

Technology Trainings and Events

HighEdWeb Conference

October 16 – 19, 2016
Memphis, TN

HighEdWeb is the national conference for all higher education Web professionals, from programmers to marketers to designers to accessibility experts, who want to explore the unique Web issues facing colleges and universities. For more information:

2016.highedweb.org

Closing the Gap Conference

October 19 – 21, 2016
Bloomington, MN

The 33rd annual Closing the Gap conference will cover a broad spectrum of technology as it is being applied to all disabilities and age groups in education, rehabilitation, vocation, and independent living. The conference showcases hundreds of product exhibitors. For more information:

www.closingthegap.com/conference/

Making the Web More Usable for Low Vision Audiences

November 1, 2016 12pm CST
Online

Low vision audiences are rarely the focus of web accessibility efforts, yet the low vision population is massive. The World Health Organization estimates that 246M people worldwide have low vision, and this population is growing rapidly in developed countries due to demographic trends and rising computer use. This session will focus on the needs and challenges faced by low vision web users. We

Share Your Ideas for 2017 Webinar Series



We are currently planning the 2017 Accessible Technology webinar series. We would love to hear your ideas. You can share your topic suggestions via this survey link: <http://bit.ly/ATWebinarTopics>

Final 2016 Accessible Technology Webinar

The final session of the 2016 Accessible Technology Webinar Series is Thursday November 17, 2016 1:00 – 2:30pm CST

Accessible IT – A Status Report on Legal Milestones

with Greg Care, Partner Brown, Goldstein, & Levy, LLP

This presentation will survey the status of accessible tech in governmental and public accommodation websites, voting, higher education, ebooks and employment.

About Our Speaker



Greg Care

Greg Care is a partner at Brown, Goldstein & Levy, LLP in Baltimore, Maryland where he advocates for his clients in a diverse array of civil litigation and appeals, including employment matters, personal torts, business disputes, and disability rights cases representing persons with disabilities facing barriers to physical accessibility and access to technology. He has enforced the rights of persons with disabilities in cutting-edge litigation and negotiations with entities like Target, eBay, H&R Block, Scribd, Travelocity, and Monster.com. As counsel to the National Council on Independent Living and one of the firm's attorneys representing the National Federation of the Blind on matters across the country, Greg continues to press for his clients' right to independently live in the world.

The Accessible Technology Webinar series is free, but participants must register at <http://www.ada-accessibletech.org>

The Accessible Technology Webinar series is hosted and coordinated by the [Great Lakes ADA Center](#) and the [Pacific ADA Center](#), members of the [ADA National Network](#). The [ADA National Network](#) provides comprehensive services for up-to-date information, consultation, referrals, resources, and training on the Americans with Disabilities Act for businesses, employers, governmental entities, service providers and individuals with disabilities.

Punch-In is Celebrating Disability Employment Awareness Month



The National Disability Employment Awareness Month, sponsored by US Department of Labor, is celebrating its 70th year. Punch-In will be offering special webinars, articles, and video releases to help celebrate the many and varied contributions of America's workers

with disabilities. The theme for this year is "#InclusionWorks."

will delve into the diverse of low vision condition and enumerate common web design practices that can pose a specific challenge to this user group. We will provide practical guidance for developing "low vision friendly" websites and applications. For more information: www.accessibilityassociation.org

OLC Accelerate Conference

November 14 – 16, 2016
Orlando, FL

The Online Learning Consortium conference program offers a full complement of presentations that reflect the implications for the field of specific e-learning experience and practices. Keynote and plenary addresses, as well as pre-conference workshops, featured sessions, information sessions. For more information: onlinelearningconsortium.org/olc-accelerate

Accessing High Ground: Accessible Media, Web, and Technology Conference

November 14 – 18, 2016
Westminster, CO

The annual Accessing Higher Ground conference focuses on the implementation and benefits of Assistive Technology in the university and college setting for people with sensory, physical and learning disabilities. Other topics include legal and policy issues, including ADA and 508 compliance, and making campus media and information resources - including Web pages and library resources - accessible. For more information: accessinghigherground.org/

Punch-In is a project of the Great Lakes ADA Center that offers tools, courses, events, and resources on the employment process for young adults with disabilities. To join the Punch-In network go to www.punch-in.org

Figuration for Creating Accessible Websites

The Center for Applied Special Technology (CAST) is pleased to announce the public release of **CAST Figuration**, an open source CSS/Javascript framework for creating accessible, cross-device, interactive websites.

Figuration contains styles for text and buttons; interactive elements such as menus, tabs, sliders, and modal dialogs; column and grid layouts that adapt to the screen and device in use; color schemes that pass WCAG contrast checks; and advanced components such as HTML5 audio and video players with interactive captions. CAST Figuration is a package of CSS and Javascript that can be used as a starting point for building an accessible, cross-device, interactive website. It also has advanced components such as an HTML5 audio and video player with interactive captions. All components are built to be usable via mouse, keyboard, or touch interaction as well as accessible to screen readers and other assistive technology.

The Figuration widgets are all initialized and configured in a consistent way, either using data attributes in HTML or Javascript calls. They aim to save the developer time by taking care of a lot of the behind-the-scenes details. For instance, ARIA tags are automatically added, browser differences are smoothed out, and special cases for touch devices are handled. While reasonable defaults are provided, all aspects of the design and functionality are customizable.

Based on [Bootstrap v. 3](#), one of the most popular HTML, CSS, and JS framework for developing responsive, mobile first projects on the web. Figuration provides a foundation for accelerating innovative and accessible web design practices by making them more efficient and elegant. Some changes have been backported from Bootstrap 4. Other Figuration components are built from scratch.

CAST's approach to adding accessibility to the Bootstrap framework is to embed accessibility functionality into the widgets so it is automatically applied as needed. This approach accelerates functional updates without having to individually revise each project or module. In addition, this method means that development teams can create accessible sites without as much effort and specialized knowledge.

Figuration is being released as a product of the CAST's [National Center on Accessible Educational Materials](#).

U.S. Access Board Approves Rules on ICT Refresh

The U.S. Access Board approved updated requirements for information and communication technology (ICT) and new standards for medical diagnostic equipment at its [meeting](#) on September 14. The Board will proceed to submit both final rules to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance.

The ICT rule updates [standards](#) issued under Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act that apply to electronic and information technology procured by the federal government, including computer hardware and software, websites, multimedia such as video, phone systems, and copiers. It also refreshes guidelines for telecommunications products and services required to be accessible under Section 255 of the Communications Act.

Making Accessibility a Design Problem

November 29, 2016 12pm CST
Online

A lot of accessibility issues are created before the development stage, whether it is from the organizations brand guidelines, technology choices or the design. This webinar aims to bring forward the thinking on accessibility to the design stage, by designers. Based on many workshops with designers and developers, there are ways of explaining accessibility that make sense during the design process. Rather than an abstract check-list, you can group accessibility requirements into four 'interactions' so that it is easier to design for. We will arm you with tactics and techniques to get designers and UX people thinking about accessibility from their first sketch. For more information:

www.accessibilityassociation.org

Across the Lifespan

November 3 –4, 2016
Wisconsin Dells, WI

Across the Lifespan brings state-of-the-art assistive technology information to Wisconsin. The conference will provide comprehensive information and resources through innovative presentations and an interactive exhibit hall. All categories of assistive technology will be represented; all age groups from birth through adult and senior services, as well as all levels of expertise from beginner to advanced. For more information:

www.atacrosslifespan.org

The other rule establishes new accessibility standards, the first of their kind, for medical diagnostic equipment, including examination tables and chairs, weight scales, radiological equipment, and mammography equipment. These standards, which are authorized by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, provide technical requirements to ensure that people with disabilities can independently access and use such equipment. Further information on this [rulemaking](#) is available on the Board's website.

Each of the rules will be published on the Board's website and in the *Federal Register* once cleared by OMB.

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Extends Deadline

DOJ is considering revising the regulation implementing title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in order to establish specific technical requirements to make accessible the services, programs, or activities State and local governments offer to the public via the Web. In 2010, the Department issued an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (2010 ANPRM) titled Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability; Accessibility of Web Information and Services of State and Local Government Entities and Public Accommodations. The purpose of a Supplemental Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (SANPRM) is to solicit additional public comment specifically regarding the regulation implementing title II, which applies to State and local government entities. Specifically, the DOJ is soliciting public comment on various issues relating to the potential application of such technical requirements to the Web sites of title II entities and to obtain information for preparing a regulatory impact analysis. DOJ is looking at establishing accessibility requirements for online services, programs, and activities provided to the public by state and local governments—including many employment-related tools and resources.

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) has extended the deadline for public comments regarding its proposed revision to the rules implementing Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). You can now [submit comments](#) until **October 7, 2016**.

Resources:

- [Instructions for Submitting Comments](#) - Be sure to identify your comments with "RIN 1190-AA65" or "CRT Docket No. 128."
- [Introductory Q&A](#)
- [In-Depth Policy Brief](#)
- [Supplemental Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking \(SANPRM\)](#)

Want to Learn More about QIAT-PS?

The Quality Indicators for Assistive Technology in Post-Secondary education (QIAT-PS), sponsored by the Great Lakes ADA Center, is offering two free, informational webinars about the self-evaluation matrix tools provided by QIAT-PS. The webinars are December 7, 2016 and December 14, 2016 hosted by Ablenet University Live Webinars. To register visit: www.ablenetinc.com/resources/live_webinars