Accessibility Compliance Progress-to-Date

Introduction: Compliance with HB24-1454

A government entity that is not able to meet the steps to comply with the OIT rules by July 1, 2024 may instead pursue compliance with the requirements of HB24-1454 through July 1, 2025. On July 1, 2025 all government entities must comply with the OIT rules.

A government entity may be immune from liability through July 1, 2025 for failure to comply with the OIT rules if they meet the following three criteria:

- Make good faith efforts toward resolution of a complaint of noncompliance;
- Create a clear, easy-to-find process that is prominently displayed on all
 front-facing web pages for requesting redress for inaccessible digital products,
 including contact options that are not dependent on web access; and
- Create and post on front-facing web pages a progress-to-date report that is updated quarterly and demonstrates concrete and specific efforts toward compliance with the OIT rules.

Accessibility standards applied

The Governor's Office of Information Technology (OIT) has developed accessibility technical standards with the intent of providing enterprise standard configurations for technologies which provide service to those with disabilities, in accordance with the technical standards provided by:

- World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) Web Content Accessibility Guidelines
 (WCAG) 2.1 Level AA or higher
- Section 508 of the U.S. Rehabilitation Act of 1973 Chapters 3,4,6
- and following <u>C.R.S. 24-85-101 to 24-85-104</u>, <u>ARTICLE 85</u>

Other accessibility considerations

(Sometimes you may be applying more accessibility requirements than those specified

in the accessibility standard stated above. For example, you may be providing sign

language videos or context-sensitive help for functionality. Here you can list these

additional accessibility requirements.)

Example: Although our goal is WCAG 2.1 Level AA conformance, we have also applied

some Level AAA Success Criteria.

Your efforts

(In this section you can describe the efforts your organization takes to ensure

accessibility. This helps users to understand your sincerity and the validity of the

claims you make in your accessibility statement.)

Example: The Agency is committed to providing equitable access to all Coloradans.

Our ongoing accessibility effort works towards the day when all Agency services,

programs, and activities are accessible, providing equal access to information and

services to all Coloradans.

To that end, the Agency has a plan to prioritize, evaluate, remediate and continuously

improve every digital touchpoint within our services, programs, and activities. Below,

you'll find just some of the measures that the Agency is undertaking.

Accessibility Maturity

(By selecting one of the boxes below, you will be able to provide the current status of

government organization's accessibility maturity. Updating this status on a yearly

basis will demonstrate the organization's ongoing commitment to accessibility. This is

a high-level self-assessment tool used to help the community understand the extent

to which your agency has developed or implemented accessibility.)

The Agency is at the following accessibility maturity level for 2024.

Check One	Stage	Criteria
	Inactive	No awareness and recognition of need. At this stage organizations are inventorying their technology, have begun to make investments, etc
	Launch	Recognized need organization-wide. Planning initiated, but activities not well organized.
	Integrate	Roadmap including timeline is in place, overall organizational approach defined and well organized.
	Optimize	Incorporated into the whole organization, consistently evaluated, and actions taken on assessment outcomes.

Why we are at this stage

(In this section you may want to provide either justification for any roadblocks to progress (e.g., financial, technical, or administrative difficulty or expense) or resources that may have helped you progress along the way.)

Example: We've made great progress since HB21-1110 has passed considering substantial challenges to the Agency:

- Limited budget for our program: \$150,000
- One administrative FTE that manages the website, documentation,
 procurement, contract and vendor management and communications

Organizational measures

(The organizational measures section allows further opportunities to describe the efforts your organization takes to remove technology accessibility barriers. This helps people to understand your sincerity and the validity of the claims you make in your accessibility statement.)

Examples:

 Define an accessibility roadmap including timeline, goals, roles, responsibilities and policies as needed for our organization.

- Include accessibility into our procurement processes.
- Conduct and maintain an inventory of technology then prioritize, validate through testing and address issues that are found in current technology.
 - Link to prioritization page
- Create and implement a plan for providing reasonable accommodation and modification until the technology can be made accessible.
- Provide contact information and support for receiving accessibility feedback and accommodations requests.
- Hire people with accessibility skills and train current employees on providing accessible services and technology.
- Incorporate accessibility requirements into our technology development stages including design, development, user experience, and quality assurance.
- Create and post on front-facing web pages a progress-to-date report that is updated quarterly and demonstrates concrete and specific efforts toward compliance with the OIT rules. (This is required to be in compliance with the requirements of <u>HB24-1454</u> through July 1, 2025)

Formal approval

(Formally approve this accessibility statement to show users that this is part of the organization's policy.)

Example:

- Name of person including role and department who authorizes this statement (Example: "Jane Doe, Public Information Officer, Communication Department")
- Date of approval/last updated on