# Voluntary Product Accessibility Template

## Introduction

A Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) is a document that describes the compliance of a website or web application with the accessibility standards contained in Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

### Format

The VPAT is a checklist of requirements described in Section 508. A summary table provides an overall level of conformance to Section 508 and a series of Section 1194 tables list detailed requirements and the conformance to each provision. The detail tables have three columns:

| **Column Name** | **Purpose** |
| --- | --- |
| **Criteria:** | Describes a specific provision |
| **Supporting Features:** | Provides a summary of the support for the subpart or provision |
| **Remarks/Explanations:** | Explains how it does or does not support the provision |

Explains how it does or does not support the provision

| **Supporting Feature Phrase** | **What It Means** |
| --- | --- |
| **Supports** | Fully meets the provision |
| **Supports with Exceptions** | Does not fully meet but provides some level of access |
| **Supports through Equivalent Facilitation** | Meets by providing an alternative method |
| **Does not Support** | Does not meet the provision |
| **Not Applicable** | Provision does not apply |

The remarks column includes specific details about which parts of the product do or do not meet the criteria and exactly how they support or do not support the provision.

# Voluntary Product Accessibility Template

**Date:** February 19, 2016

**Name of website or product:** McGraw Hill Education New Connect Platform

**Exclusions** None

**Contact for more information:** Interactive Accessibility, info@ia11y.com

## Summary Table

| **Guideline** | **Applicable** | **Compliance** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Section 1194.21Software Applications and Operating Systems | Applicable | Fully supports 5 and partially supports 4 standards3 standards are not applicable |
| Section 1194.22Web-based internet information and applications | Applicable | Fully supports 4 and partially supports 4 standardsDoes not support 3 standards5 standards are not applicable |
| Section 1194.23Telecommunications Products | Not Applicable |  |
| Section 1194.24Video and Multi-media Products | Not Applicable |  |
| Section 1194.25Self-Contained, Closed Products | Not Applicable |  |
| Section 1194.26Desktop and Portable Computers | Not Applicable |  |
| Section 1194.31Functional Performance Criteria | Applicable | Fully supports 4 and partially supports 2 standards |
| Section 1194.41Information, documentation, and support | Not Applicable |  |

## Section 1194.21 Software Applications and Operating Systems

| **Criteria** | **Supporting Features** | **Remarks and Explanations** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| (a) When software is designed to run on a system that has a keyboard, product functions shall be executable from a keyboard where the function itself or the result of performing a function can be discerned textually. | Supports with Exceptions | Some interactive components are not keyboard accessible. The main navigation elements cannot be accessed with the keyboard. Some links are missing the href attribute. Some semantically neutral active elements cannot be used with the keyboard. |
| (b) Applications shall not disrupt or disable activated features of other products that are identified as accessibility features, where those features are developed and documented according to industry standards. Applications also shall not disrupt or disable activated features of any operating system that are identified as accessibility features where the application programming interface for those accessibility features has been documented by the manufacturer of the operating system and is available to the product developer. | Supports | The application does not disrupt any accessibility features of other products. |
| (c) A well-defined on-screen indication of the current focus shall be provided that moves among interactive interface elements as the input focus changes. The focus shall be programmatically exposed so that Assistive Technology can track focus and focus changes. | Supports with Exceptions | Many interactive components do not gain visible focus when users navigate to them. Some elements have rollover states that are available to mouse users but not keyboard users. |
| (d) Sufficient information about a user interface element including the identity, operation and state of the element shall be available to Assistive Technology. When an image represents a program element, the information conveyed by the image must also be available in text. | Supports with Exceptions | Some form controls are not programmatically labelled. Semantically neutral elements are used that do not define their name, role and state. Some native elements have incorrect roles defined. Dialogs are not programmatically defined. |
| (e) When bitmap images are used to identify controls, status indicators, or other programmatic elements, the meaning assigned to those images shall be consistent throughout an application's performance. | Supports | Functions assigned to images that identify controls and programmatic elements are consistent. |
| (f) Textual information shall be provided through operating system functions for displaying text. The minimum information that shall be made available is text content, text input caret location, and text attributes. | Not Applicable | The New Connect platform is not a software application that interacts with an operating system. |
| (g) Applications shall not override user selected contrast and color selections and other individual display attributes. | Supports | The New Connect platform honors user-selected display attributes such as high contrast. |
| (h) When animation is displayed, the information shall be displayable in at least one non-animated presentation mode at the option of the user. | Not Applicable | The New Connect platform does not use animation to convey information. |
| (i) Color coding shall not be used as the only means of conveying information, indicating an action, prompting a response, or distinguishing a visual element. | Supports | The New Connect platform does not use animation to convey information. |
| (j) When a product permits a user to adjust color and contrast settings, a variety of color selections capable of producing a range of contrast levels shall be provided. | Not Applicable | The New Connect platform does not have color or contrast adjustment settings. |
| (k) Software shall not use flashing or blinking text, objects, or other elements having a flash or blink frequency greater than 2 Hz and lower than 55 Hz. | Supports | The New Connect platform does not use flashing or blinking user interface elements. |
| (l) When electronic forms are used, the form shall allow people using Assistive Technology to access the information, field elements, and functionality required for completion and submission of the form, including all directions and cues. | Supports with Exceptions | Some form fields cannot be accessed by persons using assistive technology. Some form fields do not have a programmatic label. The name, role and state of some form fields is not indicated to assistive technology. Form error messages are not apparent to screen reader users. |

[Back to Top](#_top)

## Section 1194.22 Web-based Internet information and applications

| **Criteria** | **Supporting Features** | **Remarks and Explanations** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| (a) A text equivalent for every non-text element shall be provided (e.g., via "alt", "longdesc", or in element content). | Supports with Exceptions | Canvas and SVG graphics do not all have text alternatives. Most icon fonts do not have text alternatives. Some images that convey information do not have a text alternative. |
| (b) Equivalent alternatives for any multimedia presentation shall be synchronized with the presentation. | Not Applicable | The New Connect platform does not use multimedia presentations that use more than one type of media. |
| (c) Web pages shall be designed so that all information conveyed with color is also available without color, for example from context or markup. | Supports | The New Connect platform does not use color as the only means of conveying information. |
| (d) Documents shall be organized so they are readable without requiring an associated style sheet. | Supports with Exceptions | Some content is not readable without stylesheets. When stylesheets are disabled some content overlaps other content and some active elements are not visible. |
| (e) Redundant text links shall be provided for each active region of a server-side image map. | Not Applicable | Server-side image maps are not used on the New Connect Platform. |
| (f) Client-side image maps shall be provided instead of server-side image maps except where the regions cannot be defined with an available geometric shape. | Supports | Client-side image maps are not used on the New Connect Platform. |
| (g) Row and column headers shall be identified for data tables. | Does Not Support | The table headers in the course calendar are not defined. |
| (h) Markup shall be used to associate data cells and header cells for data tables that have two or more logical levels of row or column headers. | Does not Support | The course calendar having two logical levels of columns headers does not have table headers defined. |
| (i) Frames shall be titled with text that facilitates frame identification and navigation | Does not Support | All iFrames used do not have a title attribute. |
| (j) Pages shall be designed to avoid causing the screen to flicker with a frequency greater than 2 Hz and lower than 55 Hz. | Supports | The New Connect platform does not use flashing or blinking user interface elements. |
| (k) A text-only page, with equivalent information or functionality, shall be provided to make a web site comply with the provisions of this part, when compliance cannot be accomplished in any other way. The content of the text-only page shall be updated whenever the primary page changes. | Not Applicable | A text-only page is not required for the New Connect platform. |
| (l) When pages utilize scripting languages to display content, or to create interface elements, the information provided by the script shall be identified with functional text that can be read by Assistive Technology. | Supports | All elements and content created by scripting is identified with functional text that is read by Assistive Technology. |
| (m) When a web page requires that an applet, plug-in or other application be present on the client system to interpret page content, the page must provide a link to a plug-in or applet that complies with 1194.21(a) through (l). | Not Applicable | Content in the platform does not require applets or plug-ins. |
| (n) When electronic forms are designed to be completed on-line, the form shall allow people using Assistive Technology to access the information, field elements, and functionality required for completion and submission of the form, including all directions and cues. | Supports with Exceptions | Some form fields cannot be accessed by persons using assistive technology. Some form fields do not have a programmatic label. The name, role and state of some form fields is not indicated to assistive technology. Form error messages are not apparent to screen reader users. |
| (o) A method shall be provided that permits users to skip repetitive navigation links. | Supports with Exceptions | Some semantic headings are used to allow the bypassing of repetitive navigation links but WAI-ARIA landmark roles are not used. |
| (p) When a timed response is required, the user shall be alerted and given sufficient time to indicate more time is required. | Does Not Support | Users are not prompted with an opportunity to extend the session. |

[Back to Top](#_top)

Section 1194.31 Functional Performance Criteria

| **Criteria** | **Supporting Features** | **Remarks and Explanations** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| (a) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require user vision shall be provided, or support for Assistive Technology used by people who are blind or visually impaired shall be provided. | Supports | The New Connect platform supports the use of screen readers such as JAWS and NVDA. |
| (b) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require visual acuity greater than 20/70 shall be provided in audio and enlarged print output working together or independently, or support for Assistive Technology used by people who are visually impaired shall be provided. | Supports | High-contrast mode through the operating system is honored. |
| (c) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require user hearing shall be provided, or support for Assistive Technology used by people who are deaf or hard of hearing shall be provided | Supports with Exceptions | Audio-only files that are available from the media bank do not provide a textual description of the media. |
| (d) Where audio information is important for the use of a product, at least one mode of operation and information retrieval shall be provided in an enhanced auditory fashion, or support for assistive hearing devices shall be provided. | Supports with Exceptions | Audio-only files that are available from the media bank do not provide a textual description of the media. |
| (e) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require user speech shall be provided, or support for Assistive Technology used by people with disabilities shall be provided. | Supports | The New Connect platform does not require speech. |
| (f) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require fine motor control or simultaneous actions and that is operable with limited reach and strength shall be provided. | Supports | An alternative mode of operation is provided for content that requires fine motor control. |

[Back to Top](#_top)

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