



Key Section 508 Roles and Responsibilities

The DoD CIO is responsible for the development of policies, procedures, and requirements related to achieving implementation and Section 508 compliance. Additionally, the DoD CIO designates a DoD Section 508 coordinator to serve as the point of contact for implementation. Department wide implementation requires coordination from OSD Components.

The Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics USD (AT&L) identifies a Chief Acquisition Officer to work with the DoD 508 Coordinator and establishes DoD wide policy for accessible Electronic & Information Technology (E&IT) procured by DoD.

The Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness USD (P&R) maintains records of DoD employees with self-identified disabilities and their accommodations, recruits qualified individuals with disabilities and works with the DoD Component 508 coordinators to resolve complaints of alleged non-compliance.

In addition, the USD (P&R) recommends a needs assessment be conducted to identify solutions for individuals requesting assistive technology; facilitates accommodation of persons with disabilities; provides guidance to components on obtaining accessible E&IT resources; and assist individuals in understanding the E&IT accommodation process.

The Heads of the DoD Components establish internal policies, procedures, and governance structures necessary to implement Section 508 within their Components. As members of the DoD community, we all have a role and responsibility in ensuring that individuals with disabilities have equal access to DoD information. 🌐

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Section 508 and the Defense Acquisition Guidebook

The DoD Section 508 office works to review and update department guidance, policies and directives to ensure accessibility language is included. Recently, we provided expanded Section 508 content for the latest revision of the Defense Acquisition Guidebook, (DAG). Section 508 requirements are addressed in Chapter 7.7. "Accessibility of Electronic & Information Technology" of the updated DAG, published on November 5, 2012. This iteration includes updated guidance published in [DoD Section 508 Manual](#), [DoDM 8400.01-M](#), "[Procedures for Ensuring the Accessibility of Electronic and Information Technology \(E&IT\) Procured by DoD Organizations](#)." We also provided clarification as to what types of systems are excluded from Section 508 compliance under the National Security Exception.

The current version of the Section 508 DAG content can be found by visiting <https://acc.dau.mil/CommunityBrowser.aspx?id=511634&lang=en-US>. 🌐

The DoD CIO Section 508 Webpage is “Live”

The DoD CIO Section 508 team is excited about the new release of the DoD Section 508 public webpage that went “live” in October 2012. By “Connecting Individuals with Information” this on-line resource will be a quick one-stop shop that includes “highlights” of the DoD Section 508 Policies and Law, DoD Coordinator’s information, and GSA and Section 508 Resources. You can also find Section 508 Background, DoD CIO Section 508 Responsibilities, Website Evaluations, and E&IT Solicitation Assessment information, so please visit the webpage at <http://dodcio.defense.gov/DoDSection508.aspx>.

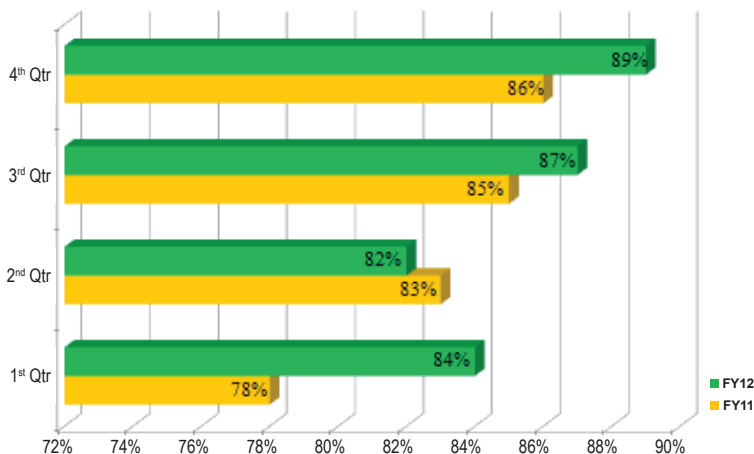
We encourage the user community to provide input to enhance the webpage by e-mailing us at DoDSection508@osd.mil.



DoD CIO Quarterly Public Website Evaluations

The DoD CIO Section 508 team started actively evaluating DoD public websites each quarter for Section 508 compliance in FY11. With an average of 78% compliance then, DoD has tremendously improved the overall average to 89% in FY12. The DoD CIO encourages everyone to reach the 100% website compliance goal in all five evaluation categories (Navigation & Orientation, Text Equivalents, Scripting, Styling and HTML Standards). We commend the DoD Components who reached 100% compliance in FY12. Quarterly website evaluations can be addressed to the Website team at DoDSection508@osd.mil.

DoD Public Website Evaluation Results for FY11 & FY12



DoD Components who received 100% Compliance in the 3rd and 4th Quarters of FY 2012

- National Reconnaissance Office (NRO)
- National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) Junior
- DoD Office of the Actuary
- Personnel & Readiness - OSD Military Compensation
- DoD Victim and Witness Assistance Council
- Air Force – United States National Data Center

DoD Components who received 100% Compliance in the 4th Quarter of FY 2012

- Personnel & Readiness - DASD for Military Community and Family Policy
- Personnel & Readiness - DASD for Wounded Warrior Care and Transition Policy

DoD Components who received 100% Compliance in all 4 Quarters of FY 2012

- Air Force – United States National Data Center

GSA Assessments of DoD Solicitations


The Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Chapter 39 identifies how Federal agencies must implement Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794d), and comply with the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (U.S. Access Board) Electronic and Information Technology (E&IT) Accessibility Standards (36 CFR Part 1194).

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum dated July 19, 2010, indicates that the General Services Administration (GSA), is granted a “statutory requirement to provide technical assistance to agencies on Section 508 implementation.” One method by which GSA fulfills this requirement is to perform random assessments of E&IT solicitations by sampling postings on the Federal Business Opportunities (FedBizOpps) website, <https://www.fbo.gov/>. FedBizOpps provides information on federal government contracting opportunities, including notices of proposed government procurement actions. For your information, the Section 508 Technical Standards and their reference numbers are as follows:

- 1194.21** Software applications and operating systems
- 1194.22** Web-based intranet and internet information and applications
- 1194.23** Telecommunications products
- 1194.24** Video and multimedia products
- 1194.25** Self-contained, closed products
- 1194.26** Desktop and portable computers

To help DoD and other Federal organizations in determining which standards apply and what Section 508 language to include in solicitations, GSA provides a solicitation tool called the “BuyAccessible Wizard.” The BuyAccessible Wizard is a web-based application that guides users through a process of gathering data and providing information about E&IT and Section 508 compliance. The “BuyAccessible Wizard” tool helps users make decisions in determining if Section 508 applies to a particular product or service; determine what specific Section 508 standards apply; and document specific accessibility requirements for Section 508 compliance.



Ensuring that we create compliant solicitations is one of the top priorities for the DoD Section 508 community. The DoD Section 508 office and GSA will conduct on-site training for DoD Components that will focus on DoD policy and guidance and GSA’s tools to assist in developing compliant solicitations. The training can be conducted for live audiences, or by other means of communications, or in combination, depending on the Component’s preference. For additional information, please email DoDSection508@OSD.mil. 

Below are some helpful links:

1. GSA’s BuyAccessible Wizard:
<https://app.buyaccessible.gov/baw/>
2. GSA’s Guidance on Creating 508-Compliant IT Solicitations: <http://buyaccessible.net/blog/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/Guidance-on-Creating-508-Compliant-IT-Solicitations.pdf>
3. The U.S. Access Board’s Standards for Accessibility:
<http://www.section508.gov/index.cfm?fuseAction=stdsdoc>

Federal Section 508 Laws/Guidance

1. **Workforce Investment Act of 1998**; Public Law 105-220, 29 U.S.C. § 794d; SEC. 508. ELECTRONIC AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
2. **21st Century Communication and Video Accessibility Act of 2010** - Procedures for Ensuring the Accessibility of Electronic and Information Technology (E&IT) Procured by DoD Organizations
3. **Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR)** – 48 CFR Parts 2,7,10,11,12, and 39 Sets forth basic policies and general information about the Federal Acquisition Regulations System
4. **July 2010 Memo** – Improving the accessibility of Government Information; July 19, 2010

DoD Section 508 Policies

1. **DoD Directive 8000.01** - “Management of the Department of Defense Information Enterprise,” February 10, 2009
2. **DoD Manual 8400.01-M** - “Procedures for Ensuring the Accessibility of Electronic and Information Technology (E&IT) Procured by DoD Organizations,” June 3, 2011
3. **USD(AT&L) and DOD CIO Joint Memorandum** - “Improving the Accessibility of Government Information through Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973”, March 15, 2012
4. **Defense Acquisition Guidebook (DAG)** - Chapter 7.7 “Accessibility of Electronic and Information Technology”, November 5, 2012



RESOURCE SECTION

DoD Section 508 Resources

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DoD Resources

DoD Section 508
<http://dodcio.defense.gov/DoDSection508.aspx>

DoD CIO
<http://dodcio.defense.gov/>

USD(AT&L)
www.acq.osd.mil

USD(P&R) and Wounded Warrior
<http://prhome.defense.gov/WWCTP>

CAP
<http://www.cap.mil>

Government Resources

www.section508.gov

www.access-board.gov/

email: DoDSection508@OSD.mil

Department of Defense Hosts 32nd Annual Disability Awards Ceremony



Mr. Stephen King
Director of DoD
Disability Programs

The 32nd Annual Department of Defense (DoD) Disability Awards Ceremony, organized by the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, Office of Diversity Management & Equal Opportunity, takes place Tuesday, December 4th, 2012. Presiding will be Mr. Stephen King, Director of Disability Programs.

This annual event recognizes DoD organizations for their efforts in the employment of individuals with disabilities and highlights the accomplishments of DoD employees and wounded, ill, or injured Service members. Seventeen DoD employees and Service members will receive Secretary of Defense awards for their outstanding contributions. These individuals represent Components ranging from the Department of the Army, Defense Contract Audit Agency to the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency. In addition, four DoD Components will receive Secretary of Defense Awards for their outstanding achievements in the employment of individuals with disabilities: the Department of the Air Force, the Defense Logistics Agency, the Defense Technical Information Center, and the National Security Agency. The DoD Section 508 team extends its hearty congratulations to this year's awardees.

Mr. Stephen King is the DoD's Director of Disability Programs, Office of Diversity Management & Equal Opportunity (ODMEO). In his role, Mr. King serves as a DoD spokesperson and subject matter expert on the employment of individuals with disabilities, is a Co-Chair of the Workforce Recruitment Program (WRP) for college students and recent graduates with disabilities, and leads ODMEO's efforts to assist wounded service members transitioning to civilian life. Mr. King represents the Office of the Secretary of Defense as the DoD liaison on the U.S. Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (U.S. Access Board), and in collaboration with the DoD Office of Civilian Personnel Policy, is responsible for the Department's implementation of Executive Order 13548, Increasing Federal Employment of Individuals with Disabilities, which mandates federal agencies to hire 100,000 individuals with disabilities by 2015. 