

What is accessibility?

It is important for people with disabilities to be able to navigate and interact with your site. Web accessibility encompasses all disabilities that affect access to the web, including visual and auditory.

Why is accessibility important?

The web is an increasingly important resource in many aspects of life. It is essential that the web be accessible in order to provide equal access and equal opportunity to people with disabilities.

The web offers the possibility of unprecedented access to information and interaction for many people with disabilities. Accessibility barriers to print, audio and visual media can be much more easily overcome through web technologies.

In addition, it is important to note that web accessibility is required by law. WAI Web Accessibility Policy Resources (www.w3.org/WAI/policy-res) links to resources for addressing legal and policy factors within organizations, including a list of relevant laws and policies around the world.

How does the USF CMS help with accessibility?

The templates in the USF CMS were built closely following Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 and Section 508. However, the content you add to your pages should also be checked. The system can perform an Accessibility Check which identifies any issues that may be present relating to the type of accessibility standards. The report can include known issues, likely issues, and potential issues. This way, you can correct accessibility errors before you publish a web page.

Keep in mind that errors that may be identified that are in areas that cannot be edited by the user. For instance, if the error is in the header, this is generally only editable by an administrator. In those cases, the user should pass the identified error on to their CMS Liaison to review it. Script errors are typically controlled by the vendor and cannot be updated.