

# How do I keep my school website ADA compliant?

## High level implications:

- If you are a school, you are required by law to make sure your school's website is accessible to the disabled.
- If your school website doesn't meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance standards, you could end up as the target of an investigation by the [Office of Civil Rights](#) (OCR).  
<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/index.html>
- If the OCR receives a complaint (and that can be from anyone, even if they aren't disabled), it will result in an investigation.
- If you fail to correct the issues in the complaint, it could result in a disability discrimination complaint being filed against your school. The OCR has the right to enforce your compliance, and you get to spend money correcting the issues, risk losing funding, or facing a lawsuit.
- Penalties are usually \$50,000 for the first time cited, \$100,000 for subsequent reports where no remediation has been attempted.

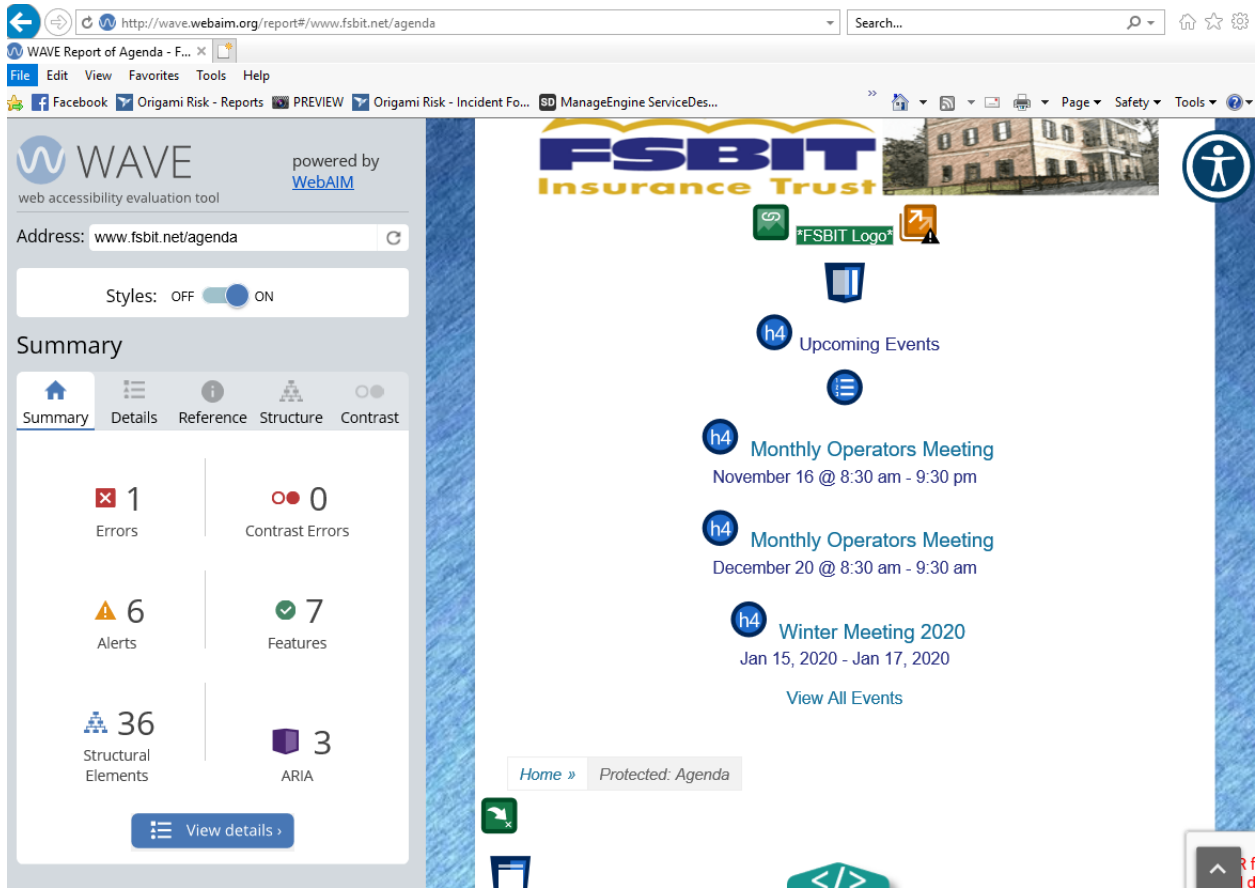
## Where can I start?

- Some Great resources: <https://webaim.org/> and ([https://www.schoolwebmasters.com/Blog\\_Articles?entityid=204208](https://www.schoolwebmasters.com/Blog_Articles?entityid=204208))
- **Good news and bad news about compliance**
  - The bad news is that it isn't easy or quick to implement if your website wasn't designed with compliance in mind. Once you get it there, you need to keep it compliant, and that means you train everyone who adds content to your website on compliance requirements. All information, documents, images, videos, and navigation anyone adds to your website will also need to be compliant.
  - The good news is that by making sure your school website is accessible, you won't be inconveniencing those without disabilities and the disabled will be able to get the information they need as well. It's the right thing to do.
- WCAG 2.0 – The current areas that schools must be compliant is listed here: <https://webaim.org/standards/wcag/checklist>

## Tools

- Level 1 testing for your website: <http://wave.webaim.org/> - which tests one page at a time for issues.  
*From their site:*  
*You can use the online WAVE tool by entering a web page address (URL) in the field above. [WAVE Firefox and Chrome extensions](#) are available for testing accessibility directly within your web browser - handy for checking password protected, locally stored, or highly dynamic pages. We also have a [WAVE Runner service, subscription WAVE API](#) and a [stand-alone WAVE API](#) for easily collecting data on many pages. If you need enterprise-level reporting and tracking of accessibility, WAVE powers the [Pope Tech accessibility tool](#).*

- Easy to read summary with color coded issues to address with explanations



- Caveat to the tool – can only enter one URL (page) at a time for the free tool.
- Summary breakdown information is supplied and coded as follows for remediation ease.  
Note: Should any **RED items** (errors) be found, **these items will require immediate resolution.**

### Summary breakdown

ICON COLOR	MEANING	ACTION
Red (Error)	Accessibility error.	Learn more about this error and try to fix the problem.
Green (Feature)	Positive. Accessibility feature done right!	No action required.
Yellow (Alert)	Alert. Potential accessibility error. Requires manual testing	For now, skip these icons. To test accurately, you will need to have taken accessibility training.
Blue (Structural) or Purple (HTML5, ARIA)	Neutral. Technical information about how this web page was built.	For now, skip these icons. No testing required.

## Vendors and Tools

- **Blackboard** – <https://www.blackboard.com/>

Offer a nice free resource page for tips for creating accessible online content:

<https://content.blackboard.com/accessibility-resource-center>

- Blackboard has an integrated version of accessiBe (AudioEye) called Ally, that can be added.
- Historically used by many schools – could be a good way to standardize distributed platforms.

[https://help.blackboard.com/Ally/Ally\\_for\\_Websites](https://help.blackboard.com/Ally/Ally_for_Websites)

- **UserWay Widget**

- We provide helpful accessibility plugins that work without refactoring your website's existing code and **will increase compliance** with WCAG 2.1 , ATAG 2.0 , ADA ,& Section 508 requirements.
- FREE to use as is, if Logo/branding required - \$10 month fee.
- **Can be implemented in less than 10 minutes!!!!**

- **FSBIT can assist web development staff if requested**

- We recommend implementing this in the interim while you are working on remediation of your pages.
- Will show effort on your district's behalf since a website rewrite may take some time, and often a budgetary request.
- Get the widget: <https://www.userway.org/get>

- **AudioEye / accessiBe**

- Offers a managed service that will do this for you – for a price depending upon page count (see pricing tiers per size, next page).
- Offers rescans, and may be a practical cost depending upon website size and existing budget (compared to web redevelopment costs).

Finally, a cost-effective and affordable accessibility solution!

Pro	Advanced	Premium	Enterprise
\$490 / Year Paid Annually	\$1490 / Year Paid Annually	\$3500 / Year Paid Annually	\$990 / Month Starts From
Websites below 1,000 pages	Websites below 100,000 pages	Websites below 1,000,000 pages	Unlimited website page count
No Credit Card Required Start a 7-Day Trial	No Credit Card Required Start a 7-Day Trial	No Credit Card Required Start a 7-Day Trial	Custom Tailored Solutions Contact Us
✓ Same features as all plans, the difference is your page count	✓ Same features as all plans, the difference is your page count	✓ Same features as all plans, the difference is your page count	✓ Custom tailored solutions for enterprises with various needs
✓ WCAG 2.1 AA, ADA, Section 508, EN 301549 compliance	✓ WCAG 2.1 AA, ADA, Section 508, EN 301549 compliance	✓ WCAG 2.1 AA, ADA, Section 508, EN 301549 compliance	✓ WCAG 2.1 AA, ADA, Section 508, EN 301549 compliance
✓ Accessibility statement and certification of performance	✓ Accessibility statement and certification of performance	✓ Accessibility statement and certification of performance	✓ Accessibility statement and certification of performance
✓ Daily automated compliance monitoring scans	✓ Daily automated compliance monitoring scans	✓ Daily automated compliance monitoring scans	✓ Daily automated compliance monitoring scans
✓ Automatic AI Powered Audits	✓ Automatic AI Powered Audits	✓ Automatic AI Powered Audits	✓ Automatic AI-powered + manual quarterly audits
✓ Automatic 96%+ success rate AI-powered remediation	✓ Automatic 96%+ success rate AI-powered remediation	✓ Automatic 96%+ success rate AI-powered remediation	✓ Automatic AI-powered + manual quarterly remediations
✓ Automatic monthly cloud updates	✓ Automatic monthly cloud updates	✓ Automatic monthly cloud updates	✓ Automatic monthly cloud updates
✓ Fully customizable: positions, colors, icons, shapes, sizes & more	✓ Fully customizable: positions, colors, icons, shapes, sizes & more	✓ Fully customizable: positions, colors, icons, shapes, sizes & more	✓ Fully customizable: positions, colors, icons, shapes, sizes & more
+ PDF, multimedia files, and video subtitles priced separately	+ PDF, multimedia files, and video subtitles priced separately	+ PDF, multimedia files, and video subtitles priced separately	✓ PDF, multimedia files, and video subtitles are included
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Certificate for making your website accessible</li> <li>✓ Monthly automatic updates from our cloud</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Open your website to people with disabilities</li> <li>✓ Compliance with WCAG 2.1 AA / ADA / Section 508</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ A free 7-day trial, no credit card required</li> <li>✓ Quick and straightforward one line code or plugin installation</li> </ul>	

- accessiBe tool that is similar to UserWay widget:

accessiBe is the first and only fully automated web accessibility technology that complies with the WCAG 2.1 and keeps your website accessible at all times.

