N.C. A&T Accessibility Guidelines

Do you use a form of assistive technology?

- *"Assistive technology promotes greater independence by enabling people to perform tasks that they were formerly unable to accomplish, or had great difficulty accomplishing."*

  Wikipedia

https://webaim.org/intro/index#video

People with Disabilities on the Web

Though estimates vary, most studies find that about one fifth (20%) of the population has some kind of disability. Not all of these people have disabilities that make it difficult for them to access the internet, but it is still a significant portion of the population. Businesses would be unwise to purposely exclude 20, 10, or even 5 percent of their potential customers from their web sites. For schools, universities, and government entities it would not only be unwise, but in many cases, it would also violate the law.

Important

The major categories of disability types are:

Visual

Blindness, low vision, color-blindness

Hearing

Deafness and hard-of-hearing

Motor

Inability to use a mouse, slow response time, limited fine motor control

Cognitive

Learning disabilities, distractibility, inability to remember or focus on large amounts of information

WCAG Requirements

WCAG 2.0 and **WCAG** 2.1 are stable, referenceable technical standards. They have 12-13 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.

Level A

- Pre-recorded audio only or video only
  - » Transcript
- Pre-recorded multimedia
  - » Captions
  - » Audio description OR transcript (if needed)

Level AA

- Pre-recorded multimedia –Audio description (if needed)
- Live audio –Captions

Level AAA

- Pre-recorded Multimedia –Audio description (if needed), transcript, and sign language
- Live audio –Transcript

Principles of Accessibility

webaim.org/articles/pour/

- **Perceivable** - Available through sight, hearing, or touch.

- **Operable** - Compatible with keyboard or mouse.

- **Understandable** - User-friendly, easy to comprehend.

- **Robust** - Works across browsers, assistive technologies, mobile devices, old devices/browsers, etc. Follows standards.

Provide appropriate alternative text

- Every non-text element needs a text alternative (alt text) that provides an equivalent to the image content.

- Alt text should present the content and function, not necessarily a description, of an image.

- If an image has no relevant content or function, is decorative, or the alternative text is provided in nearby text, then the image should have an empty alternative text value (alt="").

Provide appropriate alternative text (cont)

- If an image is a link (or hotspot), the alt text must describe the link's function.

- •Avoid words like "picture of," "image of," or "link to."

- •Use the fewest number of words necessary.

Creating Accessible Content (Links)

- Introduction to Web Accessibility https://webaim.org/intro/

- WAVE (web accessibility evaluation tool) http://wave.webaim.org/

- Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) Overview http://www.w3.org/WAI/standards-guidelines/wcag/

- Resources http://ncdae.org/resources/

- Accessibility resources, or "cheatsheets," http://ncdae.org/resources/cheatsheets/