

**Homeland Security
Management Institute
National Conference 2009**

George Heake
Emergency Management and Response
Coordinator

Institute on Disabilities

Director of Operations
Center for Preparedness Research,
Education and Practice (CPREP)

Temple University

Accessibility and Emergency Planning Response and Recovery

Physical Space & Environment:

American With Disabilities Act (ADA)

Electronic Information and Technology

Section 508/Rehabilitation Act

WCAG :Web Content Accessibility
Guidelines

Accessibility and Physical Space

What are the issues relating to:

Emergency Preparedness ?

Emergency Response ?

Emergency Recovery ?



Accessibility and Physical Space

Emergency Preparedness:

- Accessible training and meeting places/venues

- Accessible transportation

- Accessible Information: Large print, Braille etc

- Accessible Emergency Alert Systems

Emergency Response :

- Accessible Sheltering

- Accessible Transportation

- Accessible Bathrooms and Showering

- Accessible Communications (ASL, Literacy etc.)

Emergency Recovery :

- Accessible Disaster Recovery Centers

- Accessible Housing

Accessibility and Information and Technology

What are the issues relating to:

Emergency Preparedness ?

Emergency Response ?

Emergency Recovery ?



Accessibility and Information and Technology

Emergency Preparedness:

- Accessible training materials: Captioned Video
- Accessible Websites
- Accessible Information: Pdf's, Plain text etc.
- Accessible Emergency Alert Systems

Emergency Response :

- Accessible Communications
(ASL, nonverbal, deaf/blind)

Emergency Recovery :

- Accessible Disaster Claims Systems (TTY etc)
- Accessible Websites
- Accessible Information: Pdf's, Plain text etc.

**Relax, take a deep breath.
YOU CAN DO THIS!**



The numbness that you feel in your head
right now, is not permanent :)

What are the repercussions if you do nothing?



What do we do?

Important Concept:

Start as soon as possible!

Baby steps. Big steps, Any Steps

Any action toward accessibility could save lives.



ADA Best Practices Tool Kit for State and Local Governments



ADA Best Practices Tool Kit for State and Local Governments

On December 5, 2006, February 27, 2007, May 7, 2007, and July 26, 2007, the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice issued installments of a new technical assistance document designed to assist state and local officials to improve compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in their programs, services, activities, and facilities.

The new technical assistance document, which will be released in several installments over the next ten months, is entitled “The ADA Best Practices Tool Kit for State and Local Governments.”

ADA Best Practices Tool Kit for State and Local Governments

The Tool Kit is designed to teach state and local government officials how to identify and fix problems that prevent people with disabilities from gaining equal access to state and local government programs, services, and activities. It will also teach state and local officials how to conduct accessibility surveys of their buildings and facilities to identify and remove architectural barriers to access.

ADA Best Practices Tool Kit for State and Local Governments Overview and Discussion

Link to toolkit

<http://www.ada.gov/pcatoolkit/toolkitmain.htm>



St Rita's Nursing Home
New Orleans

What is accessible electronic and information technology?

Accessible electronic and information technology is technology that can be used by people with a wide range of abilities and disabilities. It incorporates the principles of universal design.

Each user is able to interact with the technology in ways that work best for him or her. Accessible technology is either directly accessible.

What is accessible electronic and information technology?

In other words, it is usable without assistive technology, or it is compatible with standard assistive technology.

Just as buildings that have ramps and elevators are accessible to wheelchair users, products that adhere to accessible design principles are usable by people with a wide range of abilities and disabilities.

Accessibility and Information and Technology

“The Two Players in town”

Section 508 : Rehabilitation Act of
????

WCAG 2.0: Web Content Accessibility
Guidelines

Accessibility and Information and Technology

Section 508

On August 7, 1998, the President signed into law the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, Public Law 105-220. Title IV of the Act is the Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1998. Subsection 408(b) amended section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794d).

Accessibility and Information and Technology

508 technical Standards

Software Applications and Operating Systems
(1194.21)

Web-based Intranet and Internet Information
and Applications(1194.22)

Telecommunications Products (1194.23)

Video and Multimedia Products (1194.24)

Self Contained, Closed Products (1194.25)

Desktop and Portable Computers (1194.26)

Accessibility and Information and Technology

WCAG

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines

<http://www.w3.org/TR/1999/WAI-WEBCONTENT-19990505/#Guidelines>

The Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) documents explain how to make Web content accessible to people with disabilities. Web "content" generally refers to the information in a Web page or Web application, including text, images, forms, sounds, and such. ([Web Accessibility Initiative \(WAI\)](#))

Accessibility and Information and Technology

Simulations

Screen Reader:

<http://www.webaim.org/simulations/screenreader-sim.htm>

Accessibility and Information and Technology

Policy Examples

Ohio State

ADA Compliance (Policy)

Accessibility for all potential users (ADA compliant) must be implemented when designing Web pages. Specific requirements and resources may be found through the ADA Coordinator's Web page: ada.osu.edu.

Accessibility and Information and Technology

Policy Examples

Illinois Information Technology Accessibility Act (IITAA)

Implementation Guidelines for Web-
Based Information and Applications 1.0

<http://www.dhs.state.il.us/IITAA/IITAAWebImplementationGuidelines.html>

Accessibility and Information and Technology

Evaluation Tools

WAVE Toolbar

<http://wave.webaim.org/toolbar>

Firefox Browser Accessibility Add on

<https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/5809>

Web Accessibility Toolbar [For IE], Version 2.0

<http://www.paciellogroup.com/resources/wat-ie-about.html>

Web Accessibility Toolbar [For Opera], Version 1.1

<http://www.paciellogroup.com/resources/wat-about.html>

Accessibility and Information and Technology

Resource for Microsoft Office

Accessible Web Publishing Wizard for Microsoft
Office

<http://www.virtual508.com/>

Examples (Web Pub Wizard)

<http://www.virtual508.com/examples.html>

Accessibility and Information and Technology

Resources for Accessible Pdfs, Dreamweaver, Flash.

Adobe Accessibility Resource Center

Source for accessibility information on the following applications:

Dreamweaver: web design development

Adobe Acrobat (PDF's)

Flash: Web Animation

<http://www.adobe.com/accessibility/>

Accessibility and Information and Technology Best Practices

Develop and accessibility policy and live by it!

The power of the question! When evaluating training materials, alert systems, web portal information systems etc..etc.. IS IT ACCESSIBLE, IS IT 508/WCAG Compliant.

Evaluate your electronic documentation (web, pdfs etc) for accessibility compliance. If there are errors, fix them!

If you receive an inaccessible document, ask if they have it in accessible format. If they don't know what that means, explain the benefits or send them my way :)

Accessibility and Information and Technology

Accessible Meetings (Dept of Justice)

Accessible Meetings (Department of Justice)

ADA guidance on conducting accessible and inclusive meetings titled Accessible Information Exchange: Meeting on a Level Playing Field.

It covers access to meeting sites as well as presentations, printed materials and other forms of communication.

<http://ww.ada.gov/business/accessiblemtg.htm>

cle S



**I WANT YOU
FOR
ACCESSIBILITY**

You are not alone!
gheake@temple.edu

Effective Emergency Management: Making Improvements for Communities and People with Disabilities



National Council on Disability
August 12, 2009