



**NORTH ALLEGHENY  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

<b>SECTION:</b>	<b>OPERATIONS</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>WEBSITE ACCESSIBILITY</b>
<b>ADOPTED:</b>	<b>3/22/17</b>
<b>REVISED:</b>	

**837 - WEBSITE ACCESSIBILITY**

Authority  
SC 1310  
Title 22  
Sec. 4.4, 12.1, 12.4,  
15.1 et seq.  
24 P.S.  
Sec. 5004  
Section 504  
29 U.S.C. Sec. 794  
ADA  
42 U.S.C.  
Sec. 12101 et seq.

**Section 1. Purpose**

The North Allegheny School District is committed to ensuring equal access to information through its website for students, parents, and members of the community with disabilities. This policy establishes standards for the accessibility of North Allegheny web content considered necessary to meet this goal and ensure compliance with applicable local, state and federal laws, and regulations.

**Section 2. Scope**

This policy applies to all new or revised web pages and other web resources published, hosted, or otherwise provided by the North Allegheny School District. Individual web pages published by students, employees, or non-school district organizations that are hosted by the School District do not conduct School District related business and are outside the scope of this policy.

**Section 3. Definitions**

- a. Accessible - a person with a disability is afforded the opportunity to acquire the same information, engage in the same interactions, and enjoy the same services as a person without a disability in an equally effective and equally integrated manner, with substantially equivalent ease of use. The person with a disability must be able to obtain the information as fully, equally and independently as a person with a disability.
- b. Accessible format - the structure and composition of digital documents and applications that are readable and usable by people with disabilities.
- c. Electronic information technology (“EIT”) - information resources such as web pages, websites and databases; web and computer-based applications allowing for interaction between software and users.
- d. Active EIT - EIT that is regularly accessed by people greater than or equal to

five times per year is considered active.

- e. Legacy EIT - EIT that is accessed less than five times per year.
- f. Archived information resources - EIT containing core administrative or academic information, official records, and similar information that are no longer available to a wide audience, but are subject to record retention plans.
- g. Equally effective - the alternative format communicates the same information in as timely a fashion as does the original web page. For interactive applications and hardware devices, “equally effective” means that the user action is accomplished in a comparable time and with comparable effort of the requestor.

**Section 4. Standards**

The North Allegheny School District has adopted widely accepted guidelines. The web based technologies must be in compliance with World Wide Web standards defined as the W3C’s, Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0, Level AA and the Web Accessibility Initiative Accessible Rich Internet Applications Suite (WAI-ARIA) 1.0, if applicable, or updated equivalents of these guidelines.

**Section 5. Policy**

- a. Active EIT - EIT considered to be active must be in compliance with the applicable standards described in the standards section of this policy.
- b. Legacy EIT - Legacy EIT must be updated to be in compliance with the applicable standards and guidelines described in the Standards section of this policy; or the content must be otherwise be made available in an equally effective accessible format, and in a timely manner, to any individual requesting access. The department/staff member responsible for the maintenance of the web page must make it compliant with the applicable standards, or provide an equally effective accommodation.
- c. Archived Information Resources - Information resources in archive status must be made available in an accessible format to any individual eligible for, and needing access to, such content. The department/staff member responsible for the maintenance of the web page is responsible for providing the information resource in an accessible format.
- d. Exemptions from Policy - The following circumstances may qualify as exemptions as directed by the Superintendent of Schools:
  - 1. Where compliance is not technically possible or may require extraordinary measures due to the nature or intent of the information resource, application, or service; a request for exemption must be made.

2. Where compliance would result in a fundamental alteration of the information resource, application, or service and not satisfy the original intent.
3. Where, the web page is not currently in compliance, but efforts are underway to correct the defects by a defined date.

**Section 6. Internal Review**

The District’s Webmaster will be responsible for reviewing all areas of the North Allegheny School District’s website and evaluating its accessibility on a periodic basis, and at least once per quarter. Any nonconforming webpages will be corrected to the extent feasible in a timely manner.

**Section 7. Website Accessibility Concerns, Complaints and Grievances**

- a. A student, parent, or member of the public who wishes to submit a complaint or grievance regarding a violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 or Title II related to the accessibility of any official North Allegheny School District EIT as defined in this policy that is developed by, maintained by, or offered through the North Allegheny School District and/or third party vendors may complain directly to a school administrator, or contact the District’s Webmaster at [webmaster@northallegheny.org](mailto:webmaster@northallegheny.org).
- b. Whether or not a formal complaint has been made, once the North Allegheny School District has been notified of inaccessible content effective communication shall be provided as soon as possible to the reporting party to provide access to the information.
- c. Complaints should be submitted in writing, via email, or by completing the website complaint form.

**Section 8. Resources**

The North Allegheny School District has identified helpful hints for faculty, staff, and students that will assist in ensuring the accessibility of web content. Information is located at [www.northallegheny.org/accessibilityFAQ](http://www.northallegheny.org/accessibilityFAQ).

**References:**

Pennsylvania Chapter 15 of Title 22 of the State Board Regulations  
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. Sec. 794, 34 C.F.R. Part 104  
Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 12101 et seq., 28 C.F.R. Part 35  
Policies 103, 103.1, 104, 831