



California
Community
Colleges

Accessibility Center

AT A **GLANCE**

ACCESSIBILITY TO INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Access to information and communication technology (ICT) is integral to fulfilling the California Community Colleges' mission to serve all members of our communities. Equal access is achieved through proactive accessibility efforts and reactive accommodation efforts.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO MAINTAIN ACCESSIBILITY?

- For students, staff, and community members with disabilities to be afforded full and equal enjoyment of college services
- To support students with disabilities facing a variety of accessibility challenges that make it difficult to interact with the college and complete their work, placing them at a higher risk of matriculation and completion failure
- To create an environment that ensures current and prospective students can engage in academic pursuits, participate alongside their peers, and obtain the necessary skills for continuing their education or contributing to the workforce

INSTITUTIONAL IMPACT OF IGNORING ICT ACCESSIBILITY:

- Creates barriers and increases division within a campus community
- Exposes colleges and districts to potentially expensive, time-consuming, and reputation-damaging lawsuits and unwanted publicity
- Could lead to time-intensive remediation, wasteful spending and redundant purchases

STRATEGIES TO MITIGATE RISKS TO COLLEGES AND DISTRICTS:

- Implement an IT accessibility policy
- Augment or develop processes and procedures to include accessibility
- Provide training to college constituents
- Provide a method for reporting accessibility barriers

PROACTIVE ACCESSIBILITY

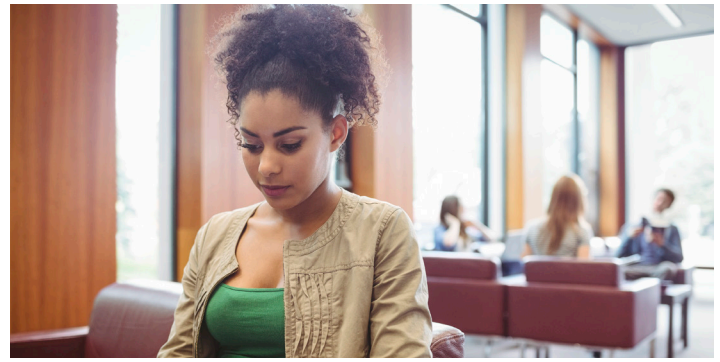
Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act requires that California Community Colleges develop, use, maintain, and procure accessible ICT. Section 508 was enacted to ensure ICT products and services are accessible by design, reduce reliance on accommodations, and allow increased access without the need for self-disclosure or documentation. The CCC Accessibility Center can assist colleges in their efforts to mitigate their risk and promote equal access with proactive accessibility efforts. Section 508 applies to:

- All websites, web and mobile applications
- All ICT products and services, regardless of cost
- All digital content including emails, documents, multimedia, instructional content, and social media

STUDENT SUPPORT AND ACCOMMODATIONS

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requires that California Community Colleges provide appropriate support and accommodations so that students with disabilities can participate in and benefit from classes, activities, housing, and any other aspects of college. The CCC Accessibility Center can assist colleges with implementation of technical services and accommodations. Examples may include:

- Acquiring and supporting assistive technology products and services
- Providing alternate media, such as electronic text, braille, tactiles, and audio
- Registration and other administrative activities
- Learning management systems
- Note-taking
- Supporting qualified American Sign Language Interpreters
- Facilitating tests



ACCESSIBILITY CENTER RESOURCES

The CCC Accessibility Center provides many free resources to help ensure that your college serves your community's needs while mitigating your college's liability, including:

GUIDANCE AND CONSULTATION

- Accessibility Capability Maturity Model implementation assistance
- Example policies and procedures
- Procurement processes
- Accommodation planning and support
- Alternate Media production
- Assistive Technology

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Live training for faculty, staff, and administrators
- Self-paced courses
- Office hours
- Bi-annual workshops

ACCESSIBILITY SUPPORT TOOLS:

- Website scanning and monitoring
- Learning Management System (LMS)
- Caption creation
- PDF remediation
- Document accessibility, conversion, and remediation

For more information, please visit cccaccessibility.org

