



VCU Compliance Update: New ADA Title II Rule on Digital Accessibility

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Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires state and local government entities like VCU to ensure that all services, programs, and activities are accessible to people with disabilities. On April 24, 2024, the Department of Justice (DOJ) published its [new rule](#) and accompanying [New Rule Fact Sheet](#) which revised the regulatory requirements in Title II regarding digital accessibility that will affect VCU units whose academic, administrative, patient care, research functions, services, and programs intersect with students and the public. Per the DOJ, compliance with the new rule must begin on April 24, 2026.

Impact of the New Rule

This new rule establishes WCAG 2.1 Level AA success criteria and conformance requirements as the accessibility standard and, thereby, ensures that the following are readily accessible to and usable by students and visitors with disabilities: web content and mobile apps that a public entity provides or makes available, directly or through contractual, licensing, or other arrangements. The rule applies to digital assets such as web content, learning management systems (LMS), digital or web-based academic course content and materials, web-based platforms, mobile apps, and social media posts.

Actions Taken to Prepare VCU for Meeting the Compliance Deadline

Some units have already started working collaboratively to begin preparations to be in compliance by the April 2026 deadline. Specifically, an informal group comprised of multiple offices began meeting in January to develop resources and training opportunities about creating accessible academic digital course materials. Equity and Access Services is also in the process of initiating an institution-wide coordinated effort in order to centrally plan, track, and ensure all of VCU is on the road to being compliant with the Title II new rule.

What can VCU Community Members Do Now to Help Compliance Efforts?

There are individual actions that can be taken to help move the needle toward compliance. First, review the new rule, ask questions for clarity, and raise awareness within your unit. The campus community will be updated this summer as guidance resources and training opportunities are made available on how to adhere to the new rule and create/manage accessible web content. Please reach out to [ADA & Accessibility Services](#) with any questions.

In conclusion, please remember accessibility is a shared institutional responsibility which means everyone must play a part. In the coming weeks, you may be asked to take part in this important initiative. If we are uncompromising in our efforts, together, we can achieve compliance and ensure that our websites, digital course materials, conventional electronic documents, and digital assets are accessible to all.

Previous document published on subject: [New Federal Requirement for Accessible Digital Course Materials by April 2026 Provost Blog Post](#), Published December 4, 2024.