

Google Docs

Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT)

- **Date:** 11/2014
- **Name of Product:** Google Docs
- **Point of Contact:** [Richard Wu](#)

Summary Table

Criteria	Supporting features	Remarks
Section 1194.21 Software Applications and Operating Systems	Applicable	Supports with exceptions
Section 1194.22 Web-based Internet Information and Applications	Applicable	Supports with exceptions
Section 1194.23 Telecommunications Products	Not applicable	-
Section 1194.24 Video and Multimedia Products	Not applicable	-
Section 1194.25 Self-Contained, Closed Products	Not applicable	-
Section 1194.26 Desktop and Portable Computers	Not applicable	-
Section 1194.31 Functional Performance Criteria	Applicable	Supports with exceptions
Section 1194.41 Information, Documentation, and Support	Applicable	Supports

Section 1194.21 Software Applications and Operating

Criteria	Supporting features	Remarks
(a) When software is designed to run on a system that has a keyboard, product functions shall be executable from a keyboard where the function itself or the result of performing a function can be discerned textually.	Supports with exceptions	<p>The Google Docs user interface is usable with the keyboard, with minor exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unexpected keyboard behavior for tabs in the grid view. • Unexpected keyboard behavior for the main menu, toolbar, and grid view. • All Items identified as buttons in the toolbar do not react to the spacebar • Expected keyboard behavior not captured with

Section 1194.21 Software Applications and Operating

Criteria	Supporting features	Remarks
		Escape key on main menu and toolbars
(b) Applications shall not disrupt or disable activated features of other products that are identified as accessibility features, where those features are developed and documented according to industry standards. Applications also shall not disrupt or disable activated features of any operating system that are identified as accessibility features where the application programming interface for those accessibility features has been documented by the manufacturer of the operating system and is available to the product developer.	Supports	Google Docs components do not interfere with or deactivate the accessibility features of the operating system.
(c) A well-defined on-screen indication of the current focus shall be provided that moves among interactive interface elements as the input focus changes. The focus shall be programmatically exposed so that assistive technology can track focus and focus changes.	Supports with exceptions	Some Google Docs interface elements fail to provide a well-defined on-screen indication of the current focus including: Main menu, comments pop-up, table properties, and review edits. Most Google Docs components expose the necessary information to assistive technologies, with some exceptions including the following (not all issues listed). Missing role state and property information:
(d) Sufficient information about a user interface element including the identity, operation and state of the element shall be available to assistive technology. When an image represents a program element, the information conveyed by the image must also be available in text.	Supports with exceptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current selection (state) in color picker. • Additions and removals from lists. • The presence of the context menu is not announced to assistive technology. • Table size selection tool is not available to assistive technology.
(e) When bitmap images are used to identify controls, status indicators, or other programmatic elements, the meaning assigned	Supports	Bitmap images are used consistently across the Google Docs application.

Section 1194.21 Software Applications and Operating

Criteria	Supporting features	Remarks
<p>to those images shall be consistent throughout an application's performance.</p> <p>(f) Textual information shall be provided through operating system functions for displaying text. The minimum information that shall be made available is text content, text input caret location, and text attributes.</p>	Supports	<p>All text information is correctly exposed in Google Docs.</p> <p>Google Docs does not fully support the Windows Operating System high contrast mode (not all issues listed):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus indication lost in high contrast on some controls. • Checkbox state not visible in high contrast. • Some inputs not outlined in high contrast. • Checked state for controls (current font, etc) not visible in high contrast.
<p>(g) Applications shall not override user selected contrast and color selections and other individual display attributes.</p>	Supports with exceptions	
<p>(h) When animation is displayed, the information shall be displayable in at least one non-animated presentation mode at the option of the user.</p>	Not applicable	<p>Google Docs has no core features that utilize animation.</p>
<p>(i) Color coding shall not be used as the only means of conveying information, indicating an action, prompting a response, or distinguishing a visual element.</p>	Supports	<p>Google Docs does not rely on color coding as the only means of conveying information.</p>
<p>(j) When a product permits a user to adjust color and contrast settings, a variety of color selections capable of producing a range of contrast levels shall be provided.</p>	Not applicable	<p>Google Docs does not permit color themes to be applied to the product itself.</p>
<p>(k) Software shall not use flashing or blinking text, objects, or other elements having a flash or blink frequency greater than 2 Hz and lower than 55 Hz.</p>	Supports	<p>Google Docs has no flashing or blinking text, objects, or other elements with a blink frequency greater than 2 Hz and lower than 55 Hz.</p>

Section 1194.21 Software Applications and Operating

Criteria	Supporting features	Remarks
(l) When electronic forms are used, the form shall allow people using assistive technology to access the information, field elements, and functionality required for completion and submission of the form, including all directions and cues.	Supports with exceptions	<p>Most Google Docs form functionality is accessible to assistive technologies, with some exceptions including the following (not all issues listed):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The presence of the context menu is not announced to assistive technology. • Table size selection tool is not available to assistive technology.

Section 1194.22 Web-based Internet Information and Applications

Criteria	Supporting features	Remarks
(a) A text equivalent for every non-text element shall be provided (e.g., via "alt", "longdesc", or in element content).	Supports	Google Docs graphic elements exposed to users have text equivalents.
(b) Equivalent alternatives for any multimedia presentation shall be synchronized with the presentation.	Not applicable	Google Docs does not use multimedia.
(c) Web pages shall be designed so that all information conveyed with color is also available without color, for example from context or markup.	Supports	Google Docs is designed so that all information conveyed with color is also available without color.
(d) Documents shall be organized so they are readable without requiring an associated style sheet.	Not applicable	Google Docs is a web-based application (not a document), and therefore the product's user interface depends on the availability of associated style sheets.
(e) Redundant text links shall be provided for each active region of a server-side image map.	Supports	Google Docs does not use image maps.
(f) Client-side image maps shall be provided instead of server-side image maps except where the regions cannot be defined with an available geometric shape.	Supports	Google Docs does not use image maps.
(g) Row and column headers shall be identified for data tables.	Supports	Google Docs identifies headers for data tables.

Section 1194.22 Web-based Internet Information and Applications

Criteria	Supporting features	Remarks
(h) Markup shall be used to associate data cells and header cells for data tables that have two or more logical levels of row or column headers.	Not applicable	Google Docs does not use complex data tables.
(i) Frames shall be titled with text that facilitates frame identification and navigation.	Supports	Google Docs frames that are exposed to users are correctly titled.
(j) Pages shall be designed to avoid causing the screen to flicker with a frequency greater than 2 Hz and lower than 55 Hz.	Supports	Google Docs does not cause screen flicker with a frequency greater than 2 Hz and lower than 55 Hz.
(k) A text-only page, with equivalent information or functionality, shall be provided to make a web site comply with the provisions of this part, when compliance cannot be accomplished in any other way. The content of the text-only page shall be updated whenever the primary page changes.	Not applicable	Google Docs is a web-based application (not a document). The UI and data cannot readily be represented and maintained in a text-only page.
(l) When pages utilize scripting languages to display content, or to create interface elements, the information provided by the script shall be identified with functional text that can be read by assistive technology.	Supports	All core functionality of Google Docs that relies on scripting is accessible to assistive technology users.
(m) When a web page requires that an applet, plug-in or other application be present on the client system to interpret page content, the page must provide a link to a plug-in or applet that complies with §1194.21(a) through (l).	Not applicable	Google Docs does not require a plug-in.
(n) When electronic forms are designed to be completed online, the form shall allow people using assistive technology to access the information, field elements, and functionality required for completion and submission of the form, including all directions and cues.	Supports with exceptions	<p>Most Google Docs form functionality is accessible to assistive technologies, with some exceptions including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headings in ‘Table properties’ do not provide an explicit group label for control groups.
(o) A method shall be provided that permits users to skip repetitive navigation links.	Supports	Google Docs does not provide a ‘skip navigation link’, but instead offers keyboard shortcuts to most

Section 1194.22 Web-based Internet Information and Applications

Criteria	Supporting features	Remarks
(p) When a timed response is required, the user shall be alerted and given sufficient time to indicate more time is required.	Supports	of the features in the user interface. Google Docs does not require a timed response as part of its core functionality.

Section 1194.31 Functional Performance Criteria

Criteria	Supporting features	Remarks
(a) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require user vision shall be provided, or support for assistive technology used by people who are blind or visually impaired shall be provided.	Supports	The core functionality of Google Docs is accessible to assistive technology users.
(b) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require visual acuity greater than 20/70 shall be provided in audio and enlarged print output working together or independently, or support for assistive technology used by people who are visually impaired shall be provided.	Supports	The core functionality of Google Docs supports the use of screen magnifiers.
(c) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require user hearing shall be provided, or support for assistive technology used by people who are deaf or hard of hearing shall be provided.	Supports	Google Docs does not rely on sound alone to access any of its core functionality.
(d) Where audio information is important for the use of a product, at least one mode of operation and information retrieval shall be provided in an enhanced auditory fashion, or support for assistive hearing devices shall be provided.	Supports	Google Docs does not rely on audio to present information.
(e) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require user speech shall be provided, or support for assistive technology used by people with disabilities shall be provided.	Supports	Google Docs does not require user speech.
(f) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require fine motor control or simultaneous actions and that is operable with limited reach and strength shall be provided.	Supports with exceptions	Most Google Docs core features can be used from the keyboard alone, with minor exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unexpected keyboard behavior for tabs in the grid view.

Section 1194.31 Functional Performance Criteria

Criteria	Supporting features	Remarks
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unexpected keyboard behavior for the main menu, toolbar, and grid view.• All Items identified as buttons in the toolbar do not react to the spacebar• Expected keyboard. behavior not captured with Escape key on main menu and toolbar.