

## Web Accessibility Standards

In order to become a more inclusive organization, the City of Bowling Green is now updating its website to meet W3C's Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0 (WCAG 2.0), Level A criterion. This ensures that users with auditory, visual, physical, or cognitive disabilities are able to access content through the use of assistive devices.

Despite already being published online (<http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20>), we wanted to explicitly list the criterion here:

### 1.1 Text Alternatives

Provide text alternatives for any non-text content so that it can be changed into other forms people need, such as large print, braille, speech, symbols or simpler language.

**1.1.1 Non-text Content:** All non-text content that is presented to the user has a text alternative that serves the equivalent purpose, except for the situations listed below.

- **Controls, Input:** If non-text content is a control or accepts user input, then it has a name that describes its purpose.
- **Time-Based Media:** If non-text content is time-based media, then text alternatives at least provide descriptive identification of the non-text content.
- **Test:** If non-text content is a test or exercise that would be invalid if presented in text, then text alternatives at least provide descriptive identification of the non-text content.
- **Sensory:** If non-text content is primarily intended to create a specific sensory experience, then text alternatives at least provide descriptive identification of the non-text content.
- **CAPTCHA:** If the purpose of non-text content is to confirm that content is being accessed by a person rather than a computer, then text alternatives that identify and describe the purpose of the non-text content are provided, and alternative forms of CAPTCHA using output modes for different types of sensory perception are provided to accommodate different disabilities.
- **Decoration, Formatting, Invisible:** If non-text content is pure decoration, is used only for visual formatting, or is not presented to users, then it is implemented in a way that it can be ignored by assistive technology.

### 1.2 Time-based Media

Provide alternatives for time-based media.

**1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded):** For prerecorded audio-only and prerecorded video-only media, the following are true, except when the audio or video is a media alternative for text and is clearly labeled as such:

- **Prerecorded Audio-only:** An alternative for time-based media is provided that presents equivalent information for prerecorded audio-only content.

- **Prerecorded Video-only:** Either an alternative for time-based media or an audio track is provided that presents equivalent information for prerecorded video-only content.

### **1.3 Adaptable**

Create content that can be presented in different ways (for example simpler layout) without losing information or structure.

**1.3.1 Info and Relationships:** Information, structure, and relationships conveyed through presentation can be programmatically determined or are available in text.

**1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence:** When the sequence in which content is presented affects its meaning, a correct reading sequence can be programmatically determined.

**1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics:** Instructions provided for understanding and operating content do not rely solely on sensory characteristics of components such as shape, size, visual location, orientation, or sound.

### **1.4 Distinguishable**

Make it easier for users to see and hear content including separating foreground from background.

**1.4.1 Use of Color:** Color is not used as the only visual means of conveying information, indicating an action, prompting a response, or distinguishing a visual element.

**1.4.2 Audio Control:** If any audio on a web page plays automatically for more than 3 seconds, either a mechanism is available to pause or stop the audio, or a mechanism is available to control audio volume independently from the overall system volume level.

### **2.1 Keyboard Accessible**

Make all functionality available from a keyboard.

**2.1.1 Keyboard:** All functionality of the content is operable through a keyboard interface without requiring specific timings for individual keystrokes, except where the underlying function requires input that depends on the path of the user's movement and not just the endpoints.

**2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap:** If keyboard focus can be moved to a component of the page using a keyboard interface, then focus can be moved away from that component using only a keyboard interface, and, if it requires more than unmodified arrow or tab keys or other standard exit methods, the user is advised of the method for moving focus away.

### **2.2 Enough Time**

Provide users enough time to read and use content.

**2.2.1 Timing Adjustable:** For each time limit that is set by the content, at least one of the following is true:

**2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide:** For moving, blinking, scrolling, or auto-updating information, all of the following are true:

- **Moving, blinking, scrolling:** For any moving, blinking or scrolling information that (1) starts automatically, (2) lasts more than five seconds, and (3) is presented in parallel with other content, there is a mechanism for the user to pause, stop, or hide it unless the movement, blinking, or scrolling is part of an activity where it is essential; and
- **Auto-updating:** For any auto-updating information that (1) starts automatically and (2) is presented in parallel with other content, there is a mechanism for the user to pause, stop, or hide it or to control the frequency of the update unless the auto-updating is part of an activity where it is essential.

## **2.3 Seizures**

Do not design content in a way that is known to cause seizures.

**2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold:** web pages do not contain anything that flashes more than three times in any one second period, or the flash is below the general flash and red flash thresholds.

## **2.4 Navigable**

Provide ways to help users navigate, find content, and determine where they are.

**2.4.1 Bypass Blocks:** A mechanism is available to bypass blocks of content that are repeated on multiple web pages.

**2.4.2 Page Titled:** Web pages have titles that describe topic or purpose.

**2.4.3 Focus Order:** If a web page can be navigated sequentially and the navigation sequences affect meaning or operation, focusable components receive focus in an order that preserves meaning and operability.

**2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context):** The purpose of each link can be determined from the link text alone or from the link text together with its programmatically determined link context, except where the purpose of the link would be ambiguous to users in general.

## **3.1 Readable**

Make text content readable and understandable.

**3.1.1 Language of Page:** The default human language of each web page can be programmatically determined.

## **3.2 Predictable**

Make web pages appear and operate in predictable ways.

**3.2.1 On Focus:** When any component receives focus, it does not initiate a change of context.

**3.2.2 On Input:** Changing the setting of any user interface component does not automatically cause a change of context unless the user has been advised of the behavior before using the component.

## **3.3 Input Assistance**

Help users avoid and correct mistakes.

**3.3.1 Error Identification:** If an input error is automatically detected, the item that is in error is identified and the error is described to the user in text.

**3.3.2 Labels or Instructions:** Labels or instructions are provided when content requires user input.

## **4.1 Compatible**

Maximize compatibility with current and future user agents, including assistive technologies.

**4.1.1 Parsing:** In content implemented using markup languages, elements have complete start and end tags, elements are nested according to their specifications, elements do not contain duplicate attributes, and any IDs are unique, except where the specifications allow these features.

**4.1.2 Name, Role, Value:** For all user interface components (including but not limited to: form elements, links and components generated by scripts), the name and role can be programmatically determined; states, properties, and values that can be set by the user can be programmatically set; and notification of changes to these items is available to user agents, including assistive technologies.