Contents

Document Review Log 2
Purpose and Scope 2
Responsibilities 2
Policy 3
References 3
Exhibits 4

Document Review Log

Date Reviewed	Description of Changes
8/17/2023	Initial Draft approved by Senior Leadership Team

Purpose and Scope

Alvernia University is committed to facilitating access to university instruction, communication, research, and business processes to the broadest possible audience, in accordance with our commitment to university values. This policy is intended to ensure that the content of Alvernia University's Internet sites and systems are accessible to those whose disability would otherwise prevent them from obtaining access to university websites for legitimate business purposes. It applies to all Alvernia University websites and publicly facing web-based applications used to conduct core university business or academic activities, including websites provided by 3rd party providers who Alvernia University has contracted for the purpose of providing web-based content. It does not apply to Web pages published by students, employees, or non-university organizations that are hosted by the University but are not used to conduct core University business or academic activities.

Web pages that conduct core University business and academic activities include those web pages that students, employees, or visitors must access in order to effectively participate in a program, service, or activity offered by the University. Examples of core academic activities include admissions, registration, advising, and academic course work. Examples of core business activities include business services or personnel activities of Human Resources, Controllers Office, Athletics, or other University services frequently used by employees or visitors.

This policy is intended to ensure compliance with applicable law and regulation, specifically Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ("Section 504"), 29 U.S.C. § 794, and its implementing regulation at 34 C.F.R. Part 104, and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("Title II"), 42 U.S.C. § 12131 et seq., and its implementing regulation at 28 C.F.R. Part 35.

Responsibilities

Title or Role	What They are Responsible For
Chief Information Officer	Maintains and enforces this policy. Act as the Web Accessibility Coordinator for the University overall, reviewing compliance of both university websites and 3rd party websites provided under contract to the University for access by prospective and current students, alumni, and the general public.
Chief Compliance Officer	Oversees University compliance with all laws and regulations. Works with the Chief Information Officer to address areas of non-compliance.
Executive Director, Marketing and Communications	Acts as the Web Accessibility Coordinator for the public website, reviewing new and updated content.
Web Team	Provide underlying technology and capabilities for maintaining the website in accordance with this policy.
Web Content Owners	Provide content updates and feedback as required to support the Accessibility program of the University.

3rd Party Providers	Provide solutions and content that meet WCAG 2.0 Accessibility guidelines.

Policy

All University web pages created or updated after April 1, 2023 must be in compliance to the maximum extent possible with the technical guidelines set forth in the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0 (WCAG 2.0) Level AA published by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) and the Web Accessibility Initiative Accessible Rich Internet Applications Suite (WAI-ARIA) 1.0 techniques for web content, or other standard or combination of standards that will render the online content accessible unless granted an exception as noted below.

New and redesigned web pages and applications will be reviewed by Marketing and IT for compliance to WCAG 2.0 and WAI-ARIA 1.0 prior to publication.

Content owners seeking an exception to this policy must submit a written request to the Chief Compliance Officer and the Chief Information Officer, detailing why compliance is not feasible and how the University will make information from the excepted Web pages or applications available to individuals with a disability in an equally effective manner.

The Chief Information Officer will conduct an annual internal review of this policy and University web content for compliance with this policy and provide a written report to the Chief Compliance Officer that identifies any areas of non-compliance and the remediation plan. This policy will be updated as required to reflect current industry standards and applicable law and regulation governing website accessibility.

Complaints regarding accessibility of University Web pages and applications should be directed to the Chief Compliance Officer. The Chief Compliance Officer is responsible for investigating complaints of non-compliance and for referring non-compliant websites to the Chief Information Officer and Director of Marketing for remediation. Remediation efforts may include removal of the site or application from the Internet until the Web site or application is in compliance with this policy.

References

This section contains any 3rd party standards, guidelines, or other policies referenced by this policy.

1. Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0, World Wide Web Consortium: https://www.w3.org/TR/2008/REC-WCAG20-20081211/
2. Web Accessibility Initiative Accessible Rich Internet Applications Suite (WAI-ARIA) 1.0, https://www.w3.org/TR/wai-aria/
3. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (“Section 504”), 29 U.S.C. § 794,
4. 34 C.F.R. Part 104
5. Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (“Title II”), 42 U.S.C. § 12131
6. 28 C.F.R. Part 35

Exhibits

No Exhibits.