



Captions

Caption all audio and video content

- Do not rely solely on visual or audio communication to communicate information
- How To Use/Edit Closed Captioning



Images of Text

- No images of text.
 (especially no word art)
- No Flyers/Posters





Checklist - Content

- Avoid directional language
 read below
 - see above
 - the menu to the left
- □ HTML heading tags help create **hierarchies**.
 - Use headings with clear, descriptive languages to break up text and assist in scanning.
 - Heading exercise



Headers

Home / Training / Intermediate / Heading 1

Training Page 2

Training

Beginner Training

Intermediate Training

Monday's training

Headings should be sequential. No skipping of heading levels.

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HEADING 4



Headers

Home / Training / Intermediate / Heading 1

Training Page 2

Training

Beginner Training

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Intermediate Training

Monday's training

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Heading 5



Headers

Heading 1

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Heading 2

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LEARN MORE

CALL TO ACTION 🏾 🍃



Colors

□ Use proper color ratio between text and color background.



Trichromatic View

This text can be read easily by most users Monochromacy/Achromatopsia

This text is completely unreadable for some users

Colorblind Accessibility on the Web examples



Checklist - Tables

- Do not place pictures in tables not mobile friendly
- Do not use tables for layouts
- Label cells and headers properly

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Checklist - Links

- Make links descriptive and actionable
 - Apply Now
 - View Event Calendar
- Indicate document type if link goes to a non-HTML page (e.g. Read the Manual [PDF])
- □ Ask yourself: Is this link essential?



Subheadline goes here

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http://www.augusta.edu/admissions/undergraduate/undergrad-deadlines.php

CALL TO ACTION 🍃



LEARN MORE

Links

"To get more information on our hours and locations in Augusta, <u>click here</u>."





"Find hours and locations."



Checklist - Documents

- Upload PDFs
 - PDFs are browser-based
- Avoid Word, PowerPoint, Excel
 - Rely on user's computer
 - Documents are editable



Make PDFs Accessible

- Adding accessibility tags make it easier for screen readers and other assistive technologies to read and navigate a document, with Tables of Contents, hyperlinks, bookmarks, alt text, etc.
- Able to read the PDF large type displays, personal digital assistants (PDAs), and mobile phones.
- In Word for Windows, Mac, and in Word Online, you can add tags automatically when you save a file as PDF format.



Make PDFs Accessible

- "Save As" Word Doc(x) as a tagged PDF. (Include accessibility tags)
- 2. Click File Format: PDF
 - "Best for electronic distribution and accessibility"
 - OR
 - Click "Options"
 - Make sure that the Document structure tags for accessibility checkbox is selected, and then click OK.



Complete all metadata

Description

Unique copy that describes content found on page

□ 150-160 characters max

Echo keywords used in title

Avoid quotes



Complete all metadata

- Page Title
 - Unique with consistent format site-wide
 - □ Less than 70 characters
 - □ Shows in browser search results and title bar
 - Use meaningful words, avoid acronyms without context
 - □ Echo keywords in description



Complete all metadata

- URL
 - □ 3-5 words

Use descriptive, relevant keywords

Use hyphens (these-are-hyphens) instead of underscores (these_are_underscores)



Google

department-faculty-vacancies = department faculty vacancies

department_faculty_vacancies = departmentfacultyvacancies



Accessibility Validators & Tools

- Interactive WCAG
- WAVE evaluation tool (Google Chrome extension)
- Web Accessibility Checker
- <u>Siteimprove</u>



Resources

- OHO Interactive. ADA accessibility compliance in higher education websites. Retrieved from <u>https://www.oho.com/blog/accessibility-compliance-higher-e</u> <u>ducation</u>
- WCAG 2 at a glance. Retrieved from <u>https://www.w3.org/WAI/WCAG20/glance/</u>.
- How to meet WCAG 2.0. Retrieved from <u>https://www.w3.org/WAI/WCAG20/quickref/?showtechnique</u> <u>s=121</u>



Questions?

