

AURARIA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER

Digital Accessibility Progress Report

Colorado statutes C.R.S. §§ 24-34-301(2) and 24-34-802 require state government entities to ensure their digital content is accessible to individuals with disabilities. The Auraria Higher Education Center (AHEC) is moving forward to meet requirements of [Colorado HB24-1454](#), which allows for a one-year extension of the deadline, until July 1, 2025, for public agencies to comply with digital accessibility standards if the public agency demonstrates a good faith effort toward compliance.

Progress reports and updates about this work will be shared on this page as they become available.

Report a Digital Accessibility Problem

If you would like to report an accessibility problem with the AHEC website, please use the form below. Be sure to specify the web page or file being referenced in reporting the accessibility issue. You may also print and mail, email or deliver the completed form and send to support@ahec.edu or you may visit our office located at 777 Lawrence Way, Denver, CO 80217 in person for a printed form. Reports will be routed to the appropriate department to be addressed.

Accessibility Standards Applied

AHEC is developing a website and other digital resources in accordance with the technical standards provided by:

- The World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 Level AA or higher.
- Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- OIT Adopted Rules Establishing Technology Accessibility Standards, 8 CCR 1501-11
- C.R.S. § 24-85-101, et. seq., concerning information technology access for individuals who are blind or visually impaired

Other Accessibility Considerations

Although our goal is WCAG 2.1 Level AA conformance, we may also apply some Level AAA Success Criteria or WCAG 2.2 Level AA conformance criteria as appropriate to make digital content more usable.

Our Efforts: Progress-to-Date Report

AHEC is committed to providing equitable access to all Coloradans who use our facilities, services and programs. We are making ongoing efforts to prioritize, evaluate, remediate, and

continuously improve every digital touchpoint within our services, programs, and activities, with priority for external-facing resources. Below, you will find a brief synopsis of the measures that AHEC has underway as of July 1, 2024.

1. Adoption of Interim Policy Requiring Accessibility: AHEC has adopted an Interim Policy on Accessibility of Information and Communication Technology.
2. Design and Implementation of AHEC’s New Website: AHEC has contracted with A360 Enterprises, LLC (“Allyant”) to perform an Accessibility Assessment for four of the most prominent Front Facing websites and applications used by the Auraria Campus Community:
 - Main AHEC website (www.ahec.edu).
 - AHEC Parking Portal (www.ahec.citationportal.com).
 - ID Center’s eCommerce website (www.schoolvision.net)
 - King Center Box Office Ticketing website (www.ahec.universitytickets.com)

Allyant conducts a manual disabled-user assessment of the digital properties outlined in the assessment scope. The accessibility assessment satisfies requirements for screen readers, visual, hearing and cognitive impairment, and keyboard-only users using standards established in WCAG 2.1 Level AA. The Audit Reports delivered via the Allyant HUB provide the information necessary to remediate any accessibility concerns, and serves as the governance tool for tracking progress of this business compliance requirement. Allyant will provide the following assistance and deliverables with the audit:

Assessment Issue Report

- URL, mobile view or component audited
- Specific non-compliant elements on each & the WCAG guideline(s) it violates
- User audience affected by the issue (e.g., screen reader, keyboard-only, hearing impaired, color contrast)
- A detailed recommendation to remediate each issue
- Priority level for fixing the issue
- Link to the related Allyant HUB Knowledge Base articles
- Screenshots where appropriate

Assessment Summary Report

- A narrative document summarizing the audit and highlighting common issues that were found, steps of the recommended remediation plan and an estimated level of effort
- Global issues and suggestions that would improve ongoing maintenance
- Search Engine Optimization, overall usability and more

Q3 2024 Status Update

All of Allyant's Assessments are completed and the reports have been delivered and reviewed with the vendors supporting the four of the most prominent Front Facing websites and applications used by the Auraria Campus Community. The vendors are reviewing the findings of the reports and are in the progress of planning fixes to the issues identified.

Progress Updates

AHEC will review this report quarterly. Examples of events that may require a review and update to this document include but are not limited to:

- Changes to the Complaint or Accessibility Request processes
- Changes made to accommodate a specific individual or individuals with disabilities who require the use of AHEC's digital resources
- Reports received of accessibility issues through the AHEC website

Updates include reporting on the progress of remediation milestones and any changes to the processes described. This report will also be updated to reflect any changes to relevant laws, regulations, and standards.