Help The State Meet Their Website and Software Development Needs

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Consider This

- About 700,000 Washington Citizens depend on some form of accessibility assistance to use our web sites and the systems and content embedded in them.
  - Web Site Pages
  - Documents
  - Video Content
  - Line of Business Applications

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What "Accessibility" is and is Not

- Accessibility is not just the ability to "get to" something but the ability to use it when you get there.

- Example: DES Web Site Accessibility Page

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Web Site Context

Web Sites:

- – Are used by "People" using computers
- – Approx. 8% of population uses some kind of accessibility tool like a screen reader.
- – The State conducts our business using web sites and web applications.
- – Our web sites, web content, and applications accessed from the web must be usable by "ALL" people authorized to use them.

Washington State Policy

Washington State Office of the CIO

[Accessibility Policy 188](#)

[Minimum Accessibility Standard (188.10)](#)

First Approved:	December 6, 2016
Revised:	May 11, 2017
Revision Approved:	June 13, 2017

OCIO Policy 188 - Scope

- Covered Technology
  - Websites, web applications, software systems, electronic documents, E-learning, multimedia and programmable user interfaces.
  - This includes interacting with the technology, access and content.
  - It does not include content that a user may encounter after leaving the covered technology (example: links to other web content).

OCIO Policy 188 – Part 1 of 2

1. All covered technology must be accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities, either directly or by supporting the use of assistive technology.

2. Standard 188.10 - Minimum Accessibility Standard outlines the minimum levels for compliance.

3. <u>This includes all covered technology acquired, procured, developed or substantially modified or substantially enhanced after the effective date of the policy , including software available at no cost.</u>

2. Where a covered technology is not able to be brought into compliance, the system or content owner is responsible to provide individuals with disabilities equivalent access.

3. Agencies must develop policy and processes to support and ensure compliance with this policy and associated standard by June 30, 2017.

4. Agencies must develop, implement and maintain an Accessibility Plan that identifies how the agency will ensure new covered technologies are accessible and the plan for making existing covered technologies accessible by June 30, 2017.

Accessibility Standard & Principles

Established and testable standard:

W3C's [WCAG 2.0 Level AA](#)

Four Principles

1. Perceivable

2. Operable

3. Understandable

4. Robust

Buying "Accessible" Solutions at DES

- Our Point of View - Thoughts on Accessible Technology
  - If you sell to Government we expect your products to already be accessible
  - 3rd party certification required for public facing technology
  - Every update or upgrade must be tested for Accessibility
  - We expect you to submit "Accessible" documents

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What is Required

- Accessibility Testing – 3 Things to do:
    1. Accessibility Testing Tools – Find the basic problems
    2. Human Testing – Find the navigation and color contrast problems
    3. Testing by Real Users of accessibility tools – Does your stuff really work for them?

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Who Does This Testing?

- Accessibility Testing Vendors

- State's have agencies that support the disabled – Use them for testing.
  - WA State Services for the Blind
  - WA School for the Blind
  - DSHS Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

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VPAT Examples

- [Microsoft VPAT's](#)

- [Salesforce.com VPAT's](#)

- [Google VPAT's](#)

- [Amazon AWS VPAT](#)

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What "Accessible" Documents

- PDF and Microsoft Office Document must be Accessible.
  - Accessibility Testing Tools included in current version

Why are we doing this?

- It's the right thing to do
- We can be sued if we don't
  - It is expensive to defend
  - Could result in financial penalties
- We want to use your tax money to provide services to Washington citizens, not pay for legal costs and fines.

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Lean Forward

- Help us make government work for 700,000 people in Washington
- You can make a difference

References

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Thank you

Questions?