

# Website Accessibility Checklist: ADA Title II & WCAG 2.1 AA (2026)

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This checklist is for staff who publish information on college websites, portals, or public pages. It helps ensure web content meets ADA Title II and WCAG 2.1 Level AA accessibility requirements. Use this checklist when posting pages, announcements, documents, forms, or multimedia.

## Core Principle

If the public or students can see it, read it, download it, or interact with it on a website, it must be accessible. [Pope Tech Accessibility Guides](https://blog.pope.tech) [https://blog.pope.tech]

## Page Structure and Headings ([Heading Tutorial](#))

- Use proper heading structure (Heading 1, Heading 2, Heading 3).
- Do not use bold text or larger font instead of headings.
- Organize content so screen reader users can navigate sections easily.
- Keep paragraphs short and clearly structured.

## Links ([Link Tutorial](#))

- Use descriptive link text (e.g., 'Download the Financial Aid Form').
- Avoid 'click here' or 'read more' without context.
- Make sure link text makes sense when read by itself.
- Ensure links are visually distinguishable from surrounding text.

## Images and Graphics ([Alt Text Tutorial](#))

- Add alternative text (alt text) to all meaningful images.
- Keep alt text short but descriptive.
- Mark decorative images as decorative if they add no information.
- Provide text descriptions for charts, maps, or complex graphics.

## Color and Visual Design ([Color Contrast Tutorial](#))

- Ensure sufficient contrast between text and background.
- Do not rely on color alone to communicate meaning.
- Use clear labels or icons in addition to color indicators.

## Documents Posted on Websites ([Documents/PDFs Tutorials](#))

- Use accessible Word or PowerPoint files before converting to PDF.

- Avoid posting scanned PDFs when possible.
- Ensure documents use heading styles and structured lists.
- Add alt text to images in documents.
- Ensure tables include header rows.

### **Video and Multimedia ([Video Accessibility](#))**

- Provide captions for all videos.
- Provide transcripts for audio content.
- Ensure important visual information is explained in the narration or transcript.
- Avoid autoplaying videos.

### **Forms and Online Services ([Form Tutorial](#))**

- Ensure form fields have clear labels.
- Provide clear instructions for completing forms.
- Make sure error messages explain how to fix problems.
- Ensure forms can be completed using a keyboard.

### **Mobile Accessibility**

- Check that pages work well on phones and tablets.
- Avoid large images that contain text.
- Ensure tables and layouts adjust to smaller screens.
- Use responsive page layouts.

### **Before Publishing a Web Page**

- Check heading structure.
- Confirm images include alt text.
- Verify links are descriptive.
- Ensure documents posted on the page are accessible.
- Confirm videos include captions.
- Test the page on a mobile device if possible.

### **Compliance Reminder**

Under the updated ADA Title II rule, public entities must ensure web content and mobile apps meet WCAG 2.1 Level AA accessibility standards by April 26, 2026.