



Creating Accessible Web Sites

In August 1999, the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office distributed guidelines to help faculty and staff make their web pages accessible to students with disabilities. At the very least, all web pages must meet Priority 1 guidelines, as prescribed by the Web Accessibility Initiative.

Below is Priority 1:

- Provide alternative text for images, applets, and image maps.
- Provide descriptions for important graphics, scripts, or applets if they are not fully described through alternative text or in the document's content.
- Provide textual equivalents for audio information (captioning).
- Provide verbal descriptions of moving visual information in both auditory and text form.
- Ensure that text and graphics are perceivable and understandable when viewed without color.
- Ensure that moving, blinking, scrolling, or auto-updating objects or pages may be paused or frozen.
- Ensure that pages using newer HTML features (i.e. style sheets, forms, tables) will transform gracefully into an accessible form.
- Use features that enable activation of page elements via input devices other than a pointing device (e.g., via keyboard, voice, etc.).
- For frames, provide sufficient information to determine the purpose of the frames and how they relate to each other.
- Ensure that tables (not used for layout) have necessary markup to be properly restructured or presented by accessible browsers and other user agents.
- Only use technologies defined in a W3C (World Wide Web Consortium) specification and use them in an accessible manner. Where not possible, provide an accessible alternative page that does.

The Chancellor's Office Distance Education Access Guidelines provide information on Levels 2 and 3, along with information on how to make all forms of distance education accessible. [Read the entire document.](#)

The following are web sites that provide detailed information about making web sites accessible to students with disabilities:

- [LPC's Web Accessibility Guidelines](#)
- [Web Accessibility Initiative](#)
- [The High Tech Center Training Unit](#)
- [Bobby](#)
- [Creating an accessible PowerPoint presentation](#)