Accessible Instructional Materials

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Accessible Materials

- The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires school districts to provide accessible versions of instructional materials to students who are blind or otherwise unable to use printed materials.
- State-adopted accessible instructional materials are provided at no cost to eligible students.

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Accessible Print Materials

- Publishers of adopted print materials must provide NIMAS files of their programs to facilitate the production of specialized formats.
- National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard (NIMAS) is a technical standard used to produce XML-based source files, from which accessible, student-ready alternate-format versions (e.g., braille, e-text, digital talking book, large-print) can be created and distributed to students with print disabilities.

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Accessible Print Materials (continued)

- NIMAS files are required for all printed instructional materials.
- The NIMAS *Technical Specification*, *v1.1*, can be found at http://aem.cast.org/creating/nimas-technical-specification-annotated.html.
- New publishers should email nimac@aph.org to request a publisher account.

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Accessible Print Materials

(continued)

- The National Instructional Materials Access Center (NIMAC) provides instructions regarding how to set up an account, prepare metadata correctly, and make submissions.
- Visit http://www.nimac.us/publishers.html for more information.
- Publishers must provide contact information of the production manager and the contact information of the individual providing NIMAS files at the time other contact information is provided.

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National Center on Accessible Educational Materials

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About AEM | Navigating AEM | Supporting Learners | Policies & Systems | Creating AEM

Home » Creating AEM » Best Practices for Publish...

- National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard (NIMAS)
- Accessibility Standards, Specifications & Guidelines
- Best Practices for Publishers & Software Developers
  - NIMAS Files Best Practices
  - DAISY and NIMAS in HTML
  - NIMAS Fileset Validators Comparison
  - Content Development & Design
  - NIMAS Conversion Tool
  - Other Format Conversion Tools
  - Understanding XML
  - Understanding DAISY
  - CAST Figuration
  - Market Initiatives
- Best Practices for Educators & Instructors
- Open Educational Resources (OERs)
- Content Conversion Services for Publishers

Best Practices for Publishers & Software Developers

Be sure to refer to the sub-pages in this section for additional information about best practices for publishers and software developers as well as the links to outside resources, listed below.

Photo by Viktor Hanacek

Useful Accessibility Guidance & Support

Additional resources that may prove useful to publishers, developers, educators and others who create content to support the education of children and adults.

- Section 508 Standards
- GSA Government-wide Section 508 Accessibility Program
- About the Section 508 ICT Refresh
- GSA 508 Tutorials, Guidance, Checklists
- Accessible Publishing Best Practice Guidelines for Publishers
- STEM Content Description within Digital Talking Books
- Accessible Assessments: Item Writer Guidelines
- National Center on Education Outcomes Policy and Practice Guidance
- Adobe Flash Accessibility
- Adobe Accessibility
- Accessible Digital Learning Materials—Publisher/Developer Best Practices Guidelines (5/16/13 draft)

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National Instructional Materials Access Center

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Accessible Electronic Materials

Publishers that have electronic instructional materials adopted by the SBOE must contract with a reputable third party to provide a report for each electronic component that verifies that the components follow Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 AA and technical standards required by the Federal Rehabilitation Act, Section 508.

Additional information to assist with this requirement may be found in the appendix of *Proclamation 2019* in the following sections:

- Accessibility Requirements, page 11
- Accessibility Report, pages 14–15

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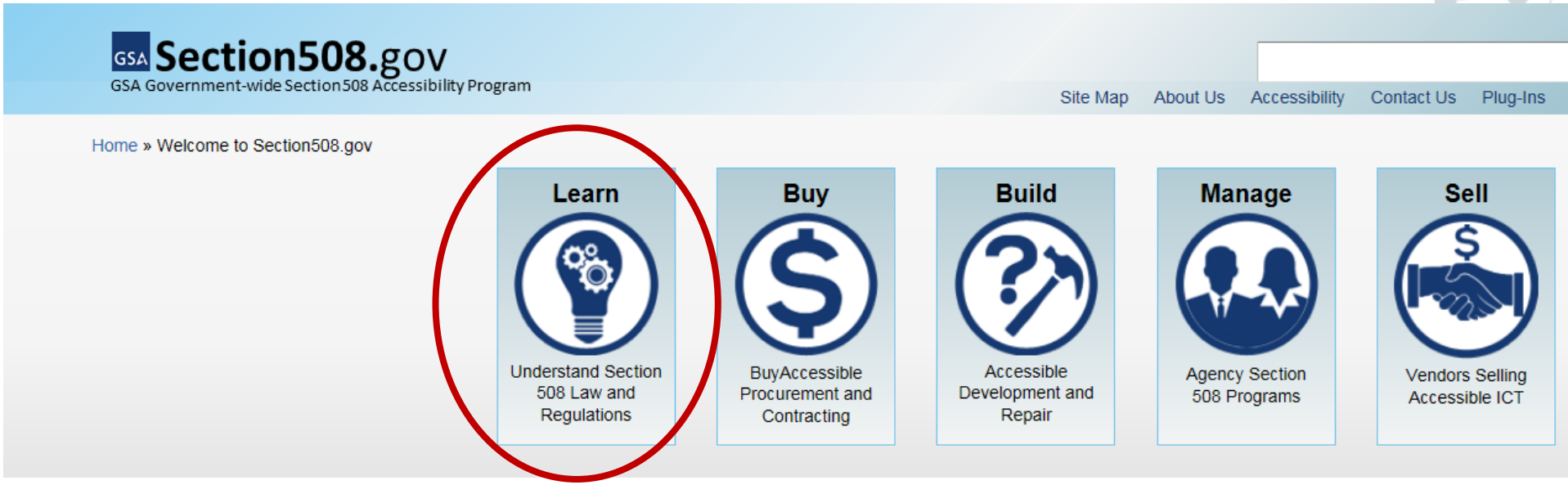
Section 508



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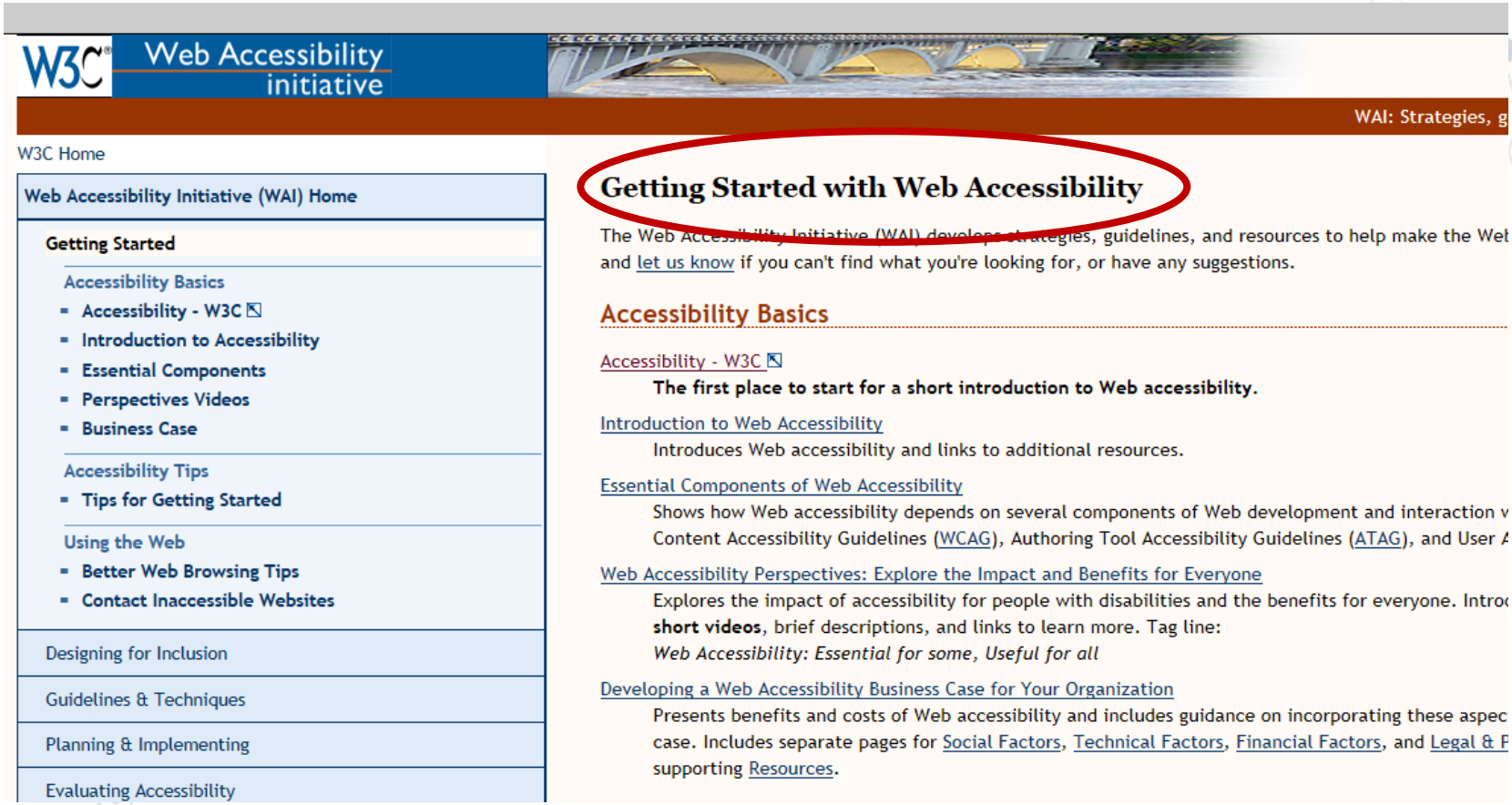
Web Accessibility Guidelines



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Questions

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