

4 essentials for making websites accessible to all

How ADA and Section 508 accessibility standards apply to your online registration sites

As you may already know, the American Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Section 508 amendment to the Workforce Rehabilitation Act place non-discrimination requirements on the websites of government agencies and other publicly funded organizations. These standards apply to online registration forms for meetings, events, conferences and training programs as well.

WEBSITE ACCESSIBILITY BASICS:

1 - Make websites PERCEIVABLE

- Provide text alternatives for any non-text content so that it can be changed into other forms people may need, such as large print, braille, speech, symbols, or simpler language
- Provide synchronized alternatives for multimedia
- Create content that is simple and can easily be presented in different ways without losing information or structure
- Make it easier for people with disabilities to see and hear content by, for example, separating the foreground from the background

2 - Make websites OPERABLE

- Make sure all functions of the site are available from a keyboard

- Provide enough time for users with disabilities to read and experience content
- Do not create content that is known to cause seizures
- Provide ways to help users with disabilities navigate the website with ease

3 - Make websites UNDERSTANDABLE

- Make text content readable and understandable
 - Make Web pages appear and operate in predictable ways
- Help users avoid and correct mistakes that do occur

4 - Make websites ROBUST

Maximize compatibility with current and future user agents, including assistive technologies

About Certain

Certain Software® is the leading provider of event management solutions for the global meetings and events industry.

Founded in 1994, Certain Software® Inc. is a privately held corporation, headquartered in San Francisco, California with offices in the United States, Europe and the Pacific Rim.

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