

Journal Publishing Guide: Web Accessibility

The University of Toronto Libraries strive to ensure our web spaces conform with Level AA standards, as per WCAG 2.0 (<http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20>) (Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0) and AODA (http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/source/regs/english/2011/elaws_src_regs_r11191_e.htm) (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act) standards and timelines.

Journal Production Services (<http://jps.library.utoronto.ca/>) hosted OJS platform (<https://pkp.sfu.ca/ojs>) provides all new journals with a basic accessible web template. Should the journal teams choose to implement design changes or customizations (<https://jps.library.utoronto.ca/index.php/pubguide/setting>), it is their responsibility to ensure that their journal website remains accessible. It is of equal importance for journal editors to make sure that journal content (articles, issues, supplementary materials, media etc.) can be accessed and read by a variety of individuals using adaptive/assistive technologies.

Tips and Tools to Ensure Website and Content Accessibility

The below resources recommended by the U of T AODA Office (<http://aoda.hrandequity.utoronto.ca/communications/>) can help you ensure that both the journal website and the articles can be accessed by visitors with disabilities and by readers using different types of web-enabled devices. Please note that no single tool can test for all accessibility issues.

1. Resources for the Journal Website:

- Become familiar with the WCAG 2.0 Guidelines; (<http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20>) see also the Quick Reference for Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (<https://www.w3.org/WAI/WCAG20/quickref/?showtechniques=11%2C111#text-equiv>) and the Stamford WCAG 2.0 Map (<http://content.library.utoronto.ca/accessibility/WCAG20Map.pdf>) (pdf document)
- Use an online website checker like AChecker (<http://achecker.ca/checker/index.php>) to uncover accessibility barriers
- Install the WAVE accessibility evaluation tool as a Chrome or Firefox Extension (<http://wave.webaim.org/extension>) or visit the WAVE website (<http://wave.webaim.org/>) for quick and regular checking
- Use WebAim's Contrast Checker (<http://webaim.org/resources/contrastchecker>), Contrast Ratio Checker (<http://leaverou.github.io/contrast-ratio>) or the Colour Contrast Analyser (<https://www.paciellogroup.com/resources/contrastanalyser>) to make sure your colour ratio is satisfactory
- Use a screen reader like ChromeVox (<http://www.chromevox.com/>) (free), NVDA (<http://www.nvaccess.org/>) (free) or JAWS (<http://www.freedomscientific.com/products/fs/jaws-product-page.asp>) to ensure a low vision or blind person can navigate your site

- Review the website using only your keyboard to test its navigability. Use WebAIMs Keyboard Testing tips (<http://webaim.org/techniques/keyboard/#testing>) to guide you.
- Engage a person with a disability for a hands-on experience

2. Resources for the Published Content:

- AccessAbility: A Practical Handbook on Accessible Graphic Design (http://www.rgd.ca/database/files/library/RGD_AccessAbility_Handbook.pdf), RGD Ontario (pdf document)
- Using Microsoft Word Accessibility Checker (<http://accessibility.uoit.ca/tutorials>) (video tutorials)
- Using the Acrobat X Pro Accessibility Checker (<http://www.adobe.com/content/dam/Adobe/en/accessibility/products/acrobat/pdfs/acrobat-x-accessibility-checker.pdf>) (pdf Document)
- Create & verify PDF accessibility (Acrobat DC Pro) (<https://helpx.adobe.com/acrobat/using/create-verify-pdf-accessibility.html>)

UTL's Journal Production Services (<https://jps.library.utoronto.ca/index.php/pubguide/hosting>)

Starting a journal (<https://jps.library.utoronto.ca/index.php/pubguide/starting>)

Setting up your journal (<https://jps.library.utoronto.ca/index.php/pubguide/setting>)

Editorial workflow (<https://jps.library.utoronto.ca/index.php/pubguide/editorial>)

Copyright and licensing (<https://jps.library.utoronto.ca/index.php/pubguide/copyright>)

Impact and discoverability (<https://jps.library.utoronto.ca/index.php/pubguide/impact>)

DOI instructions (<https://jps.library.utoronto.ca/index.php/pubguide/DOI>)

Learning OJS 3 (<https://jps.library.utoronto.ca/index.php/pubguide/learning>)

Web accessibility (<https://jps.library.utoronto.ca/index.php/pubguide/accessibility>)

Student Journal Toolkit
(<https://jps.library.utoronto.ca/index.php/pubguide/studentjournaltoolkit>)

Hosted by

(<https://jps.library.utoronto.ca>) (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>)

This work is licensed under a

Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License

(<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>)



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO LIBRARIES



<https://jps.library.utoronto.ca/index.php/pubguide/about/aboutThisPublishingSystem>