

# THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

## Voluntary Product Accessibility Template

Version 1.2

The purpose of the Voluntary Product Accessibility Template, or VPAT, is to assist federal contracting officials and other buyers in making preliminary assessments regarding the availability of commercial “Electronic and Information Technology” products and services with features that support accessibility. It is assumed and recommended that vendors will provide additional contact information to facilitate more detailed inquiries.

The first table of the template provides a summary view of the section 508 Standards. The subsequent tables provide more detailed views of each subsection. There are three columns in each table. Column one of the Summary Table describes the subsections of subparts B and C of the Standards. The second column describes the supporting features of the product or refers you to the corresponding detailed table, "e.g., equivalent facilitation." The third column contains any additional remarks and explanations regarding the product. In the subsequent tables, the first column contains the lettered paragraphs of the subsections. The second column describes the supporting features of the product with regard to that paragraph. The third column contains any additional remarks and explanations regarding the product.

### VPAT Terminology

**Supports:** This language is used when the product fully meets the letter and intent of the criteria.

**Supports with Exceptions:** This language is used when the product does not fully meet the letter and intent of the criteria, but provides some level of access relative to the criteria.

**Does not Support:** This language is used when the product does not currently meet the letter or intent of the criteria.

**Not Applicable:** This language is used when the criteria do not apply to the specific product(s).

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**Date:** 4 May 2016

**Name of Product:** The Chronicle of Higher Education (<http://chronicle.com>) and The Chronicle of Philanthropy (<http://philanthropy.com>)

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### Summary Table

<i>Criteria</i>	<i>Supporting Features</i>	<i>Remarks and explanations</i>
Section 1194.21 Software Applications and Operating Systems	Not Applicable	
Section 1194.22 Web-based Internet Information and Applications	Supports with Exceptions	<i>Because The Chronicle maintains the content on its web sites for an indefinite period of time older content does not meet all of the criteria.</i>
Section 1194.23 Telecommunications Products	Not Applicable	
Section 1194.24 Video and Multi-media Products	Not Applicable	
Section 1194.25 Self-Contained, Closed Products	Not Applicable	
Section 1194.26 Desktop and Portable Computers	Not Applicable	
Section 1194.31 Functional Performance Criteria	Not Applicable	
Section 1194.41 Information, Documentation and Support	Not Applicable	

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## Section 1194.22 Web-based Internet Information and Applications Detail

<i>Criteria</i>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(a) A text equivalent for every non-text element shall be provided (e.g., via "alt", "longdesc", or in element content).	Supported with Exceptions	Most non-text elements include alt text to convey information, but some content, especially older material, may not.
(b) Equivalent alternatives for any multimedia presentation shall be synchronized with the presentation.	Not Supported	The Chronicle does not currently provide accessible alternatives for multimedia content.
(c) Web pages shall be designed so that all information conveyed with color is also available without color, for example from context or markup.	Supported	Color is not used as the sole method of conveying information on The Chronicle's web sites.
(d) Documents shall be organized so they are readable without requiring an associated style sheet.	Supported with Exceptions	The majority of page templates have been redesigned to be readable without requiring an associated style sheet. We continue to identify and redesign any remaining page templates that require a style sheet.
(e) Redundant text links shall be provided for each active region of a server-side image map.	Supported with Exceptions	The Chronicle avoids use of server-side image maps. Work is under way to identify any server-side image maps currently on the site and either remove them from the site or provide appropriate text links.
(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.	Supported with Exceptions	The Chronicle avoids use of client-side image maps. Work is under way to identify any client-side image maps currently on the site and either remove them from the site or provide appropriate text links.
(g) Row and column headers shall be identified for data tables.	Supported with Exceptions	Work is ongoing to test and update all data tables, though the vast majority have been updated with appropriate

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		HTML tagging.
(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.	Supported with Exceptions	Work is ongoing to test and update all data tables, though the vast majority have been updated with appropriate HTML tagging.
(i) Frames shall be titled with text that facilitates frame identification and navigation	Supported with Exceptions	Work is ongoing to eliminate the use of most frames and add meaningful descriptions to those that remain.
(j) Pages shall be designed to avoid causing the screen to flicker with a frequency greater than 2 Hz and lower than 55 Hz.	Supported	Animation on Chronicle web sites is designed to avoid flickering, flashing and color change.
(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.	Supported with Exceptions	Work is ongoing toward making all features on the web usable with assistive technology so that a text-only version is not required.
(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.	Supported with Exceptions	Work is ongoing to test and update all scripts.
(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).	Supported with Exceptions	The majority of content on The Chronicle's web sites do not require plug-ins. Some older content may require Flash, and may or may not include a link to the plug – in.
(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.	Supported with Exceptions	Work is ongoing to test and update all electronic forms.
(o) A method shall be provided that permits users to skip repetitive navigation links.	Supported	The Chronicle's sites provide "skip navigation" links that allow users with assistive technology to bypass site-wide navigation.
(p) When a timed response is required, the user shall be alerted and given sufficient time to indicate more time is required.	Not Applicable	There are no timed responses required on The Chronicle's web sites.

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*Note to 1194.22: The Board interprets paragraphs (a) through (k) of this section as consistent with the following priority 1 Checkpoints of the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 1.0 (WCAG 1.0) (May 5 1999) published by the Web Accessibility Initiative of the World Wide Web Consortium: Paragraph (a) - 1.1, (b) - 1.4, (c) - 2.1, (d) - 6.1, (e) - 1.2, (f) - 9.1, (g) - 5.1, (h) - 5.2, (i) - 12.1, (j) - 7.1, (k) - 11.4.*