

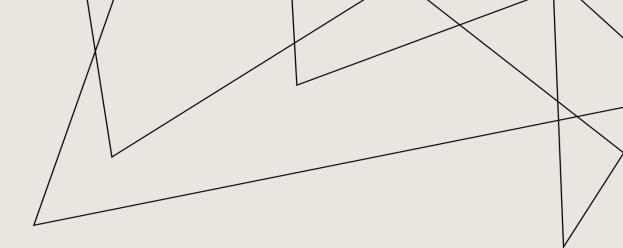
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT WEB ACCESSIBILITY

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AGENDA ITEMS

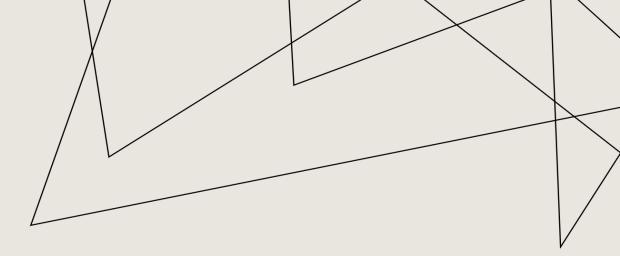
- What happened
- Why this matters to counties
- Compliance deadlines
- DOJ notice of complaints, investigations and <u>sett</u>lements
- How to take action
- TAC CIRA resources



WHAT HAPPENED



The Department of Justice (DOJ) published its final rule in April 2024 establishing specific state and local government accessibility standards for web content and mobile apps.

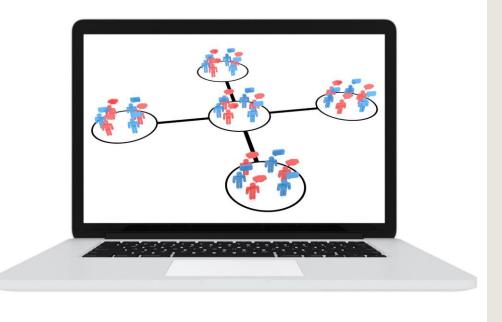


WHY THIS MATTERS TO COUNTIES

Non-compliance with the ADA can result in legal challenges and penalties. This rule provides clear standards to help counties meet their obligations.

Compliance deadlines

- Local governments with a population of 50,000 or more: April 24, 2026
- Local governments with a population up to 49,999: April 26, 2027



DOJ NOTICE OF COMPLAINTS, INVESTIGATIONS AND SETTLEMENTS

NOTICE OF COMPLAINT

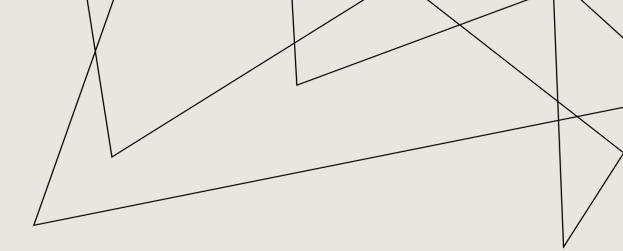
Whether individuals with disabilities, including individuals with hearing, vision, and mobility disabilities who use and require accessible websites, can participate in and benefit from the County's Website.

Title II of the ADA prohibits discrimination by public entities, such as counties. Title II mandates that no qualified individual with a disability shall, by reason of such be disability, excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of a public entity, or be subjected to discrimination by any such entity. 42 U.S.C. § 12132;28 C.F.R. § 35.130(a). The Title II regulation, set out at 28 C.F.R. part 35, reflects and implements the statute's nondiscrimination mandate. See 42 U.S.C. § 12134.

INITIAL INVESTIGATION AREAS OF INTEREST

- County contact for ADA issues.
- All County web domains available to the public.
- Sample/Complete list of electronic content available to the public.
- Web domains and content that requires a user to enter information in order to navigate, proceed/ complete a form.
- County's written policies and procedures ensuring the accessibility.

- County's steps ensuring web domains and content are made accessible to individuals with disabilities.
- Name, manufacturer, model, version, and specifications of any devices, applications, or other software the County uses to ensure accessibility to individuals with disabilities.
- Any and all complaints, inquiries, or grievances concerning accessibility.
- Training about accessibility issues



THREATENED LITIGATION



Consent Decree

Concurrent with the filing of a Consent Decree, the United States will file a Complaint alleging that individuals with vision or manual disabilities cannot equally access and enjoy the benefits of the County's Website.

vs.

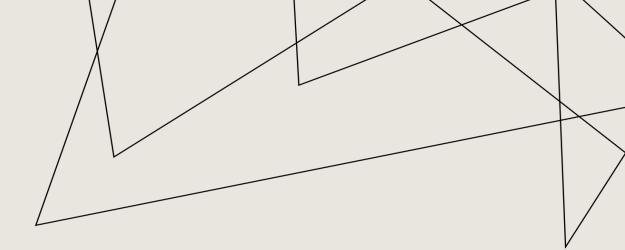
Settlement Agreement

By entering into a Settlement Agreement, the County would neither admit nor deny the findings of the Department's investigation. The County would be entering an Agreement solely to resolve the controversy and implement any corrective measures in order to provide programs, services, and activities accessible to qualified individuals with disabilities as required by Title II and its implementing regulation.

POTENTIAL SETTLEMENT TERMS

- Web Accessibility and Evaluation Responsibilities
- Third-Party Website Hosting Services
- Automated and Manual Testing
- Website Grievance Procedures

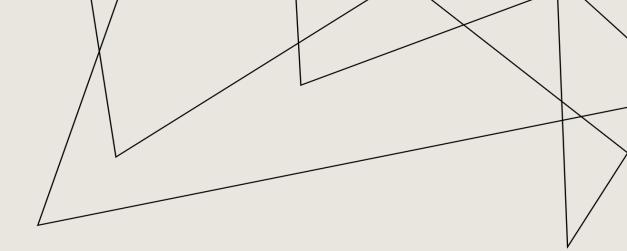
- Web Accessibility Procedures
- Training
- Reporting and Monitoring
- Duration of Agreement



HOW TO TAKE ACTION



- 1. Review the rule
- 2. Assess your digital platforms
- 3. Implement necessary changes
- 4. Stay informed



TAC CIRA RESOURCES

Tips, resources and step-by-step guide: county.org/webaccessibility

Join our mailing list: county.org/accessibility-help

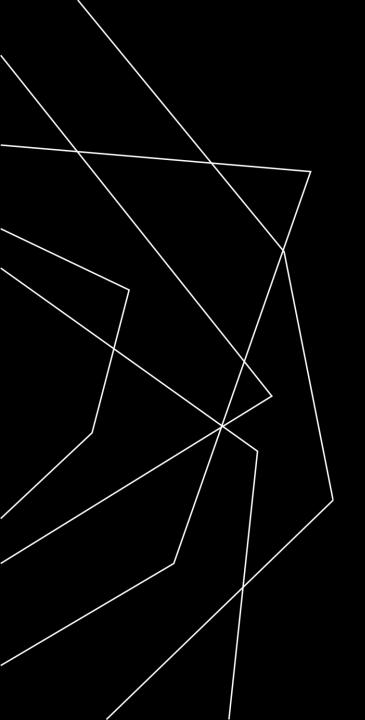


Web accessibility is within reach



TEXAS ASSOCIATION of COUNTIES COUNTY INFORMATION RESOURCES AGENCY

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QUESTIONS?

TAC CIRA: support@county.org