

29.01.04 Accessibility of Electronic and Information Resources

Revised [June 1, 2017](#)

Next Scheduled Review: June 1, 2022

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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

Click to view [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*.

| EIR Category | Technical Accessibility Standards |
|---|---|
| Software Applications and Operating Systems | Title 1, Rule §213.30 of the <i>Texas Administrative Code</i> |
| Websites | Title 1, Rule §206.70 of the <i>Texas Administrative Code</i> Title 1, Rule §213.30 of the <i>Texas Administrative Code</i> ; and Title 1, Rule §213.32 (2) of the <i>Texas Administrative Code</i> |
| Telecommunications Products | Title 1, Rule §213.31 of the <i>Texas Administrative Code</i> |
| Video and Multimedia Products | Title 1, Rule §213.32 of the <i>Texas Administrative Code</i> |
| Self-Contained, Closed Products | Title 1, Rule §213.33 of the <i>Texas Administrative Code</i> |
| Desktop and Portable Computers | Title 1, Rule §213.34 of the <i>Texas Administrative Code</i> |

2. Each member will develop, maintain and implement:
 - (a) A published 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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