

The New Section

508

2018 Model Year



Section 508

- Part of Federal Rehabilitation Act
- Directly applies to federal government and contractors
- Serves as procurement policy
- Foundation and inspiration for several state accessibility statutes
 - Oklahoma EITA

What's this Refresh?

- Started in 2006 by U.S. Access Board
- Done at same time as refresh of Section 255 of the Communication Act of 1934
- Effective for federal agencies on January 18, 2018

Meanwhile, in Oklahoma

- Oklahoma's EITA still mirrors the old Section 508
 - WCAG 1.0
- More later...

Specific Scoping!

- Web
- Installed software, operating systems
- Mobile
- Non-web ICT
 - Digital documents like Word, PDF, PowerPoint (more later...)
- Hardware
 - Kiosks, self service, et al.

New Section 508 Standards!

- Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0, Level A and AA included by reference
 - No more US-only standards
- PDF/UA-1 included by reference

NEW STANDARDS

The Web Content Accessibility Guidelines, 2.0



WCAG 2.0, A and AA

- Referenced, not incorporated into draft
 - More flexibility
 - Harmony
 - World
 - Settlement agreements

WCAG 1 to 2

- WCAG 1 more technology centered
 - How is this built?
- WCAG 2 more functionality centered
 - How does this work?

Technology vs. Function

- 508 (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.
- WCAG 2.1 Make all functionality operable via a keyboard interface
 - Gets to the heart: keyboard accessibility fail in server side image maps
 - Broader statement about how ICT needs to behave

Tech vs. Function, Part 2

- JavaScript in current Section 508
 - Look only at standards, can fail anything that doesn't work with scripting disabled in browser
- JavaScript in draft Section 508
 - WCAG 2 by reference
 - Look only at standards, will test functionality before you fail anything

More Benefits to WCAG 2.0

- Clarity
 - Focus management
 - Keyboard accessibility
 - Multimedia
 - Color contrast
- Document accessibility
 - PDF/UA-1
 - WCAG 2.0 and ICT
 - <https://www.w3.org/WAI/intro/wcag2ict>

Functional Performance Criteria

- Fill in gaps between standards and people
- Reminder that standards are about people using stuff, not standards themselves
- Found here
 - <https://bit.ly/2FEpL1G>

Agency Official Communications

- An emergency notification;
- An initial or final decision adjudicating an administrative claim or proceeding;
- An internal or external program or policy announcement;
- A notice of benefits, program eligibility, employment opportunity, or personnel action;
- A formal acknowledgement or receipt;
- A questionnaire or survey;
- A template or form; or
- Educational or training materials.

HARDWARE

Closed Functionality

- Cannot add or attach assistive technology
 - Kiosks, self-service machines
- Speech output
- Volume control
- Character specifications
 - Sans serif font, for example

Additional Considerations

- Biometrics
- Standard connections for assistive technology
- Operable parts
 - Keyboard keys with contrasting letters
 - One “tactilely discernable” input control
- Real-time speech must provide real time text
- Must support audio descriptions

Back to Oklahoma!

- Movement forward
- Aim to harmonize with Section 508
- Drafting and review ongoing
- Rollout will follow (??)

Questions?

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