

# Library E-Resource Accessibility

## Standardized License Language

Purchasing and subscribing to inaccessible library e-resources not only goes against libraries' commitment to provide equal access to information for *all* library users, but also potentially puts libraries at risk for accessibility lawsuits and complaints that could result in costly accessibility testing and remediation efforts. Therefore, in an effort to encourage library e-resource vendors to improve their compliance with accessibility, many libraries are now including standardized accessibility license language.

We provide examples here of the language being used at the University of Washington and the Big Ten Academic Alliance.

### [University of Washington](#)

Licensors shall ensure their resources are [accessible](#) and comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), by supporting assistive software or devices such as large print interfaces, text-to-speech output, voice-activated input, refreshable braille displays, and alternate keyboard or pointer interfaces, in a manner consistent with the Web Accessibility Initiative Web Content Accessibility Guidelines. Licensors should provide a current, accurate, completed WCAG Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) to demonstrate compliance with accessibility standards.

### [Big Ten Academic Alliance](#)

#### **United States:**

Licensors shall comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), by supporting assistive software or devices such as large print interfaces, text-to-speech output, voice-activated input, refreshable braille displays, and alternate keyboard or pointer interfaces, in a manner consistent with the Web Accessibility Initiative Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1 AA (<http://www.w3.org/WAI/guid-tech.html>). Licensors shall ensure that product maintenance and upgrades are implemented in a manner that does not compromise product accessibility. Licensors shall provide to Licensee a current, accurate completed Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) to demonstrate compliance with accessibility standards (<https://www.itic.org/policy/accessibility>). If the product does not comply, the Licensor shall adapt the Licensed Materials in a timely manner and at no cost to the Licensee in order to comply with applicable law. Nothing in this Agreement shall limit the Licensee or any end user from making lawful, noninfringing uses to facilitate access to the Licensed Materials by users who have disabilities. For the avoidance of doubt, the Licensor authorizes such uses.

**International:**

Licensor shall support accessibility for people with disabilities by providing a product that is compatible with assistive software or devices such as large print interfaces, text-to-speech output, voice-activated input, refreshable braille displays, and alternate keyboard or pointer interfaces, in a manner consistent with the Web Accessibility Initiative Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1 AA (<http://www.w3.org/WAI/guid-tech.html>). Licensor understands and acknowledges that Licensee is obligated to comply with the United States' Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Licensor shall ensure that product maintenance and upgrades are implemented in a manner that does not compromise product accessibility. Licensor shall provide to Licensee a current, accurate completed Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) to demonstrate compliance with relevant accessibility standards (EN 301 549, WCAG, or Section 508): <https://www.itic.org/policy/accessibility>. If the product does not comply, the Licensor shall adapt the Licensed Materials in a timely manner and at no cost to the Licensee in order to comply with applicable law. Nothing in this Agreement shall limit the Licensee or any end user from making lawful, noninfringing uses to facilitate access to the Licensed Materials by users who have disabilities. For the avoidance of doubt, the Licensor authorizes such uses.