GRAVITY

ADA COMPLIANCE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

WHO NEEDS ACCESSIBLE DOCUMENTS?

Your budget books and disclosures serve your entire community, including:

- **8% of Americans who are colorblind** and struggle with color-coded charts
- Residents with **vision impairments** who use screen readers
- People with **cognitive or mobility limitations**

Without proper accessibility, these residents encounter an incomprehensible stream of text instead of the organized information you've prepared.

LEGAL RISK

ADA accessibility **lawsuits reached over 4,000 cases in 2024**. Non-compliance can result in costly litigation, with a first-time violation **penalty of up to $115,231**.

THE COMPLIANCE LANDSCAPE

Federal, state, and local agencies must meet Section 508 standards for all digital communications (including budget documents and disclosures) by the **deadline of April 26, 2026**.

WHAT ADA COMPLIANCE INVOLVES

Making a PDF accessible requires proper structure:

Tagged headings, lists, paragraphs, and tables

Active table of contents and hyperlinks

Logical reading order for screen readers

Alternative text for all graphics and charts

The challenge: A 167-page report can require 269 remediation recommendations. What takes minutes to structure correctly at the start can take hours or days to fix afterward.

HOW GRAVITY HANDLES THIS

- Automated tagging and structure preparation
- Alternative text for graphics and charts
- Professional validation using Adobe Accessibility Checker and PAC (PDF Accessibility Checker)
- Comprehensive testing with JAWS, NVDA, and Apple VoiceOver screen readers
- Certification that documents meet ADA, Section 508, and WCAG 2.1 standards
- Community engagement websites with automatic language translation and text-to-voice

WHY IT MATTERS

Your budget books and disclosures contain complex financial information—tables, reports, charts, and hierarchical data. Accessibility ensures this information reaches your entire community, not just those who can navigate a visual layout.

For more information about adding ADA compliance to your existing Gravity services, contact your Customer Success Manager.

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