

# FSA Accessibility Guidelines

## 1. Accessibility Overview

Section 508 requires that when Federal agencies develop, procure, maintain, or use electronic and information technology, they shall ensure that the electronic and information technology allows Federal employees with disabilities to have access to and use of information and data that is comparable to the access to and use of information and data by Federal employees who are not individuals with disabilities, unless an undue burden would be imposed on the agency. Section 508 also requires that individuals with disabilities, who are members of the public seeking information or services from a Federal agency, have access to and use of information and data that is comparable to that provided to the public who are not individuals with disabilities, unless an undue burden would be imposed on the agency.

### 1.1 FSA Accessibility to Individuals with Disabilities

In order to ensure that all individuals with disabilities have a full and equal access to SFA Web sites and thus comply with the accessibility mandates of Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, all web pages/applications shall adhere to the Section 508 standards.

### 1.2 Testing FSA Web Pages

All contents published on SFAnet are subject to an Accessibility Review by FSA's Webmaster. All other web pages, IT, and electronic applications not residing on SFAnet are subject to an Accessibility Review by the ED/CIO Assistive Technology Team. It is highly recommended that testing, and questions regarding site accessibility be raised early in the development cycle.

All FSA Information Technology and Electronic applications must be 508 compliant. Contact FSA's 508 Coordinator, at [Christine.Williams@ed.gov](mailto:Christine.Williams@ed.gov) to schedule 508 testing for new development and web pages not residing on SFAnet.

## 2. Standards and Selected references

### 2.1 Selected ED References:

Web-based intranet and internet information and application standards are available at the U.S. Department of Education Requirement for Accessibility Software Design Standards using the following link:

<http://www.ed.gov/offices/OCFO/contracts/clibrary/software.html>

### 2.2 Selected U.S. Government References:

On December 21, 2000, the Access Board published [Electronic and Information Technology Accessibility Standards](#).

The [Federal Information Technology Accessibility Initiative](#) (FITAI)—Agency Partnerships Promoting Accessibility—offers Section 508 technical assistance.

On August 7, 1998, the Workforce Investment Act included reauthorization of [Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act](#).

### 2.3 Selected Non-Government References: DISCLAIMER

For Internet publishing, there are [detailed specifications](#) and [Quick Tips to make Accessible Web Sites](#). These resources are maintained by the [W3C WAI](#).

