The Department of Energy is required by law to follow Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Section 508 of the Act requires that content made available on Federal public and internal web sites be accessible to people with disabilities, such as those with vision and hearing impairments. This requirement covers access to federally-funded programs and services, including web applications, web pages, and supporting WORD and PDF files. Provided below are resources and information on 508 Compliance.

Why must agencies comply?

- 6.4 million people in the United States have a visual disability.
- 10.5 million people in United States population have a hearing disability.
- 20.9 million people in United States population have an ambulatory disability.
- 14.8 million people in United States population have a cognitive disability.

That means that, on average, 13.2 million people in the United States have at least one disability that Section 508 is meant to help with.

Who is Responsible for Section 508 Compliance?

Every Federal and contractor staff has a role in ensuring that Section 508 compliance requirements are followed. Government agencies rely on technology to carry out their mandates and provide information to the public, such as the creation and dissemination of files, which make ensuring access for individuals with disabilities part of everyone’s job.

Who Should be Trained?

File Creators and Document Authors - If you create files that may be distributed through email, posted online, or shared through electronic format.

Supervisors - If you are responsible for managing staff, you must ensure they understand the importance of their documents meeting Section 508 requirements.

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TECHNICAL STANDARDS ACTIVITIES

**Web Managers** - If you are managing or developing a website, Section 508 requirements must be followed.

**Project and Program Managers** - If you are responsible for planning a project or managing a program, be sure to incorporate time for Section 508 reviews and corrections.

To check and remediate a PDF document per Section 508 requirements, the reviewer must have Adobe Acrobat XI Pro on their computer. Adobe Acrobat XI Pro is provided at a cost to the individual Program Office and the Program Office Director must approve this purchase.

The General Services Administration (GSA) Government-wide Section 508 Accessibility Program provides the official website for Section 508, located at: [https://www.section508.gov/](https://www.section508.gov/).

This is a comprehensive resource for Section 508 Compliance and includes “a compilation of federal guidance, checklists and testing information for creating and maintaining accessible documents in electronic formats (WORD, PDF, Power Point, etc.),” which can be found on the “Create Accessible Electronic Documents” page, located at: [https://www.section508.gov/content/build/create-accessible-documents](https://www.section508.gov/content/build/create-accessible-documents).

For more basic information see Section 508 and Related Laws and Policies: [https://www.section508.gov/content/learn/laws-and-policies](https://www.section508.gov/content/learn/laws-and-policies).

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**Upcoming Meetings & Conferences**

**National Fire Protection Association Conference & Expo**  
*When:* June 4-7, 2017  
*Where:* Boston, MA

**Energy Facility Contractors Group (EFCOG) Annual Meeting**  
*When:* June 7-8, 2017  
*Where:* Washington, DC

**2017 American Society of Mechanical Engineers Annual Meeting**  
*When:* June 9-14, 2017  
*Where:* Newport Beach, CA

**2017 American Nuclear Society Annual Meeting: Innovating Nuclear Power**  
*When:* June 11-15, 2017  
*Where:* San Francisco, CA

**International Conference on Nuclear Engineering (ICONE 25)**  
*When:* July 2-6, 2017  
*Where:* Shanghai, China

**EFCOG Worker Safety & Health Subgroup Meeting**  
*When:* October 24-26, 2017  
*Where:* Washington, DC

**2017 American Nuclear Society Winter Meeting and Nuclear Technology**  
*When:* October 29 - November 2, 2017  
*Where:* Washington, DC

To learn more about the DOE Technical Standards Program or to view the **Standards Actions** newsletters, visit the website:  
TECHNICAL STANDARDS ACTIVITIES

DOE TECHNICAL STANDARDS UPDATES

The following is an overview of recent Technical Standards actions. A complete list of on-going DOE Technical Standards actions can be found on the “Monthly Status Reports” posted on the Technical Standards Program website: energy.gov/ehss/monthly-status-reports.

Project Justification Statements (PJS) Posted in RevCom for 15-day Review

**We will hold all proposed PJS’s until further notice from AU senior management.

  Contact: Hitash Nigam, Nuclear Materials Office (EM 4.23)
  Phone: 301-903-7715

New Projects Registered

Nothing new to report.

Posted in RevCom for 60-day Review

  Contact: Angela Chambers, National Nuclear Security Administration (NA-511)
  Phone: 806-477-6407

  Contact: David Weitzman, Office of Worker Safety and Health Policy (AU-11)
  Phone: 301-903-5401

- DOE-HDBK-1092-2013, Electrical Safety (Proposed Reaffirmation)
  Contact: Moriah Forullo, Office of Worker Safety and Health Policy (AU-11)
  Phone: 301-903-5999

  Contact: Sabeena Khanna, Office of Corporate Security Strategy (AU-1.2)
  Phone: 202-586-9020

Approved Standards

**We will hold all final publications and posting to the TSP website until further notice from AU senior management.

  Contact: James Dillard, Office of Worker Safety and Health Policy (AU-11)
  Phone: 301-903-1165

- DOE-STD-1098-2017, Radiological Control
  Contact: James Dillard, Office of Worker Safety and Health Policy (AU-11)
  Phone: 301-903-1165

Cancellations

Nothing new to report.