Regulation Statement

The use of Electronic and Information Resources (EIR) supports the overall operation and mission of The Texas A&M University System (system). Ensuring such resources are accessible is not only good practice, but also critical to the success of the system. In addition, it is required by state and federal laws.

Reason for Regulation

System Policy 08.01, Civil Rights Protections and Compliance, provides that no individual will, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in, or be denied the benefit of or be subjected to discrimination under any system program or activity. This regulation provides guidance to members to ensure compliance with applicable accessibility requirements.

Definitions

Procedures and Responsibilities

1. Any EIR developed, procured or changed by a member or through a procured services contract, and all EIR services provided through hosted or managed services contracts must comply with the following standards:

   (a) The appropriate Technical Accessibility Standards (see table below);

   (b) The “Functional Performance Criteria” described in Title 1, Rule § 213.35 of the Texas Administrative Code; and

   (c) The “Information, Documentation, and Support” described in Title 1, Rule § 213.36 of the Texas Administrative Code.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EIR Category</th>
<th>Technical Accessibility Standards</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Software Applications and Operating Systems</td>
<td>Title 1, Rule §213.30 of the Texas Administrative Code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Websites</td>
<td>Title 1, Rule §206.70 of the Texas Administrative Code</td>
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<td>Title 1, Rule §213.30 of the Texas Administrative Code; and</td>
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<td>Title 1, Rule §213.32 (2) of the Texas Administrative Code</td>
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<tr>
<td>Telecommunications Products</td>
<td>Title 1, Rule §213.31 of the Texas Administrative Code</td>
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<tr>
<td>Video and Multimedia Products</td>
<td>Title 1, Rule §213.32 of the Texas Administrative Code</td>
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<tr>
<td>Self-Contained, Closed Products</td>
<td>Title 1, Rule §213.33 of the Texas Administrative Code</td>
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<tr>
<td>Desktop and Portable Computers</td>
<td>Title 1, Rule §213.34 of the Texas Administrative Code</td>
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</table>

2. Each member will develop, maintain and implement:

   (a) A plan by which all EIRs that are subject to the Technical Accessibility Standards will be brought into compliance with the specifications and standards of Title 1, Chapter 213, Subchapter C and Title 1, Rule § 206.70 of the Texas Administrative Code;

   (b) Procurement standards and processes in accordance with Title 1, Rule § 213.38 and Section 4; and

   (c) Standards and processes for handling exception requests, in accordance with Title 1, Rule § 213.37 of the Texas Administrative Code and Texas Government Code § 2054.460.

3. Each member chief executive officer or designee shall designate an Accessibility Coordinator to ensure compliance with this accessibility regulation. In the absence of this designation, the member chief information officer will serve in this capacity.

4. The procurement standards and processes related to this regulation shall apply whenever a contract or other acquisition document requires a vendor to:

   (a) Provide an EIR to a member for use;

   (b) Develop an EIR for a member;

   (c) Change an EIR for member use; or

   (d) Provide and use an EIR to a significant extent in performing the services or furnishing the products identified in that contract.

The procurement standards and processes shall require that all appropriate terms and conditions needed to meet accessibility requirements are addressed in EIR acquisition documents and contracts.
Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

Tex. Admin. Code, Title 1, Ch. 206, Subch. C, Rule § 206.70 Accessibility

Tex. Admin. Code, Title 1, Ch. 213, Subch. C, Accessibility Standards for Institutions of Higher Education

36 C.F.R. Pt. 1194, Electronic and Information Technology Accessibility Standards (Section 508 Technical Standards)

Tex. Gov’t Code Ch. 2054, Subch. M, Access to Electronic and Information Resources by Individuals with Disabilities

System Policy 08.01, Civil Rights Protections and Compliance

System Regulation 08.01.01, Civil Rights Compliance

BuyAccessible.gov

Voluntary Product Accessibility Template

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this regulation.

Contact Office

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