**VPAT™**

# Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®

**Version 1.3**

The purpose of the **Voluntary Product Accessibility Template**, or **VPAT™**, is to assist Federal contracting officials and other buyers in making preliminary assessments regarding the availability of commercial “Electronic and Information Technology” products and services with features that support accessibility. It is assumed and recommended that offerers will provide additional contact information to facilitate more detailed inquiries.

The first table of the Template provides a summary view of the Section 508 Standards. The subsequent tables provide more detailed views of each subsection. There are three columns in each table. Column one of the Summary Table describes the subsections of subparts B and C of the Standards. The second column describes the supporting features of the product or refers you to the corresponding detailed table, e.g., “equivalent facilitation." The third column contains any additional remarks and explanations regarding the product. In the subsequent tables, the first column contains the lettered paragraphs of the subsections. The second column describes the supporting features of the product with regard to that paragraph. The third column contains any additional remarks and explanations regarding the product.

**Date:** September 8, 2016  
**Name of Product:** In Context Product Family including

Biography In Context

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| Global Issues in Context |
| Opposing Viewpoints In Context |
| Research in Context |
| Science In Context |
| Student Resources In Context |
| U.S. History In Context |
| World History In Context |

**Contact for more Information (name/phone/email): Accessibility@cengage.com**

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| Summary Table **VPAT™**  **Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®** | | |
| **Criteria** | **Supporting Features** | **Remarks and explanations** |
| Section 1194.21 [Software Applications and Operating Systems](#softwaredetails) | Applicable | Supports |
| Section 1194.22 [Web-based Internet Information and Applications](#webdetails) | Applicable | Supports with exceptions |
| Section 1194.23 [Telecommunications Products](#telecommunicationsdetails) | Not Applicable | Section deleted |
| Section 1194.24 [Video and Multi-media Products](#videodetails) | Not Applicable | Section deleted |
| Section 1194.25 [Self-Contained, Closed Products](#selfcontaineddetails) | Not Applicable | Section deleted |
| Section 1194.26 [Desktop and Portable Computers](#desktopsdetails) | Not Applicable | Section deleted |
| Section 1194.31 [Functional Performance Criteria](#functionaldetails) | Applicable | Supports with exceptions |
| Section 1194.41 [Information, Documentation and Support](#informationdetails) | Applicable | Supports |

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| Section 1194.21 Software Applications and Operating Systems - Detail Voluntary Product Accessibility Template | | |
| ***Criteria*** | **Supporting Features** | **Remarks and explanations** |
| (a) When software is designed to run on a system that has a keyboard, product functions shall be executable from a keyboard where the function itself or the result of performing a function can be discerned textually. | Supports | This product allows users to perform any actions with a keyboard, with the exception of the highlighting feature |
| (b) Applications shall not disrupt or disable activated features of other products that are identified as accessibility features, where those features are developed and documented according to industry standards. Applications also shall not disrupt or disable activated features of any operating system that are identified as accessibility features where the application programming interface for those accessibility features has been documented by the manufacturer of the operating system and is available to the product developer. | Supports | This product does not disrupt or disable the ability of a user to replace CSS sheets, change colors, change text size or generate lists of links & headings. |
| (c) A well-defined on-screen indication of the current focus shall be provided that moves among interactive interface elements as the input focus changes. The focus shall be programmatically exposed so that Assistive Technology can track focus and focus changes. | Supports | This product shows focus on all links and menu items. |
| (d) Sufficient information about a user interface element including the identity, operation and state of the element shall be available to Assistive Technology. When an image represents a program element, the information conveyed by the image must also be available in text. | Supports | This program uses proper form labels and alt text for image based controls. |
| (e) When bitmap images are used to identify controls, status indicators, or other programmatic elements, the meaning assigned to those images shall be consistent throughout an application's performance. | Supports | This program generally does not use bitmaps as controls or status indicators. When it does, they are labeled with an alt text. |
| (f) Textual information shall be provided through operating system functions for displaying text. The minimum information that shall be made available is text content, text input caret location, and text attributes. | Supports | This program uses widely accepted techniques in HTML and CSS to interact with the user. |
| (g) Applications shall not override user selected contrast and color selections and other individual display attributes. | Supports | This product does not disrupt or disable the ability of a user to replace CSS sheets, change colors, change text size or generate lists of links & headings. |
| (h) When animation is displayed, the information shall be displayable in at least one non-animated presentation mode at the option of the user. | Not Applicable. | This product does not use animations |
| (i) Color coding shall not be used as the only means of conveying information, indicating an action, prompting a response, or distinguishing a visual element. | Supports | This product does not use color as the sole means of communicating information. |
| (j) When a product permits a user to adjust color and contrast settings, a variety of color selections capable of producing a range of contrast levels shall be provided. | Not Applicable. | This product does not allow the user to adjust color and contrast settings. |
| (k) Software shall not use flashing or blinking text, objects, or other elements having a flash or blink frequency greater than 2 Hz and lower than 55 Hz. | Supports | This product does not use flashing or blinking text within the stated range. |
| (l) When electronic forms are used, the form shall allow people using Assistive Technology to access the information, field elements, and functionality required for completion and submission of the form, including all directions and cues. | Supports | This product uses form labels and fieldsets to give all available information to users with assistive technology. |

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| Section 1194.22 Web-based Internet information and applications – Detail **VPAT™**  **Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®** | | |
| **Criteria** | **Supporting Features** | **Remarks and explanations** |
| (a) A text equivalent for every non-text element shall be provided (e.g., via "alt", "longdesc", or in element content). | UI:Supports  Content: Supports with exceptions | User Interface: All UI graphics have equivalent alt-text.  Content: Alt-text or descriptive captions cannot be guaranteed for the content, which is licensed from thousands of different periodical sources and spans several decades. |
| (b) Equivalent alternatives for any multimedia presentation shall be synchronized with the presentation. | Content: Supports with exceptions | Content: Internally hosted videos include closed captioning and transcripts. Product contains links to thousands of internally and externally hosted audio and video files, some of which lack synchronized alternatives. |
| (c) Web pages shall be designed so that all information conveyed with color is also available without color, for example from context or markup. | Supports | Color is not used as the sole means of communicating information. All options and controls are visible with color turned off. |
| (d) Documents shall be organized so they are readable without requiring an associated style sheet. | Supports | Products are usable without the associated style sheets. |
| (e) Redundant text links shall be provided for each active region of a server-side image map. | Supports with exception | Products contain geographic maps implemented that behave like image maps. Redundant text links are not provided for these maps, but the data used to create them is available in .CSV format. |
| (f) Client-side image maps shall be provided instead of server-side image maps except where the regions cannot be defined with an available geometric shape. | Not Applicable | Image maps are not used. maps described above have regions that do not correspond to available geometric shapes. |
| (g) Row and column headers shall be identified for data tables. | UI:Supports  Content: Supports with exceptions | User Interface: data tables are not used in the user interface.  Content: Row and column headers cannot be guaranteed for all data tables in the content, which is licensed from thousands of different periodical sources and spans several decades. |
| (h) Markup shall be used to associate data cells and header cells for data tables that have two or more logical levels of row or column headers. | UI:Supports  Content: Supports with exceptions | User Interface: data tables are not used in the user interface.  Content: Row and column headers cannot be guaranteed for all data tables in the content, which is licensed from thousands of different periodical sources and spans several decades. |
| (i) Frames shall be titled with text that facilitates frame identification and navigation | Supports | Product uses frames only in the Help feature, which can be navigated using standard keyboard and screenreader frame navigation commands. |
| (j) Pages shall be designed to avoid causing the screen to flicker with a frequency greater than 2 Hz and lower than 55 Hz. | Supports | Pages do not cause screen flicker with a frequency greater than 2 Hz and lower than 55 Hz. |
| (k) A text-only page, with equivalent information or functionality, shall be provided to make a web site comply with the provisions of this part, when compliance cannot be accomplished in any other way. The content of the text-only page shall be updated whenever the primary page changes. | Not Applicable | In Context is a web-based application (not a document). Its user interface and data cannot readily be represented and maintained in a text-only page. |
| (l) When pages utilize scripting languages to display content, or to create interface elements, the information provided by the script shall be identified with functional text that can be read by Assistive Technology. | UI: Supports  Content: Supports with exception | User Interface: Interface elements created with scripting languages can be properly accessed and identified by assistive technology.  Content: Multimedia display elements created with scripting languages can be properly accessed and identified by assistive technology. The exception is the Map feature, which makes available the data in CSV format. |
| (m) When a web page requires that an applet, plug-in or other application be present on the client system to interpret page content, the page must provide a link to a plug-in or applet that complies with §1194.21(a) through (l). | Supports | In Context provides links to all required plug-ins. |
| (n) When electronic forms are designed to be completed on-line, the form shall allow people using Assistive Technology to access the information, field elements, and functionality required for completion and submission of the form, including all directions and cues. | Supports | User Interface: All forms and fields have proper labels and directions.  Content: No forms or fields are present in the content. |
| (o) A method shall be provided that permits users to skip repetitive navigation links. | Supports | Product provides a skip navigation link. Header structure facilitates navigation by screenreaders. |
| (p) When a timed response is required, the user shall be alerted and given sufficient time to indicate more time is required. | Not Applicable | Product does not require a timed response. |

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| Section 1194.31 Functional Performance Criteria – Detail **VPAT™**  **Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®** | | |
| **Criteria** | **Supporting Features** | **Remarks and explanations** |
| (a) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require user vision shall be provided, or support for Assistive Technology used by people who are blind or visually impaired shall be provided. | UI: Supports  Content: Supports with exception | User Interface: The UI can be used with Assistive Technology including screen readers.  Content: The content can be used with Assistive Technology including screen readers with exceptions noted in 1194.22(a) (b) & (h). |
| (b) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require visual acuity greater than 20/70 shall be provided in audio and enlarged print output working together or independently, or support for Assistive Technology used by people who are visually impaired shall be provided. | Supports | User Interface: UI supports browser zoom functions.  Content: A text-to-speech feature is provided for article content and includes an option to download to MP3. |
| (c) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require user hearing shall be provided, or support for Assistive Technology used by people who are deaf or hard of hearing shall be provided | UI: Supports  Content: Supports with exceptions | User Interface: UI & navigation do not require user hearing  Content: product does contain links to internally and externally hosted audio and video content for which transcripts and/or closed captioning cannot be guaranteed. |
| (d) Where audio information is important for the use of a product, at least one mode of operation and information retrieval shall be provided in an enhanced auditory fashion, or support for assistive hearing devices shall be provided. | Supports | This type of support is provided by computer hardware. |
| (e) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require user speech shall be provided, or support for Assistive Technology used by people with disabilities shall be provided. | Not Applicable | Product does not require user speech. |
| (f) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require fine motor control or simultaneous actions and that is operable with limited reach and strength shall be provided. | Supports | Product supports keyboard navigation and operation. Style sheet must be turned off to use keyboard navigation on curriculum standards. |

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| Section 1194.41 Information, Documentation and Support – Detail **VPAT™**  **Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®** | | |
| **Criteria** | **Supporting Features** | **Remarks and explanations** |
| (a) Product support documentation provided to end-users shall be made available in alternate formats upon request, at no additional charge | Supports | Gale will provide support documentation in an alternative format, upon request. |
| (b) End-users shall have access to a description of the accessibility and compatibility features of products in alternate formats or alternate methods upon request, at no additional charge. | Supports | End users may request a description of the accessibility and compatibility features using the Contact Us link in the footer. |
| (c) Support services for products shall accommodate the communication needs of end-users with disabilities. | Supports | Support services are available via phone, or fax using the Contact Us link in the footer. |

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