

WHAT IS ADA TITLE II?

ADA Title II protects individuals with disabilities from discrimination by state and local governments, including public colleges. The U.S. Department of Justice has updated Title II regulations, requiring that all digital content and services provided by public institutions—such as courses, documents, videos, and online tools—be fully accessible. **As a public institution classified as a special district, course content must meet accessibility standards by April 26, 2027.**

The eLearning Department is actively developing resources and guidance to support instructional accessibility within Canvas and course materials, ensuring faculty are prepared to meet these requirements.

THIS CHECKLIST IS DESIGNED TO GUIDE YOU THROUGH ACCESSIBLE COURSE DESIGN IN CANVAS. Check each box as you complete it, and click on any item to view detailed instructions and examples in Canvas Refresh.

CANVAS ACCESSIBILITY



New Canvas Accessibility Checker

Canvas' new course-wide accessibility checker.



Headings

Use proper heading structure (H1, H2, H3).



Descriptive Links

Use descriptive link text ("Visit library resources" vs "Click here").



Color Contrast

Sufficient contrast for readability.



Consistent Navigation

Use a consistent course structure and navigation pattern.

MEDIA & VISUAL CONTENT



Closed Captions

All videos must include accurate captions.



Alt Text

Images must have meaningful alternative text.



No Text in Images

Avoid key information embedded solely in graphics.



Avoid Auto-Play

No audio or video that plays automatically.



Audio Content

Provide transcripts for audio-only content.



Flashing/Motion Content

Avoid flashing or rapidly moving content that may trigger seizures or create distractions.

DO VS. DON'T

DO (ESSENTIAL PRACTICES)

- Use the Canvas Accessibility Checker
- Caption all videos
- Add alt text to images
- Use proper headings (H1, H2, H3)
- Ensure documents are accessible (no scanned PDFs)
- Use descriptive links (no "click here")

DON'T (CRITICAL ISSUES TO AVOID)

- Don't upload scanned or unreadable PDFs
- Don't put important text inside images
- Don't rely on color alone for meaning
- Don't use auto-play audio or video
- Don't assume third-party tools are accessible
- Don't include flashing or rapidly moving content

FILES & DOCUMENTS



External File Accessibility

Ensure Word Docs, PowerPoint Files, PDFs are accessible.



Accessible Tables

Simple structure, with proper headers.

ACCESS & USABILITY



Plain Language (Readable Content)

Use clear, simple language. Keep sentences short and avoid unnecessary jargon or complex instructions.



Keyboard Navigation

Content must be navigable via keyboard only.



Screen Readers

Test out content with screen readers to verify accessibility.



Mobile Accessibility

Ensure mobile-friendly content.

TOOLS & DELIVERY ENVIRONMENT



Accessible Third-Party Tools

Must meet accessibility guidelines or provide alternative options.



ITV Accessibility

Ensure all materials, captions, and shared content in ITV sessions are accessible to both in-person and remote students.

ACCESSIBILITY TOOLS & GUIDANCE

Canvas & Instructional Support
Provide accommodations and accessible course design directly in Canvas:



Extra Time on Quizzes
(Canvas Guide)



Schedule an appointment with an Instructional Designer

FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS

Key laws and regulations guiding accessibility compliance:



Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (1973)



Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)



ADA Title II Regulations (Official Documentation)



DOJ Fact Sheet – 2024 Web Accessibility Rule

FACULTY ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

I have reviewed this checklist and understand the accessibility requirements for my course. I will apply these practices to support student success and meet the April 26, 2027 compliance deadline.

**ENGAGING STUDENTS. EMPOWERING SUCCESS.
ENSURING ACCESSIBILITY COMPLIANCE.**

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ELEARNING ACCESSIBILITY CHECKLIST?

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LEARN MORE

Additional context and guidance for higher education:



New Federal Digital Accessibility Requirements (OLC)