

**Web Accessibility Policy  
Kansas State University  
September, 15, 2009**

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**.010 Purpose**

Kansas State University is committed to providing accessible websites to all individuals consistent with state and federal law and the State of Kansas Web Accessibility Requirements.

**.020 Scope**

This policy applies to websites, web services and web applications of all university colleges, departments, administrative units, and affiliated organizations, including those that are developed internally, developed on contract, provided by third party vendors on behalf of the university, or purchased products.

**.030 Effective Date**

This policy will be effective upon approval by the Computing Executive Committee [replace with date after CEC approval].

**.040 Authority**

The *State of Kansas Web Accessibility Requirements* requires that all state agencies provide web-based programs, services and activities that are accessible and usable by individuals with disabilities and includes “all State of Kansas internet, intranet, and extranet websites, web services, and web applications, including those that are developed internally, developed via contract, provided by third parties on behalf of state Entities, or purchased products”.

**.050 Policy**

Kansas State University’s websites, web services and web applications shall be accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities in accordance with federal and state law.

**.060 Definitions**

- A. World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) – an international consortium whose purpose is to develop standards and guidelines for the World Wide Web referred to as “Web interoperability”.
- B. Universal web design is accessible web design. The concept of universal design means designing for the widest range of people's abilities. Adopting a universal design ensures information will be accessible to individuals with disabilities and to those using old, alternate, or emerging technologies.

**.070 Roles and responsibilities**

The local department is responsible for ensuring that University websites are accessible.

**.080 Implementing Procedures**

- A. All University website, web services, and web applications must, at a minimum comply with:

World Wide Web (W3C) Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0 Level A and AA Success Criteria available from: <http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20>

Section 508 Electronic and Information Technology Accessibility Standards, Web-based intranet and internet information and applications (36 CFR § 1194.22): <http://www.section508.gov/index.cfm?ID=12#Web>

- B. In the cases that web page, web service or web application cannot comply with the State of Kansas Web Accessibility Requirements without undue burden, a request may be made for an exception to the State ADA Coordinator and the Director of Statewide Web/IT Accessibility. Exception procedures are outlined in Section 7.4 of the Information Technology Policy 1210, Revision 2: <http://www.da.ks.gov/itec/documents/itecpolicy1210.htm> K-State requests for waivers should be coordinated through the Office of the Vice Provost for ITS.

Tools available at K-State for implementing the policy are available from <http://www.k-state.edu/tools/access/tools.html>

**.080 Related Laws, Regulations or Policies**

- A. The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) – ensures equal opportunities to programs, services and activities for individuals with disabilities. Title II of ADA states that communications with individuals with disabilities must be “as effective as communications with others” [28 C.F.R. § 35.160 (a)]; and Title III refers to public accommodation for individuals with disabilities.

- B. Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. § 794d) – requires that federal agencies ensure the accessibility of electronic and information technology for individuals with disabilities:  
<http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/508/508law.php>
  
- C. Information Technology Policy 1210, Revision 2, State of Kansas Web Accessibility Requirements – establishes state policy on accessibility for “All Entity websites, web services, and web applications”:  
<http://www.da.ks.gov/itec/documents/itecpolicy1210.htm>

**.090 Questions/Waivers**

The Vice Provost for Information Technology Services (ITS) is responsible for this policy. Requests for waivers should be coordinated through the Vice Provost for ITS. Questions regarding this policy should be sent to the Vice Provost for ITS at [lcarlin@ksu.edu](mailto:lcarlin@ksu.edu).