

UTIA WEB ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

Effective: May 24, 2017

Last Reviewed: May 16, 2022

Last Updated: May 16, 2022

Objective:

The University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture (the Institute) strives to disseminate information, materials and technology that have been designed and developed within the Institute to be accessible to individuals with disabilities, including those who use assistive technologies. The standards outlined for AA level compliance governing the Institute are in accordance with World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) initiatives.

Scope:

This plan applies to all users of information technology (IT) assets owned, operated, or provided by the Institute. "Users" includes but is not limited to students, faculty, staff, partners, stakeholders, and general, public visitors who access, use, or handle the Institute's IT assets and those who use them.

Plan:

The UTIA Web Accessibility Committee adopted this plan from UT Policy IT0126 – *Accessibility* to support the efforts of the Institute.

1. Authority and Responsibility

The assignment of roles, authority, responsibilities, and accountability for achieving policy compliance must be determined by appropriate leadership channel.

2. Audience

Develop a strategy to address the different needs of the academic, research, outreach, and administrative functions; and to support IT accessibility. Areas to address include, but are not limited to, visual, hearing, neurological, and mobility impairments.

3. Prioritization

Prioritize the application of accessibility controls, taking into consideration local needs, practices, and available resources, including providing access to centralized information, materials, and technology (IMT) accessibility support.

4. Design Process

Incorporate accessibility into the design and authoring process of electronic information resources made available on, but are not limited to, content management systems, learning management systems, web applications, and mobile applications.

5. Procurement

Any potential purchase must incorporate IT accessibility into the procurement process, including establishment of a formal means for evaluating the accessibility of products or systems under consideration for procurement. No purchases will be made without the

approval of the Institute's Chief Business Officer. The Institute will follow UT Policy F10405 – *Procurement*.

6. Training

Training is required of Institute personnel who develop and maintain electronic information resources, author web content, or make IT-related purchases.

7. Awareness Campaign

Develop a communications strategy to raise awareness about IMT accessibility.

8. Compliance Monitoring

Recommend tools to conduct routine checks on content to maintain compliance adhering to the standards outlined within this plan.

9. Evaluation

Recommend an evaluation process to measure the effectiveness of the IMT.

10. Exception Process

The Institute has a formal exception request process.

Standards

Compliance with standards listed in this section must be considered high priority in the development and implementation of the Institute's IMT Accessibility Program and must be measured as part of the formal program evaluation process.

1. Web Standard

The standards for accessibility of electronic information are the most current Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) at level AA Success Criteria. More information about the W3C standards for accessibility can be found at the W3C website.

2. New Development and Purchases

New development and purchases, including development and purchases for major revisions and updates of existing electronic information resources, should receive higher priority over the retrofit of existing electronic information resources.

Additional standards for other electronic information resources may be identified over time and added to this Plan.

References:

UTIA Glossary of Information Technology Terms

UTIA Web Accessibility Best Practices

UT Policy IT0126 – *Accessibility*

UT IMT Accessibility Requirements

For more information, contact Angela Gibson, gibsonaa@tennessee.edu.

Approval of Plan

I approve the *UTIA Accessibility Plan* as described in this document.

Name	Title	Signature	Date
Angela Gibson	Chief Information Officer, UTIA		11/1/22