Meeting Title II Standards

A Campus Readiness Guide

Prepare for Title II compliance

Understand and implement WCAG guidelines for 2026

New regulations under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) will soon require state and local governments and instrumentalities, including all public educational institutions, to ensure that their <u>web content and mobile apps—including video and audio media</u>—meets accessibility standards, regardless of whether the content is being accessed by people with disabilities.

Understanding the new ruling

Under the new regulations, Title II compliance for web content and mobile apps means meeting the <u>Web Content Accessibility Guidelines' (WCAG) 2.1 A and AA</u> standards, established by the World Wide Web Consortium's Web Accessibility Initiative. This is to ensure that students with disabilities have equal access to all digital content—not only remediating websites and PDFs, but also time-based media such as live lectures, prerecorded video, and content posted on a learning management system (LMS).

Who must comply & when

The deadline for public educational institutions like community colleges, universities, and school districts to comply is determined by the population of the state or local government to which they belong.

- **April 24, 2026** – Compliance required for public educational institutions where the corresponding state, county, or city has a population of 50,000+ people – **all state universities and many community colleges would fall into this category.**

- **April 26, 2027** – Compliance required for public educational institutions where the corresponding state, county, or city has a population of under 50,000 people.

Not sure where to start? Keep reading – Verbit can help you every step of the way.

Requirements for time-based media

WCAG defines time-based media as audio and video content, whether it is live or prerecorded. Under the A and AA standards, the following are the primary success criteria (SC) to focus on:

📶	**Live captioning** (SC 1.2.4)	Provide live captions for real-time lectures or events. It ensures that Deaf or hard of hearing students can access spoken content as it happens.
▭	**Post-production captioning** (SC 1.2.2)	Add synchronized captions to prerecorded videos. It is required to support Deaf or hard of hearing students by making the audio content accessible.
▶≣	**Transcription** (SC 1.2.1)	Provide a text transcript alternative for audio-only content, such as podcasts or recorded audio notes. It is required to offer accessible content to Deaf or hard of hearing students.
AD	**Audio description [prerecorded]** (SC 1.2.5)	Narrate visual elements in prerecorded media that are not conveyed through dialogue, including scene changes, on-screen text, and gestures. It is required to support students who are blind or have low vision by ensuring they can understand the content.

Captioning requirements for WCAG

The Web Accessibility Initiative provides further guidance on what WCAG 2.1 compliance means with respect to two important topics: speaker identification and audio events.

Speaker Identification	Audio Events
Captions should clearly identify speakers to provide context for dialogue and ensure understanding of the content.	Non-speech audio events (e.g., sound effects, music) that are essential to understanding the content should be described in captions.

This guidance applies for both live and prerecorded media. Prerecorded media must also include audio descriptions.

Exemptions for media

To ensure that institutions are not faced with undue burdens, archived media meeting specific criteria are exempt from compliance requirements, provided they meet **all** of the following criteria:

- Created before the compliance date (or reproduces physical media created before the compliance date);
- Not updated since being archived;
- Clearly marked and retained strictly as archival material or for reference, research, or recordkeeping.

Further, content posted by a third party is exempted, unless the posting is due to contractual, licensing, or other arrangement with the institution.

How to start prepping for the ruling

Title II compliance doesn't happen overnight—but with early planning, it's entirely manageable. Many schools are already aiming to have a plan in place ahead of schedule, and partners like Verbit can help expedite your compliance goals.
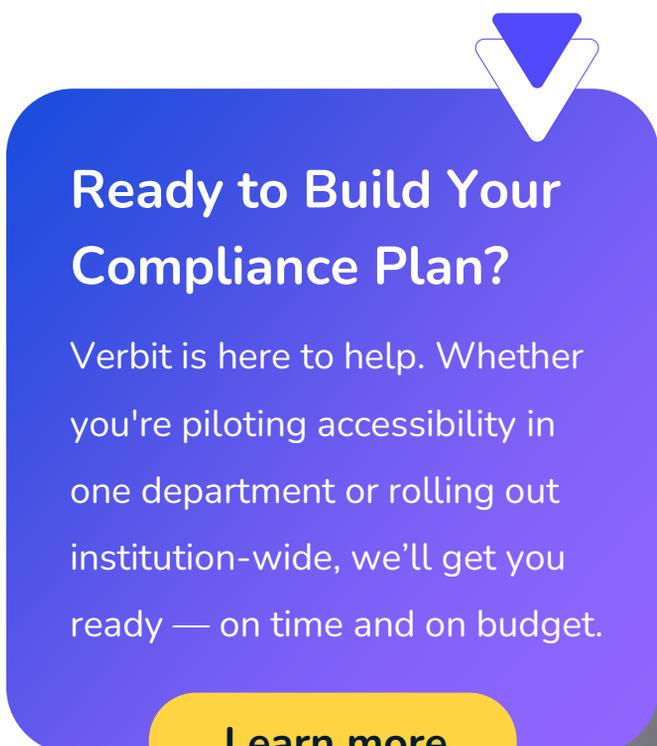
We recommend a proactive timeline like the one below to guide you toward April 2026 compliance:

Initial planning

✓ Form an accessibility task force with stakeholders from IT, disability services, instructional design and legal to review existing tools and identify gaps

✓ Identify and catalogue existing media content across LMS, websites, and internal platforms

✓ Identify high-priority and frequently used videos and audio

Establish a process

✓ Set accessibility goals, secure a budget, and choose a partner (such as Verbit)

✓ Provide faculty with training and documentation to support accessible content creation

✓ Develop a feedback collection plan for faculty, students, and staff to assess remediated content usability and process efficiency

Pilot for the semester

✓ Choose a pilot department to evaluate accessibility solutions for typical course content

✓ Gather feedback from faculty, students and staff

✓ Refine workflows based on pilot results for broader implementation

Scale & train

✓ Roll out captioning and accessibility tools campus-wide

✓ Caption new and frequently used media and implement live captioning for courses

✓ Offer training to staff and faculty and create internal support resources

Finalize & monitor

✓ Ensure all media provided or made available in the current semester is compliant

✓ Tag and archive exempt media and set a review process for new uploads

✓ Monitor ongoing compliance and address any gaps

How Verbit supports your institution's compliance goals

Verbit offers a full suite of accessibility solutions that help schools check every box in WCAG for media, so you will be ready for April 2026. With our platform, your institution can:

- Quickly caption, transcribe and audio describe all video content
- Process all your in-scope content affordably and efficiently
- Support learning outcomes for all students through studying tools powered by Gen.V with:
  - Lecture insights
  - Note-taking support
  - Study practice and assessment
  - Rewatch content on weak areas

Ready to Build Your Compliance Plan?

Verbit is here to help. Whether you're piloting accessibility in one department or rolling out institution-wide, we'll get you ready — on time and on budget.

Learn more