To start my form project, I created each of the necessary fields for email, password, name, address, etc. I created each field type using html according to what we agreed upon in class. For example, the class agreed that the user’s email would use the “email” input type, password would use the “password” input type, fields that required text would use the “text” input type, products would use the “radio” input type, etc. Once I made each input, I assigned each individual input field with a unique ID and grouped related input fields together using class-assigned divs (i.e. – a div with a class named fullName was used to group first name, middle initial, and last name). I also experimented a bit in html by adding specific parameters to the fields for the browser to validate before I started coding JavaScript statements to validate. For example, “minlength,” “maxlength,” and “required.” When I researched this option of validation, I found that not all browsers will catch these specified values, and these values are also limited to the default alert boxes, data-tips, and other default settings through the specific browser.

I adjusted the fields to the necessary length using CSS, such as middle initial only needed enough space to fit one initial, and the state dropdown only needed to be wide enough to fit two initial abbreviations. I also created an “input:focus” and “textarea:focus” to change the background of the selected field, which I originally tried to accomplish using JavaScript, but it only highlighted fields in exact order, not always the current field that was selected (i.e. – clicking to the bottom textarea would change the background of the first fields). Similar to the first assignment, I noticed the design is where I struggled a bit. I thought that I could finish the rest of my form’s design for the final task of the assignment because I thought it would be easy, and I didn’t want to get caught “tinkering” with some of the minor details. I originally wanted to use flexbox to move my divs around, but it didn’t quite work out as I hoped. Later on in the project, I used Axcure to generate html code with our pizza form that we created in class, so I could see what I could do to clean up the design. I wished I would’ve used Axcure in the earlier stages of my assignment, but I will use it to help me with the design of my final project because I think it can help me design a more professional quality-looking site.

With my created fields, I used JavaScript to validate the rules that we agreed upon in class using if-if else-else statements. In JavaScript, I declared my variables, such as the email “var emailValue=document.contact.email.value;,” and this made it easier to write in the statements. I made a function “validate(),” which gets called through the submit button when the form is submitted by “onClick="validate()".” The values are passed through validate() function, and it verifies if the values are a specified length, true, or empty, and then an background turns red and an alert message is passed back. If all the requirements are met, it will pass back an alert message that the form has been completed successfully. I also made another function that would make the placeholders disappear on tab index using if-if else statements. To do this, I took all items with a placeholder (i.e. - document.contact.email.placeholder==='Email') and I had it return and empty placeholder (i.e. - document.contact.email.placeholder===''). I wish I would have used regex 101 to generate specific regular expressions. Also, I found that onSubmit didn’t work when I called my validate() function, but onClick() did, so I left it for now. I talked with a few classmates and they thought my JavaScript would’ve been better if I built my error string and returned true if the submission is successfully, otherwise(else), send it back to the error string and return false;

Update: I attempted to use method=”post” instead of method=”get,” and the action to return a submit file I made worked at first, but then I got a 405 http verb error, so I changed it back before turning in the assignment.

Overall, I felt like I did an okay job for a basic JavaScript validation, and I did enough to fulfill the requirements of the assignment. However, I felt like I was overconfident with how professional I could make my form look, and I fell short in accomplishing the quality I was trying to achieve. I was trying to do too many things at one time, such as the design + the JavaScript at one time or deciding whether it was more necessary to use html, CSS, or JavaScript for the task I was trying to achieve. For my next assignment, I will plan out my site more thoroughly from the start and try to move away from the smaller details, such as trying to make the background color for a text work change during indentation (I spent too long trying to figure this one out when I could’ve been accomplishing other tasks). I will also use Axcure regex 101 to help me make a more professional looking site ion the future.