

Executive Director Report

Report to the Developmental Disabilities Council

July 2025

[Governor's Office of Disability Affairs Webpage](#)

[Governor's Office of Community Programs Facebook Page](#)

Web Accessibility Updates

As a result of pending litigation within the Middle District Court of Louisiana, The Department of Justice (DOJ) recently issued [28 CFR Part 35](#), the final rule for digital accessibility compliance. This rule establishes specific guidelines on how state and local governments shall meet [ADA standards](#), along with deadlines for compliance for web accessibility including applications. The ADA Requires Federal government to ensure any technology developed, procured, maintained, or used is accessible to employees and members of the public.

This new rule requires State entities are required to adhere to the [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines](#) (WCAG), the benchmark for digital property user experience in government. Version 2.1 of WCAG's Level AA standard.

The State of Louisiana's response to 28 CFR Part 35 is the creation of PPM 74, which applies to all boards, commissions, departments, agencies, institutions, and offices of the executive branch of state government. Agency heads must designate at least one full-time employee of the agency to serve as the web accessibility coordinator.

Implementation Deadlines for the State of Louisiana:

- Q1 March 31, 2025: Designation of coordinators
- Q2 June 30, 2025: Submit inventory of major web properties, to include who is responsible for managing each web property. [**Web property:** websites, apps, social media accounts, and any point of presence on the web agency represents itself.]
- Q3 September 30, 2025: Submit action plan identifying steps intended to take to update major web properties into compliance.
- Q4 December 31, 2025: Submit progress report of actions taken and what's left.
- Q5 March 31, 2026: Submit Web Accessibility Policy.

- April 24, 2026: Web content is compliant.

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Training: Success Factors

- 30-minute intro to Web Accessibility
- 1-hour training on Microsoft 365 Accessibility

Additional Resources for Accessibility:

Web Accessibility Evaluation Tool:
<https://wave.webaim.org/>

Before and After Demonstration Using WAG 2.0
<https://www.w3.org/WAI/demos/bad/>

Louisiana Pelican Design Website
<https://pelican.ots.la.gov/>

Office of Technology Service's Guide to Web Accessibility
<https://accessibility.ots.la.gov>

2025 Disability Awareness Day At The Capitol

The Office of the Governor and the Split Second Foundation of New Orleans is in the midst of planning the 2nd Annual Disability Awareness Day at the Capitol event.

Recap of the 2025 GODA Conference

The Governor's Office of Disability Affairs will provide a recap of the 2025 GODA conference.