

# VPAT™

## Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®

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.

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**Name of Product:** Gale Literary Sources including LitFinder, Literature Resource Center, Literature Criticism Online, Scribner and Twayne, Contemporary Authors Online, Dictionary of Literary Biography Complete Online, Modern Language Association (MLA) International Bibliography, Something About the Author Online

**Contact for more Information :** [accessibility@cengage.com](mailto:accessibility@cengage.com)

## ***Summary Table***

<b>Guideline</b>	<b>Applicability</b>	<b>Compliance</b>
Section 1194.21 Software Applications and Operating Systems	Applicable	Supports with Exceptions
Section 1194.22 Web-based Internet Information and Applications	Applicable	Supports with Exceptions
Section 1194.23 Telecommunications Products	Not Applicable	
Section 1194.24 Video and Multi-media Products	Not Applicable	
Section 1194.25 Self-Contained, Closed Products	Not Applicable	
Section 1194.26 Desktop and Portable Computers	Not Applicable	
Section 1194.31 Functional Performance Criteria	Applicable	Supports with Exceptions
Section 1194.41 Information, Documentation and Support	Applicable	Supports

### **Section 1194.21 Software Applications and Operating Systems - Detail Voluntary Product Accessibility Template**

<b><i>Criteria</i></b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(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 with exception	This product allows users to perform any actions with a keyboard, with the exception of the highlighting feature
(b) Applications shall not disrupt or	Supports	This product does not

<p>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.</p>		<p>disrupt or disable the ability of a user to replace CSS sheets, change colors, change text size or generate lists of links &amp; headings.</p>
<p>(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.</p>	<p>Supports with exception</p>	<p>This product shows focus on links and menu items with the exception of some advanced search controls</p>
<p>(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.</p>	<p>Supports with exception</p>	<p>This program sometimes uses proper form labels, but some advanced search fields are unlabeled. This program uses alt text for image based controls.</p>
<p>(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.</p>	<p>Supports</p>	<p>This program generally does not use bitmaps as controls or status indicators. When it does, they are labeled with an alt text.</p>
<p>(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.</p>	<p>Supports</p>	<p>This program uses widely accepted techniques in HTML and CSS to interact with the user.</p>
<p>(g) Applications shall not override user selected contrast and color selections and other individual display attributes.</p>	<p>Supports</p>	<p>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 &amp; headings.</p>
<p>(h) When animation is displayed, the information shall be displayable in at least one non-animated presentation mode at the option of the user.</p>	<p>Not Applicable.</p>	<p>This product does not use animations</p>
<p>(i) Color coding shall not be used as the only means of conveying information, indicating an action, prompting a response, or distinguishing a visual</p>	<p>Supports</p>	<p>This product does not use color as the sole means of communicating information.</p>

element.		
(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 with exception	This product sometimes uses form labels and fieldsets to give all available information to users with assistive technology. Some advanced search boxes do not have form labels.

## ***Section 1194.22 Web-based Internet Information and Applications – Detail***

<b><i>Criteria</i></b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(a) A text equivalent for every non-text element shall be provided (e.g., via "alt", "longdesc", or in element content).	Supports	Gale Literary Sources provides alt tags for all non-decorative images.
(b) Equivalent alternatives for any multimedia presentation shall be synchronized with the presentation.	Not Applicable	Gale Literary Sources does not include multimedia.
(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.
(d) Documents shall be organized so they are readable without requiring an associated style sheet.	Supports	Gale Literary Sources is readable without the associated style sheet.

(e) Redundant text links shall be provided for each active region of a server-side image map.	Not Applicable	Gale Literary Sources does not use image maps.
(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	Gale Literary Sources does not use image maps.
(g) Row and column headers shall be identified for data tables.	Not Applicable	Gale Literary Sources does not use data tables.
(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.	Not Applicable	Gale Literary Sources does not use data tables.
(i) Frames shall be titled with text that facilitates frame identification and navigation	Not Applicable	Gale Literary Sources does not use frames.
(j) Pages shall be designed to avoid causing the screen to flicker with a frequency greater than 2 Hz and lower than 55 Hz.	Not Applicable	Gale Literary Sources 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	Gale Literary Sources 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.	Supports with exception	Gale Literary Sources creates interactive term frequency charts that do not function with keyboard technology.
(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).	Not Applicable	No plug-ins or applets are needed for this product.
(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	Supports with exceptions	This product sometimes uses form labels and fieldsets to give all

functionality required for completion and submission of the form, including all directions and cues.		available information to users with assistive technology. Some advanced search boxes do not have form labels.
(o) A method shall be provided that permits users to skip repetitive navigation links.	Supports	Gale Literary Sources provides a method to skip over repetitive navigation links.
(p) When a timed response is required, the user shall be alerted and given sufficient time to indicate more time is required.	Not Applicable	Gale Literary Sources does not require a timed response.

**Section 1194.31 Functional Performance  
Criteria – Detail**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(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.	Supports with Exceptions	Gale Literary Sources provides summaries on authors in a format accessible to Assistive Technology. The advanced search forms do not have proper title and/or label controls.
(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	Supports	Gale Literary Sources supports browser zoom functions.

people who are visually impaired shall be provided.		
(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	Not Applicable	Gale Literary Sources does not require user hearing.
(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.	Not Applicable	Gale Literary Sources does not use audio to present information.
(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	Gale Literary Sources 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 with exceptions	Gale Literary Sources supports keyboard navigation and operation. Keyboard focus feedback is provided on buttons, menus, and links.  Some advanced search menus do not properly show focus.

**Section 1194.41 Information, Documentation  
and Support – Detail**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(a) Product support documentation provided to	Supports	Gale Literary Sources support documentation is available in

end-users shall be made available in alternate formats upon request, at no additional charge		digital format through the main navigation bar.
(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 via the Contact Us link in the footer.
(c) Support services for products shall accommodate the communication needs of end-users with disabilities.	Supports	Gale Literary Sources does provide communicate support services to end-users with disabilities.