**Accessibility Blackboard Page**

Blackboard [**Commitment to Accessibility**](http://www.blackboard.com/Platforms/Learn/Resources/Accessibility.aspx)statement

The Blackboard Learn Screen Reader Tutorial provides users that access Blackboard Learn through a screen reader with information to help them use Blackboard Learn successfully. This tutorial describes the layout of Blackboard Learn and the structure of Blackboard pages, as well as instructions for navigation and completing Blackboard tasks.

<http://library.blackboard.com/d?eb3b04cd-4d39-4af0-9d2d-a3f32a95430f>

### Quick Links

Located in the top left of the interface, the Quick Links icon opens a list of all the ARIA landmarks, as well as an outline of all content headings on the page you are viewing. Any available keyboard shortcuts for the current tool or page also appear. You can quickly locate any heading or section within any page in the Blackboard Learn application and jump directly to it. Quick Links is specific to the page you are viewing. You can open it at any time with a keyboard shortcut (Shift+Alt+L). This shortcut provides a significant increase in efficiency for users who rely primarily on their keyboards for navigating within the application.

<https://help.blackboard.com/en-us/Learn/9.1_2014_04/Student/040_In_Your_Course/040_Accessibility>

-- General Blackboard Accessibility Information for students

<https://help.blackboard.com/en-us/Learn/9.1_2014_04/Student/040_In_Your_Course/040_Accessibility/000_Accessibility_Features> --Accessibility features and usage guides for students

<https://help.blackboard.com/en-us/Learn/9.1_2014_04/Instructor/040_In_Your_Course/050_Accessibility>

-- General Blackboard Accessibility Information for Faculty

<https://help.blackboard.com/en-us/Learn/9.1_2014_04/Instructor/040_In_Your_Course/050_Accessibility/000_Accessibility_Features> ----Accessibility features and usage guides for Faculty

<https://help.blackboard.com/en-us/Learn/9.1_2014_04/Instructor/040_In_Your_Course/050_Accessibility/Best_Practice_Captioning_Video_Content> --Best Practice Captioning Video Content for Faculty

<https://help.blackboard.com/en-us/Learn/9.1_2014_04/Instructor/040_In_Your_Course/050_Accessibility/Best_Practice_Formatting_Accessible_Documents> --Best Practice Formatting Accessible Documents for Faculty

If you have defined high contrast settings on your computer, you can enable high contrast styles. Doing so will inform the Blackboard platform to respect your operating system selections to ensure the best visual experience based on your personal needs. Open the global navigation menu (Shift + Alt + M), select settings, High Contrast Setting. Enable the “Yes, I will use Operating System styles to overwrite Blackboard styles” radio button and click submit.

<http://www.blackboard.com/Platforms/Learn/Resources/Accessibility/JAWS-Demo.aspx> -- Eleven JAWS demos

<https://www.coursesites.com/webapps/Bb-sites-course-creation-BBLEARN/courseHomepage.htmlx?course_id=_269867_1> Blackboard course on intro to accessibility

<http://library.blackboard.com/ref/a47a6afa-c957-4711-979b-975ff747de1d/content/moderators_and_participants_guides/web_conferencing_ui/keyboard_shortcuts.htm--> Blackboard Collaborate accessibility guide [PDF]

<http://library.blackboard.com/ref/a47a6afa-c957-4711-979b-975ff747de1d/content/moderators_and_participants_guides/web_conferencing_ui/keyboard_shortcuts.htm--> Keyboard Shortcuts - Blackboard collaborate

### Collaboration Tool [is this still accurate?]

Blackboard’s Accessible Chat tool uses the Java Accessibility API to provide keyboard shortcuts and descriptive Tool Tips (alt tags), that screen readers can use to help you navigate through the chat. Some screen readers may work directly with the Java Accessibility API. However, some, such as JAWS for Windows, require an additional utility, the Java Access Bridge.

The Java Access Bridge is automatically installed with the Java Runtime Environment 7u6 and later. However, you must enable it manually. On Windows Vista and later, you can enable the Access Bridge using the “Ease of Access Center” in the Control Panel.

[Accessibility in Blackboard Learn 9.1, SP10](http://www.blackboard.com/Platforms/Learn/Resources/Accessibility/Accessibility-Resources/Accessibility-in-Blackboard-Learn-9-1-SP10.aspx) **[Is this still accurate?]**

Outstanding Challenge Areas

The following list of features continues to pose some challenges for accessibility in Blackboard Learn. We are working in partnership with our clients, Blackboard Accessibility Partners and our vendors to constantly improve accessibility and overall user experience in Blackboard.

#### Discussion Board

The complexity of the messages page in the Discussion board still requires significant improvement to work with assistive technology tools. Viewing collections of messages (For example, all messages from a specific user or all unread messages) can somewhat improve the experience for users but it is likely that training will be required for users to be successful.

#### Virtual Classroom

Although the Accessible Chat alternative is provided, this is not considered "equal access" to all users.

#### Multi-file Upload

The multi-file upload function within Course Files and the Content System uses a Java Applet that does not interact well with various assistive technology tools. There is an option to upload files one at a time using the "Single File Upload" function so users can still attach multiple files to content items. The process just takes much longer.