

Blackboard Accessibility Tool

Ally Accessibility Indicators



How to View Accessibility Issues

Once your document has been checked by Blackboard Ally and has received an accessibility indicator, you can click on the indicator to view the accessibility issues and tips on how to resolve the issues.

1. Click on the accessibility indicator next to the document name
2. The Instructor Feedback Panel will open on the right hand side
3. In the middle of the page, you'll see a preview of the document or file you've selected
4. At the top, you'll see the accessibility score
5. Beneath the score, you'll see any issues the document has, along with information explaining the issue why it's important, and how to fix it
6. At the bottom of the panel, you'll see an area to upload a new document. This allows you to upload a corrected document and get it automatically scanned for accessibility.

Potential Accessibility Issues

When Blackboard Ally analyzes the documents and files, it is checking against the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 Level AA as well as Section 508 standards. The list below outlines potential accessibility issues that may arise in the documents and what they mean.

Please Note: *This list is not complete and you may see other accessibility issues listed on your Blackboard course documents.*

- **Add Headers to Document Data Tables** Tables within your document do not have headers, making it hard to navigate with screen readers or assistive technology.
- **Add Headings to a Document** The document does not contain headers, which helps to organize the layout of the document and how screen readers or other assistive technology devices read the document
- **Add Image Descriptions** The images in the document do not contain alternative text. Alternative text is important for those using screen readers so they can hear a description of the image
- **Add a Library Reference Link** the document to the library database so the student can search easily of the document and find the information easily
- **Fix Text Contrast** The contrast between the text and the background is poor and needs to be resolved so students can see the text better
- **Remove Potentially Harmful Content** This issue refers to content that may trigger unexpected responses from students, such as seizures because of rapid moving or flickering video content, or other harmful responses in students.
- **Scanned PDFs** – Scanned PDFs are not accessible because screen readers or other assistive technology cannot read it. With a scanned PDF, Blackboard Ally will help you add text to the scanned PDF for the assistive technology to read.
- **Tag a PDF** – Untagged PDFs are not accessible because assistive technology devices cannot read it. Blackboard Ally will help you determine the best way to get the document tagged and accessible.