

Essex County College

College Regulation

REG 1-17 WEBSITE ACCESSIBILITY

Purpose:

To establish a uniform and accessible system of communication at the College with its current and prospective students, faculty, staff, and the public. The College's website serves as a critical communication and business tool for its consumers. As an open-access public institution of higher education, the College is responsible for the application of accessible electronic information. The College is committed to providing its users a website that is accessible to the widest possible audience, regardless of technology or ability.

Definition(s):

Essex County College Website: For purposes of this regulation, the website is the main source of College information communicated electronically to the College community and public. Information about all areas of the College can be accessed through the Essex County College website - www.essex.edu, and it provides pathways to additional resources used by students, faculty, and staff.

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines: For purposes of this regulation, Web Content Accessibility Guidelines ("WCAG") provide accessibility standards that are commonly recognized by governments and organizations around the world. The WCAG standards have numbered versions (or updates), and 12-13 guidelines. For each guideline there are testable success criteria at three levels: A, AA, and AAA. WCAG standards explain how to make web content more accessible to people with disabilities. The College uses WCAG guidelines to measure and apply the College's accessibility standard.

Application:

The College aims to comply with all applicable state and federal laws, College regulations, and WCAG, at 2.0 accessibility standards up to level AA. This ensures that the Essex County College website is accessible to individuals with disabilities so that each member of the College community benefits from equal access to the Colleges programs, activities, and services.

The website may link to, or interface with, third party websites that are not controlled by the College. These third-party vendors may not have undertaken the efforts that the College has to ensure compliance with WCAG-2.0 AA standards.

As the law and accessibility standards continue to change, the College endeavors to deliver the most up-to-date content online, and the College's commitment to improve online accessibility are ongoing. Any accessibility issues may be reported to webmaster@essex.edu.

Responsible Official(s): Office of Marketing and Communications, Office of Information Technology	Reference(s):
Regulation History: 6/23	Attachment(s):