Introduction

Voting is a right and civic responsibility that provides American citizens over the age of 18 with the opportunity to shape their government. Over the course of American history, voting rights have evolved to become more inclusive and accessible. Today, citizens over the age of 18 cannot be denied the right to vote on the basis of race, religion, sex, disability, or sexual orientation. Vote.gov strives to promote and increase voting participation nationwide by providing vital information that enables registration and voting. To offer the most value to the American public, Vote.gov is working to modernize and broaden the information offered to users.

Overview of Federal Requirements

In March 2021, President Joe Biden released the **Executive Order, Promoting Access to Voting** which tasked GSA and the Vote.gov website team to modernize and upgrade the website's user experience in order to promote access to voting, with an emphasis on underrepresented communities. Below is an overview of the Executive Order requirements relevant to Vote.gov and the respective actions the team is taking to meet each requirement.

(i) Ensuring that Vote.gov complies, at minimum, with sections 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973*;

Vote.gov's Actions
- The current Vote.gov website meets Section 504 and 508 compliance requirements.
- For future iterations of Vote.gov, the team is accounting for continued 504 and 508 compliance.

Additional Actions
- The Vote.gov team is prioritizing the holistic voting and registration process.
- As a first step, the team is identifying opportunities to improve usability and accessibility of the National Voter Registration Form (NVRF).

(ii) Ensuring that Vote.gov is translated into languages spoken by the language groups covered under section 203 of the Voting Rights Act anywhere in the United States;

Vote.gov's Actions

- As a top priority, Vote.gov is leveraging an Interagency Agreement (IAA) with the Department of Defense's (DoD) National Language Service Corps program to translate the content of Vote.gov into the additional 12 languages covered under section 203.

Additional Actions

- Vote.gov will continue to explore additional languages that might be feasible to include.

- Vote.gov will adopt an iterative approach to releasing new languages both during and beyond the 12 initially prioritized, to include all languages required by the executive order and other commonly-spoken languages.

(iii) Implementing relevant provisions of the 21st Century Integrated Digital Experience Act (Public Law 115–336)*.

Vote.gov's Actions

- Vote.gov is currently in compliance with the 21st Century Integrated Digital Experience Act.

- Any updates to the site will be built in with compliance top of mind as well.

Additional Actions

- Vote.gov is exploring the integration with search.gov in order to improve the search capabilities for users.

*Vote.gov is currently compliant

Vote.gov's Vision

The Vote.gov team is committed to empowering the American public with accurate, up to date, and actionable voting information. To do so, Vote.gov will direct users to state election websites for details specific to states, while also providing more nuanced and complete content that will establish Vote.gov as the authoritative source of general voting information.

As a result, Vote.gov anticipates an improvement in how much voters trust information regarding voting and elections, further dismantling misinformation. As Vote.gov embarks on this modernization effort, the team will be leveraging key partnerships both with government and industry stakeholders. The following statements describe the desired future state and experience that voters and partners will have with Vote.gov.

For voters, Vote.gov is the primary, trustworthy, and authoritative source for voter information. The site promotes access to voting information and is a key resource to help break down barriers for voters of all backgrounds, socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity, national origin, and age. The website is a partner to state election websites and directs users to the most up-to -date information and website for their chosen state.

Internally, Vote.gov strives to provide voters with the most up-to-date and comprehensive content and tools, while prioritizing user experience. In addition to partnering with the EAC, Vote.gov collaborates openly with nonpartisan, third party organizations, state, and local election offices.

What's to Come | Our Roadmap

Vote.gov aims for impactful changes to the website in time for the 2022 federal elections. The team's priorities include:

- Begin to **expand language selection** by way of the IAA with the National Language Service Corps program (DoD)

- Provide a **single source of authoritative voting information** to help combat misinformation while **directing voters to their state and local election offices** for more nuanced questions.

- Foster **strategic partnerships** to assert Vote.gov's role within the voting information ecosystem

- Improve **usability and accessibility of voter registration** offering