Laws and Guidelines for Accessible ICT

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Laws, Guidelines, and Policies

ADA
CVAA
Section 503
Section 504
Section 508

WCAG 2.0

University System of Georgia (USG) Position
Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Addresses Non-discrimination/Equal Opportunity in:

- Employment
- State and local government services
- Public accommodations
- Commercial facilities
- Transportation

Current ADA Regulations
21\textsuperscript{st} Century Communications and Video Accessibility act (CVAA)

- Update of prior telecommunications laws
- Administered by Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
Sections 503 and 504


• The Rehabilitation Act, Section 501, prohibits employment discrimination based on disability in the federal sector.
• Section 503 expands coverage to include federal contractors and subcontractors.
• Section 504 addresses participation in “any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance”.
• Section 504 specifically includes education.
• Civil rights!
Section 508: ICT Access

• Addresses accessibility of Information and Communications Technology (ICT)
• Applies to Federal agencies that "develop, procure, maintain, or use electronic and information technologies."

• Standards set by US Access Board
• Amended in January 2017
• Enforcement begins January 2018.
University System of Georgia position

• Higher Education, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and Section 508
• Web Accessibility and Persons with Disabilities
• Requires 508
Section 508 Standards

- Recent update addresses changes in technology since last update (2000)
- Incorporates WCAG 2.0 by reference

“**WCAG 2.0** is a stable, referenceable technical standard. It has 12 guidelines that are organized under 4 principles: perceivable, operable, understandable, and robust. For each guideline, there are testable success criteria, which are at three levels: A, AA, and AAA.”

- Source: [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) Overview](https://www.w3.org/WAI/WCAG20/)
Incorporation of WCAG 2.0

• WCAG 2.0, levels A and AA, now incorporated by reference into 508 standards

• Application of WCAG 2.0 broadened to apply to non-web ICT as well
Relationship of WCAG 2.0 and 508
Approximate timeline

Rehabilitation Act
- Section 501
- Section 503
- Section 504
- Section 508

ADA
CVAA

508 Standards Update
• Incorporating WCAG 2.0 by reference
For more information

American with Disabilities Act (ADA)
21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act (CVAA)

Section 503
Section 504
Section 508

Text of the standards and guidelines
Revised Section 508 Toolkit
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) Overview

WCAG 2.0
Questions?, Part 1