

Web Accessibility

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Agenda

1. What is Web Accessibility?
2. Why is It Important?
3. How Do We Achieve Compliance?
4. Tools
5. Resources
6. Questions

What is Web Accessibility?

What is Web Accessibility?

“Web accessibility means that people with disabilities can use the Web. More specifically, Web accessibility means that people with disabilities can **perceive, understand, navigate, and interact** with the Web, and that they can contribute to the Web”

-- <https://www.w3.org/WAI/intro/accessibility.php>

Why Is It Important?

Why is It Important?

1 in 5 people in the United States have a disability of some sort (physical, learning, or other).

Source:

<https://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/miscellaneous/cb12-134.html>

It's the right thing to do!

Why Is It Important?

- Legal obligation
(<https://www.w3.org/WAI/policies/united-states/>)
- Notably: Section 508 of the US Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as revised in 2017
- WCAG 2.0 Level AA
(<https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/>)

How Do We Achieve Compliance?

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- Code
- Content
 - Content Structure
 - Images
 - Colors
 - PDFs

Content Structure

- Proper heading use
 - Think of your page as an outline
- Important for screen readers
- Example:
<https://wms.web.lehigh.edu/content/higher-education-pa-nj>

Images

- Alternative text
 - Additional info and examples:
 - <https://webaim.org/techniques/alttext/>
 - <https://moz.com/learn/seo/alt-text>
- Infographics, flow charts, flyers, etc.
- Text within images
- SEO

Colors

- Color Contrast
 - WCAG 2.0 AA contrast ratio
 - Normal text: 4.5:1
 - Large text: 3:1
- Color contrast checker:
<https://webaim.org/resources/contrastchecker/>

PDFs

- Often not very accessible, unless intentionally made accessible
- Opt to put content on a webpage whenever possible
- Resource: Adobe
<https://www.adobe.com/accessibility/pdf/pdf-accessibility-overview.html>
- Resource: 247 Accessible Documents
<https://247accessibledocuments.com/>

Tools

Tools

- WAVE browser extension
 - WAVE (web accessibility evaluation tool)
<https://wave.webaim.org/>
 - Chrome:
<https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/wave-evaluation-tool/jbbplnpkjmmebjpijfedlgcdilcofh?hl=en-US>
 - Firefox:
<https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/wave-accessibility-tool/>

Tools

- VoiceOver
 - Macs, iPads, iPods
 - “Using VoiceOver to Evaluate Web Accessibility”
 - <https://webaim.org/articles/voiceover/>

Resources

<https://www.w3.org/WAI/intro/accessibility.php>

<https://www.w3.org/WAI/policies/united-states/>

<https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/>

<https://webaim.org/techniques/alttext/>

<https://moz.com/learn/seo/alt-text>

<https://webaim.org/resources/contrastchecker/>

<https://247accessibledocuments.com/>

<https://www.adobe.com/accessibility/pdf/pdf-accessibility-overview.html>

<https://wave.webaim.org/>

<https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/wave-evaluation-tool/jbbplnpkjmmebjpijfedlgcdiloco?hl=en-US>

<https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/wave-accessibility-tool/>

<https://webaim.org/articles/voiceover/>

<https://confluence.cc.lehigh.edu/x/44JWBg>

Questions?