

Accessibility Guidelines & Standards



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WCAG 2.0



- Civil rights issues
- Lawsuits for poor accessibility
- The laws are real


I'm Not a Lawyer!

If You Have Questions...

Ask a Lawyer!

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines

(WCAG)



Ensure Content Is Accessible
to as Many People as Possible

WCAG Is Intended For

Web content
developers

Web authoring tool
developers

Web accessibility tool
developers

12 Guidelines

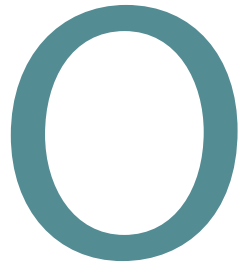
P.O.U.R.

P

Perceivable

Must be able to perceive the information

Cannot be invisible to all of their senses



Operable

Must be able to operate all UI controls

Cannot require interaction that can't be performed

U

Understandable

Must be able to understand the information
And the UI

R

Robust

Should not be fragile

Should work in a wide variety of user agents and assistive technologies

Should be future Proof

1. Perceivable

- Provide text alternatives
 - Large print
 - Braille
 - Speech
 - Symbols
 - Simpler language



1. Perceivable

- Provide alternative time-based media
 - Audio and video files
 - Transcripts
 - Captions



1. Perceivable

- Make it adaptable
 - Provide content that can be presented in different ways
 - Use good coding practices



1. Perceivable

- Make it distinguishable
 - Make it easy to see and hear content
 - Don't rely solely on color
 - Providing strong color contrast
 - Allowing text to resize
 - Providing control for audio that plays automatically



2. Operable

- Make it keyboard accessible
 - Use links and buttons properly
 - Logically structure form controls
 - Wire up proper events with JavaScript
 - Add ARIA roles and attributes



2. Operable

- Provide enough time
 - If setting any sort of time limit, add controls to:
 - Pause
 - Stop
 - Hide
 - Extend



2. Operable

- Don't cause seizures
 - Less than 3 flashes in 1 second



2. Operable

- Make it navigable
 - Use proper h1-h6 headings
 - Add “Skip to Main Content” links
 - Add proper focus and active states



3. Understandable

- Make it readable
 - Add proper language using the lang="" attribute
 - Add abbreviations with titles



3. Understandable

- Make it predictable
 - Make things consistent throughout
 - Don't use similar controls for different things
 - Keep navigation consistent
 - Don't do anything jarring



3. Understandable

- Provide input assistance
 - Make forms easy to fill out
 - Clearly identify required fields
 - Add labels to every field
 - Add descriptions, hints, and tips
 - Add error identification and messages



4. Robust

- Make it compatible
 - Build clean, well structured, well organized, standards compliant code
 - Add ARIA where needed



WCAG Levels of Conformance

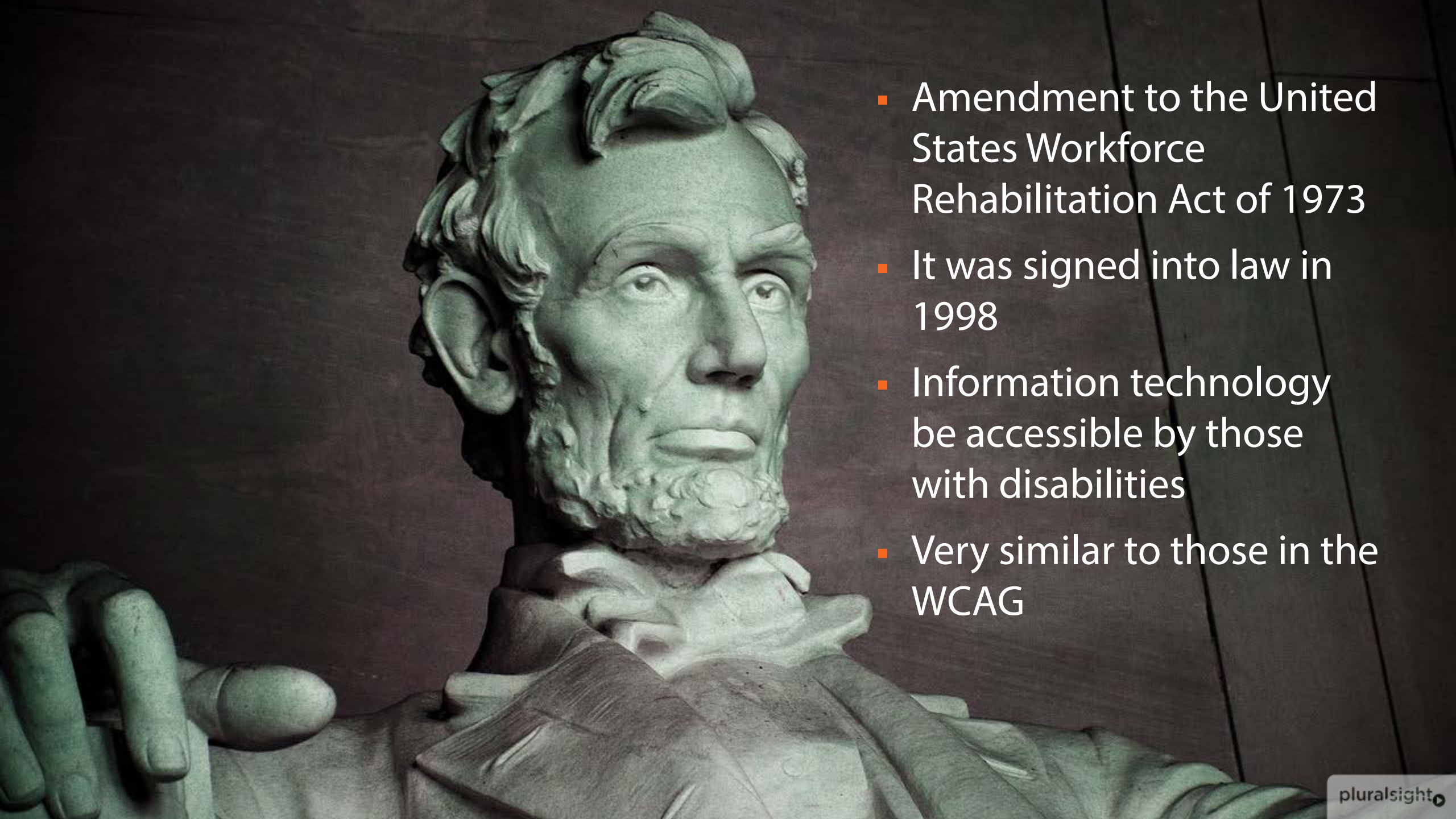
A
Minimum

AA
Mid-Level

AAA
Highest Level

Follow It and You'll
Be in Good Shape

Section 508



- Amendment to the United States Workforce Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- It was signed into law in 1998
- Information technology be accessible by those with disabilities
- Very similar to those in the WCAG

Doing Work for the United States Government?

You Should Look Into Section 508

Other Countries Have Laws Too!

Summary



There are standards and guidelines
WCAG is the primary standard for now
P.O.U.R.

3 Levels of compliance: A, AA, AAA

United States government uses Section
508 Standards

Other countries have laws too