Website Accessibility Guidelines

Last Updated: July 2025

Purpose:

To ensure our website is accessible to all users, including individuals with disabilities, in compliance with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 AA and in support of inclusive practices aligned with our organization's mission.

1. Perceivable

We ensure all content can be seen, heard, or interpreted in multiple ways.

- Text Alternatives:

- - All images must include descriptive `alt` text.
- - Icons and visual buttons must have screen-reader-friendly labels.

- Video & Audio Content:

- - All video content must include closed captions.
- - Audio content must include transcripts.

- Text Readability:

- - Use high color contrast (minimum 4.5:1).
- - Allow text to be resized up to 200% without losing content or functionality.
- - Avoid using color alone to convey meaning.

2. Operable

All features must be usable by people with various physical abilities.

- Keyboard Navigation:

- - All functions must be accessible using a keyboard alone.

- ● - Skip-to-content links should be available at the top of each page.

- Navigation:

- ● - Use clear and consistent menus and headings.
- ● - Ensure page titles accurately reflect content.

- Avoid Triggers:

- ● - Avoid flashing content that could trigger seizures (no flashing more than 3 times/second).

- Forms:

- ● - Label all form fields clearly.
- ● - Provide real-time error messages with clear instructions for correction.

3. Understandable

Content and website operation should be easy to understand for all users.

- Clear Language:

- ● - Use plain language suitable for a 6th–8th grade reading level where possible.
- ● - Avoid jargon and acronyms without definitions.

- Consistent Design:

- ● - Keep navigation and page layouts predictable throughout the site.

- Instructions & Feedback:

- ● - Provide clear directions on how to complete actions (e.g., registration, donations).
- ● - Offer confirmation messages after forms or submissions.

4. Robust

The website must be compatible with assistive technologies and future web standards.

- Clean Code:

- ● - Use valid HTML5 and ARIA (Accessible Rich Internet Applications) attributes where necessary.
- ● - Regularly test pages with screen readers (e.g., NVDA, JAWS, VoiceOver).

- Responsive Design:

- ● - Ensure compatibility across devices (desktop, tablet, mobile).
- ● - Avoid using features that only work with a mouse or touchscreen gestures.

Maintenance & Review

- Accessibility Audits:

- Conduct accessibility checks quarterly using tools like:
- - WAVE
- - axe DevTools
- - Google Lighthouse

- Feedback Mechanism:

- Include an accessibility feedback form or contact email on the website for reporting access issues.

- Staff Training:

- Web editors and content contributors should be trained annually on accessibility best practices.

New York Edge is committed to ensuring digital accessibility for all users, including individuals with disabilities. We are continually improving the user experience for everyone and applying the relevant accessibility standards. If you experience any issues on our site, please contact Joe Sciascia, Director of Marketing and Digital Media at jsciascia@newyorkedge.org or call 347.684.4791

New York Edge is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. The TTY service number is 800-662-1220 for English and 877-662-4886 for Spanish.