



March 14, 2024
Issue 12

Website Modernization Program

The Commonwealth of Virginia (COV) website modernization program was created to ensure all state websites provide an accessible, trusted and secure experience for all Virginians. Specifically, the program looks to aid agencies in meeting the COV web standards.

Visit the web
hub

Spring ahead with training!



Put a little spring in your step with **UPSKILLING!**

Accessibility certifications

Grow your professional development today with the **Accessible Virginia** training platform, hosted by Siteimprove Frontier. Get certified in accessible web development, web design and content creation. Training is provided at no cost to your agency. Sign up for Siteimprove Frontier using the [WebMod Software Request form](#) on VITA's service portal.

Accessibility and content management webinars

Back by popular demand, the Web Modernization team will be holding another special topic seminar, featuring a deeper dive into PDF accessibility beyond Adobe Acrobat's tagging feature. This seminar will cover topics such as accessible content, interactivity and WCAG success criteria, as well as providing a brief refresher on the importance of PDF accessibility in general.

This PDF **Accessibility 102** seminar will be held on **Wednesday, March 27 at 10 a.m.** by VITA's user experience (UX) designer, Michelle Pinsky, CPACC, and UX content strategist, Anna Hall, and will be recorded. Sign up today at <https://events.vita.virginia.gov/>, under "Web Modernization Training Topics."

You will notice we have scheduled additional training topics through the summer and fall. If there are additional topics not listed that you want to learn more about, let us know at webmod@vita.virginia.gov.

Analytics training

While you're on the Events page, sign up to learn more about website analytics with Siteimprove. This one-hour session on **Thursday, March 28 at 1 p.m.** will be led by the team at Siteimprove as they discuss the analytics module and how you can use it to track, analyze, and report on your web system traffic. *Note: Web analytics for all Commonwealth of Virginia (COV) sites is required under WEB-37.*

JAWS Inspect refresher

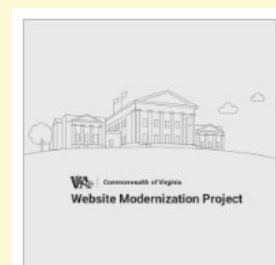
Join us on **Tuesday, April 9 at 10 a.m.** for a one-hour course on JAWS Inspect. This training is intended for current JAWS Inspect users who would like a refresher on using the software.

For anyone not familiar with the tool, JAWS Inspect runs a report of webpages to see how they would interact with the JAWS screen reader. It's a lightweight, easy-to-use tool available to agencies. If you're interested in learning more, reach out to the WebMod team. If there is enough demand, we will schedule a longer training session for new users.

StateScoop 50

For two years running, the website modernization program has been nominated for the **State Scoop 50** state IT innovation of the year.

We were nominated chiefly for the way we have all partnered together to improve the web presence within the Commonwealth of Virginia. This nomination reflects on all of us. Be proud of the work we have all done together! Vote daily here: <https://statescoop.com/statescoop50/vote/>.



**WEBSITE
MODERNIZATION
PROGRAM**

Commonwealth of Virginia

Design requirements



After achieving 100% compliance with the Commonwealth branding bar last summer, it's time to highlight additional design requirements in the VITA web standards.

In particular, we're going to start evaluating and reporting on:

- Web policy
- Translation policy
- Site search
- Sitemap
- Footer information
- Contact Us page

Best practices and guidance to meet standards may be found here at: <https://www.developer.virginia.gov/>.

There are no deadlines currently to have these pieces in place. They are requirements though, so please start adding anything that is missing. We will share any deadlines as they are developed.

Web modernization office hours

Office hours for accessibility, UX, Siteimprove or web modernization help has been moved to once monthly, on the second week of each month. Please ensure you come with questions and topics ready to discuss during these office hours.

Office hours are held by VITA's UX designer, Michelle Pinsky and VITA's UX content strategist, Anna Hall. Join them on Teams here:

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)

434-230-0065

Conference ID: 634 571 329#



Next Steps

- Request access to Siteimprove Frontier and the Accessible Virginia training platforming using the **WebMod Software Request form**.
- Sign up for Web Modernization Training Topics at <https://events.vita.virginia.gov/>.
- Any specific training topics you would like to see offered? Let us know!



If you have questions or would like to be added to the distribution list for this newsletter, please contact webmod@vita.virginia.gov.



Website Modernization
An official program of the Commonwealth of Virginia



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