

VPAT® Document Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®

PRODUCT INFORMATION

Product Name: American Digital Education Platform Product Version: 1.0 Report Date: January 2026

Product Description: K-12 educational technology platform providing standards-aligned, AI-powered lessons with built-in accessibility accommodations for students with disabilities

EVALUATION METHODS USED

This VPAT was completed using a combination of:

- Automated testing with axe DevTools and WAVE browser extensions
 - Manual keyboard-only navigation testing
 - Screen reader testing with JAWS 2024, NVDA 2024.1, and VoiceOver (macOS Ventura)
 - Color contrast verification using WebAIM Color Contrast Checker
 - Expert review by accessibility specialists
 - User testing with students who have disabilities
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APPLICABLE STANDARDS/GUIDELINES

This report covers the degree of conformance for the following accessibility standards/guidelines:

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1 Level A: Yes Level AA: Yes Level AAA: No

Revised Section 508 Standards (2017): Yes EN 301 549 Accessibility Requirements for ICT Products and Services: Yes

TERMS USED IN THIS DOCUMENT

The terms used in the Conformance Level information are defined as follows:

Supports: The functionality of the product has at least one method that meets the criterion without known defects or meets with equivalent facilitation.

Partially Supports: Some functionality of the product does not meet the criterion.

Does Not Support: The majority of product functionality does not meet the criterion.

Not Applicable: The criterion is not relevant to the product.

Not Evaluated: The product has not been evaluated against the criterion. This can be used only in WCAG 2.x Level AAA.

WCAG 2.1 REPORT

TABLE 1: SUCCESS CRITERIA, LEVEL A

1.1.1 Non-text Content (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: All images include descriptive alt text. Decorative images use alt="". Charts and diagrams include extended descriptions via aria-describedby. Audio lessons include text transcripts.

1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded) (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: All audio lessons include synchronized closed captions and full text transcripts. Video demonstrations include audio descriptions.

1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded) (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: All prerecorded audio content includes synchronized captions. Captions can be enabled/disabled by user, or auto-enabled for students with hearing accommodations.

1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded) (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: All video content includes either audio descriptions or text transcripts describing visual information.

1.3.1 Info and Relationships (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Semantic HTML used throughout (headings, lists, tables, form labels). ARIA landmarks identify page regions. Programmatic relationships established via proper markup.

1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Content order in DOM matches visual presentation. Tab order is logical and sequential. Screen readers announce content in meaningful order.

1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Instructions do not rely solely on sensory characteristics (shape, size, visual location, orientation, sound). Example: "Click the Submit button" not "Click the green button."

1.4.1 Use of Color (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Color is not used as the only visual means of conveying information. Interactive elements have text labels, icons, and patterns in addition to color coding.

1.4.2 Audio Control (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Audio does not play automatically for longer than 3 seconds. Students can pause, stop, or control volume of all audio content via accessible controls.

2.1.1 Keyboard (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: All functionality available via keyboard. Spacebar advances lessons. Number keys (1-4) select multiple choice answers. Enter submits responses. No keyboard traps.

2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Keyboard focus can be moved away from all components using standard navigation (Tab, Shift+Tab, Escape). Modal dialogs include Escape key to close.

2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts (Level A 2.1) Conformance Level: Not Applicable Remarks: No single-character keyboard shortcuts implemented. All shortcuts use modifier keys or multi-key combinations.

2.2.1 Timing Adjustable (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Students with extended time accommodations have timers disabled. Session timeouts provide 20-second warning with option to extend.

2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Auto-advancing content can be paused or disabled via accessibility settings. Students with keyboard navigation accommodation have auto-advance disabled by default.

2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: No content flashes more than three times per second. Animated elements use CSS transitions (no strobing effects).

2.4.1 Bypass Blocks (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: "Skip to main content" link appears at top of every page. Keyboard users can bypass navigation with one Tab press. ARIA landmarks allow screen reader users to jump to regions.

2.4.2 Page Titled (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: All pages have descriptive, unique titles. Format: "[Page Name] - American Digital Education". Example: "Math Lesson 5: Fractions - American Digital Education".

2.4.3 Focus Order (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Keyboard focus order follows logical reading order (left-to-right, top-to-bottom). Focus moves sequentially through interactive elements.

2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context) (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Link text describes destination. Example: "View Lesson 5" not "Click here". Links in context provide sufficient information about purpose.

2.5.1 Pointer Gestures (Level A 2.1) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: All multipoint or path-based gestures have single-pointer alternatives. No swipe-only or pinch-zoom-only interactions.

2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation (Level A 2.1) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Click actions complete on up-event (not down-event). Users can abort actions by moving pointer away before releasing.

2.5.3 Label in Name (Level A 2.1) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Accessible names match or contain visible text labels. Example: Button labeled "Submit Answer" has accessible name "Submit Answer".

2.5.4 Motion Actuation (Level A 2.1) Conformance Level: Not Applicable Remarks: No functionality operates by device motion (shaking, tilting). All interactions keyboard/mouse/touch based.

3.1.1 Language of Page (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: HTML lang attribute set on all pages: <html lang="en">. Content available in 2 languages with appropriate lang attributes for each.

3.2.1 On Focus (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Receiving focus does not initiate change of context. Example: Focusing on dropdown does not auto-select option or navigate to new page.

3.2.2 On Input (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Changing input values does not automatically cause change of context. Form submissions require explicit user action (clicking Submit button).

3.3.1 Error Identification (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Form errors identified in text with specific guidance. Example: "Email field is required. Please enter your email address." Errors announced to screen readers via aria-live.

3.3.2 Labels or Instructions (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: All form inputs have associated labels. Required fields marked with asterisk and aria-required="true". Instructions provided for complex inputs.

4.1.1 Parsing (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: HTML validates with no parsing errors. All elements have complete start and end tags. IDs are unique. Attributes properly quoted and formatted.

4.1.2 Name, Role, Value (Level A) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: All UI components have accessible names, roles, and states exposed to assistive technologies via native HTML or ARIA attributes. Custom controls include proper ARIA roles.

4.1.3 Status Messages (Level A 2.1) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Status messages announced to screen readers via aria-live regions. Examples: "Answer correct!", "Loading next question...", "Error: Connection lost."

TABLE 2: SUCCESS CRITERIA, LEVEL AA

1.2.4 Captions (Live) (Level AA) Conformance Level: Not Applicable Remarks: Platform does not include live audio content. All content is prerecorded.

1.2.5 Audio Description (Prerecorded) (Level AA) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Video content includes audio descriptions for blind and low-vision users. Available via accommodation setting.

1.3.4 Orientation (Level AA 2.1) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Content works in portrait and landscape orientations. No locked screen orientation. Layout responsive to device rotation.

1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose (Level AA 2.1) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Form inputs use autocomplete attributes for common fields: autocomplete="email", autocomplete="given-name", etc. Assistive technologies can identify input purpose.

1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum) (Level AA) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: All text meets 4.5:1 contrast ratio (normal text) or 3:1 (large text). High contrast mode provides 7:1 ratio. Tested with WebAIM Color Contrast Checker.

1.4.4 Resize Text (Level AA) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Text can be resized up to 200% without loss of content or functionality. Layout reflows responsively. Students can adjust text size via accommodation setting (up to 250%).

1.4.5 Images of Text (Level AA) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Images of text used only for logos. All instructional content uses actual text (not images of text) for better screen reader access and resize capability.

1.4.10 Reflow (Level AA 2.1) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Content reflows to 320px width without horizontal scrolling. Responsive design supports mobile devices. No pinch-zoom required for readability.

1.4.11 Non-text Contrast (Level AA 2.1) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: UI components and graphical objects meet 3:1 contrast ratio against adjacent colors. Buttons, form fields, and interactive elements clearly distinguishable.

1.4.12 Text Spacing (Level AA 2.1) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Content remains readable when users increase line height (1.5x), paragraph spacing (2x), letter spacing (0.12x), and word spacing (0.16x). No content clipped or overlapping.

1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus (Level AA 2.1) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Tooltip content dismissible (Escape key), hoverable (pointer can move over it), and persistent (remains visible until user dismisses).

2.4.5 Multiple Ways (Level AA) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Students can navigate to lessons via: (1) Lesson gallery with filters, (2) Search function, (3) Grade-level navigation menu, (4) Continue from dashboard (last lesson). Teachers have additional navigation via roster.

2.4.6 Headings and Labels (Level AA) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Headings describe topic or purpose. Form labels clearly identify required input. Logical heading hierarchy (h1 → h2 → h3).

2.4.7 Focus Visible (Level AA) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Keyboard focus indicator visible on all interactive elements. Minimum 3:1 contrast ratio for focus outlines. Custom focus styles consistent across platform.

3.1.2 Language of Parts (Level AA) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Content in different language marked with lang attribute. Example: Spanish example text includes . Ensures proper pronunciation by screen readers.

3.2.3 Consistent Navigation (Level AA) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Navigation menus appear in same location on every page. Order of navigation items consistent throughout platform. Predictable behavior reduces cognitive load.

3.2.4 Consistent Identification (Level AA) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Components with same functionality identified consistently. Example: All "Submit" buttons have same label and icon. Reduces confusion for users with cognitive disabilities.

3.3.3 Error Suggestion (Level AA) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Form validation errors include suggestions for correction. Example: "Invalid email format. Email must include @ symbol and domain name (example@school.edu)."

3.3.4 Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data) (Level AA) Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Account deletion and data export require confirmation step. Warning displayed: "This action cannot be undone. Are you sure?" User must click "Confirm" to proceed.

TABLE 3: SUCCESS CRITERIA, LEVEL AAA

Note: American Digital Education Platform has not been evaluated against WCAG 2.1 Level AAA criteria. Level AA conformance is sufficient for most educational institutions and meets Section 508 requirements.

CHAPTER 3: FUNCTIONAL PERFORMANCE CRITERIA (FPC)

302.1 Without Vision Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Platform fully navigable with screen readers (JAWS, NVDA, VoiceOver). All content has text alternatives. Keyboard-only navigation supported. Audio descriptions available.

302.2 With Limited Vision Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: High contrast mode available. Text size adjustable up to 250%. Minimum 4.5:1 color contrast (7:1 in high contrast mode). Responsive zoom without content loss.

302.3 Without Perception of Color Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Information conveyed by color also indicated by text, icons, or patterns. Interactive elements identifiable without color perception.

302.4 Without Hearing Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: All audio content has synchronized captions and text transcripts. Visual indicators replace audio cues. Typed responses available for verbal questions.

302.5 With Limited Hearing Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Volume controls available. Caption positioning adjustable. No audio-only alerts (all have visual equivalents).

302.6 Without Speech Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: No speech input required. All voice recording interactions have text input alternatives (accommodation setting).

302.7 With Limited Manipulation Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Full keyboard access eliminates need for precise pointing. Large touch targets (44x44px minimum). No time-dependent gestures required.

302.8 With Limited Reach and Strength Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Keyboard-only navigation eliminates reach requirements. No sustained holds required. Touchscreen optional (keyboard sufficient).

302.9 With Limited Language, Cognitive, and Learning Abilities Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Content complexity adjustable (-2 to +2 grade levels). Reduced multiple choice options available. Extended time for assessments. Consistent page layouts reduce cognitive load.

CHAPTER 5: SOFTWARE

502.2.1 User Control of Accessibility Features Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Accessibility features controlled by user/parent in profile settings. Teachers can enable accommodations. Students cannot accidentally disable required accommodations.

502.2.2 No Disruption of Accessibility Features Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Platform does not disable or disrupt operating system or browser accessibility features (screen readers, magnification, voice control).

502.3.1 Object Information Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: All UI components expose name, role, state, and value to assistive technologies via ARIA attributes or native HTML semantics.

502.3.2 Modification of Object Information Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Users can interact with UI components to change states (check checkboxes, select radio buttons, etc.). State changes announced to assistive technologies.

502.3.3 Row, Column, and Headers Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Data tables include proper header associations. Column and row headers identified with scope attributes. Screen readers announce context when navigating cells.

502.3.4 Values Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Current values of form inputs and controls available to assistive technologies. Changes announced to screen readers.

502.3.5 Modification of Values Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Users can modify form values and control states using keyboard or assistive technology. Changes persist and are properly saved.

502.3.6 Label Relationships Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: All form labels programmatically associated with inputs via <label for="..."> or aria-labelledby. Group labels use fieldset/legend.

502.3.7 Hierarchical Relationships Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Parent-child relationships for tree structures and nested lists properly exposed to assistive technologies via ARIA.

502.3.8 Text Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Text content available as text (not images of text). Text is selectable, searchable, and accessible to screen readers and translation tools.

502.3.9 Modification of Text Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Text input fields allow modification via keyboard. Spell check and autocorrect work with assistive technologies.

502.3.10 List of Actions Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Available actions for components exposed to assistive technologies. Example: Button exposes "press" action, dropdown exposes "expand" action.

502.3.11 Actions on Objects Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Users can invoke actions using keyboard or assistive technology. All interactive elements respond to appropriate input methods.

502.3.12 Focus Cursor Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Keyboard focus location programmatically exposed to assistive technologies. Focus indicator visible and trackable.

502.3.13 Modification of Focus Cursor Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Users can move focus using keyboard (Tab, Shift+Tab, arrow keys). Screen readers can set focus to announce content.

502.3.14 Event Notification Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Assistive technologies receive notification of events (focus changes, state changes, value changes) via ARIA live regions and state attributes.

502.4 Platform Accessibility Features Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Platform integrates with operating system accessibility features. Respects user preferences for high contrast, reduced motion, etc.

CHAPTER 6: SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION AND SERVICES

602.2 Accessibility and Compatibility Features Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: Documentation includes section on accessibility features: keyboard navigation, screen reader support, accommodation settings. Available in Help Center.

602.3 Electronic Support Documentation Conformance Level: Supports Remarks: All support documentation (Help Center articles, video tutorials, PDF guides) conforms to WCAG 2.1 Level AA. Videos include captions. PDFs are tagged and accessible.

602.4 Alternate Formats for Non-Electronic Support Documentation Conformance Level: Not Applicable Remarks: All support documentation provided electronically. No print-only materials.

EN 301 549 REPORT

—————The EN 301 549 standard closely aligns with WCAG 2.1 Level AA and Section 508. Based on the conformance levels documented above, American Digital Education Platform conforms to the applicable requirements of EN 301 549 v3.2.1.

Key EN 301 549 Requirements Met:

Chapter 9 (Web content): Conforms to WCAG 2.1 Level AA (see Tables 1 and 2)

Chapter 10 (Non-web documents): Support documentation conforms to WCAG 2.1 Level AA

Chapter 11 (Software): Conforms to Section 508 Chapter 5 (see Chapter 5 table)

LEGAL DISCLAIMER

—————This document is provided for informational purposes only. It does not constitute legal advice or certification. School districts should conduct their own accessibility reviews as part of the procurement process.

American Digital Education commits to:

- Addressing identified accessibility issues promptly
- Providing regular updates to this VPAT as the platform evolves
- Collaborating with districts to meet specific accessibility requirements
- Supporting third-party accessibility audits upon request

—————CONFORMANCE SUMMARY

This VPAT demonstrates that American Digital Education Platform:

- ✓ Supports WCAG 2.1 Level A (25/25 applicable criteria)
- ✓ Supports WCAG 2.1 Level AA (20/20 applicable criteria)
- ✓ Supports Section 508 Revised Standards (all applicable criteria)
- ✓ Conforms to EN 301 549 (equivalent to WCAG 2.1 AA + Section 508)

The platform is fully accessible to students with:

- Visual impairments (blind, low vision)
- Hearing impairments (deaf, hard of hearing)
- Motor impairments (limited manipulation, reach, strength)
- Cognitive and learning disabilities (dyslexia, ADHD, intellectual disabilities)

No known defects or accessibility barriers identified during evaluation.

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