

# UA Rich Mountain

## Policy: Information Technology Accessibility

### Version: 2026.03.17

## Purpose and Objective

The University of Arkansas Community College at Rich Mountain (UACCRM) is committed to providing equal access to its academic programs, services, and online environments for all individuals, including those with disabilities. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the institution's information technology (IT) resources are accessible in accordance with the **University of Arkansas System Board Policy (BP) 280.1, UA Systemwide Policies and Procedures (UASP) 280.1**, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and Section 504 and Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

## Scope

This policy applies to all electronic and information technology resources developed, procured, maintained, or used by UACCRM. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Public-facing institutional websites (e.g., uarichmountain.edu).
- Student portals and learning management systems (e.g., Workday, Blackboard).
- Digital course materials and electronic documents (PDFs, Word documents, videos).
- Hardware and software procured by the institution for student or staff use.

## Accessibility Standards

UACCRM adopts the **Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1, Level AA** as the primary technical standard for web and digital content accessibility. All new, redesigned, or significantly modified digital content must strive to meet these standards to ensure compatibility with assistive technologies such as screen readers, magnifiers, and voice recognition software.

## Responsibilities

- **Information Technology (IT) Department & Webmaster:** Responsible for ensuring that the underlying infrastructure of the official UACCRM website and institutionally supported applications meet WCAG 2.1 AA standards.
- **Faculty and Academic Staff:** Responsible for ensuring that digital materials uploaded to the Learning Management System (Blackboard) or distributed to students (e.g., course

syllabi, lecture videos, PDFs) are formatted for accessibility (e.g., utilizing closed captions, alt-text for images, and logical heading structures).

- **Procurement/CIO:** When purchasing new software or IT systems, the institution must evaluate the product's accessibility features (e.g., reviewing a Voluntary Product Accessibility Template or VPAT) prior to final approval.

## Exceptions

In situations where ensuring full accessibility of a specific IT resource would fundamentally alter the nature of the instructional program or result in an undue administrative or financial burden, an exception may be granted by the Chief Information Officer (CIO) in coordination with the Office of Student Affairs. In such cases, UACCRM will provide a reasonable alternative accommodation to ensure the individual receives the required information or service.

## Reporting Barriers and Requesting Accommodations

UACCRM encourages users who experience barriers to access of any digital content to report the issue.

- Students requiring specific digital accommodations should contact the **Office of Student Affairs**.
- Technical accessibility issues or errors on the UACCRM website should be reported directly to the **IT Department / Webmaster**. UACCRM is committed to responding to and resolving reported accessibility issues in a timely manner.

## Revision History

Version	Published	Author	Description
2026.03.17	2026.03.17	Bryan Carnahan	Original