

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: August 15, 2016

Name of Product: Biography in Context

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

Summary Table

VPAT™

Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®

Criteria	Supporting Features	Remarks and explanations
Section 1194.21 Software Applications and Operating Systems	Applicable	Supports
Section 1194.22 Web-based Internet Information and Applications	Applicable	Supports with exceptions
Section 1194.23 Telecommunications Products	Not Applicable	Section deleted
Section 1194.24 Video and Multi-media Products	Not Applicable	Section deleted
Section 1194.25 Self-Contained, Closed Products	Not Applicable	Section deleted
Section 1194.26 Desktop and Portable Computers	Not Applicable	Section deleted
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

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	Supports	This program uses widely accepted techniques in HTML and CSS to interact with the user.

location, and text attributes.		
(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.

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",	Supports with	All UI graphics and most content graphics have alt-text and descriptive captions.

"longdesc", or in element content).	exceptions	(Exceptions: Many tables and charts display as images without detailed alt-text. There is no alternative text equivalent for the image carousel. Alt-text cannot be guaranteed for 3d-party periodical content.)
(b) Equivalent alternatives for any multimedia presentation shall be synchronized with the presentation.	Supports with exceptions	Some videos in main content (depending on source) lack closed-captioning. Many Training videos in Resource tools lack closed captioning. Most audio includes transcripts.
(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	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.	Not applicable	There are no server-side image maps in Bio In Context product.
(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.
(g) Row and column headers shall be identified for data tables.	Supports	Row and Column headers are used in 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.	Does not support	This will vary depending on the original source of the content. Many 3 rd party tables and charts display as images without detailed alt-text. Other 3 rd party tables are displayed as plain text without proper markup.
(i) Frames shall be titled with text that facilitates frame identification and navigation	Not Applicable	Product 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.	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	Biography 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.	?	Interface elements created with scripting languages function properly with assistive technology. JavaScript must be enabled to use the product effectively.
(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	Instructions to download video players are provided as needed.
(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	All forms have proper labeling and work with assistive technology.
(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.

**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	Supports with Exceptions	Product can be used with Assistive Technologies including screen readers. Some 3 rd party video content, tables,

Assistive Technology used by people who are blind or visually impaired shall be provided.		graphs and maps lack text equivalents.
(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	Product supports browser zoom functions. It also includes ReadSpeaker text-to-speech functionality, which will read the text of articles or download an audio version to an MP3. Supports Assistive Technologies with the exceptions noted in (a) and (f).
(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	Supports with exceptions	User hearing is required only for audio and video content, most of which includes broadcast transcripts. Some 3 rd party content linked to does not have transcripts or closed captions.
(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.

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.

[Return to the top of the page.](#)