# Policy #3507 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ACCESSIBILITY POLICY

**Responsible Oversight Executive:** Vice President for Administration and Finance

**Date of Current Revision or Creation:** April 26, 2011

#### A. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to document the industry best practices with which the University will align its information technology accessibility activities.

## **B. AUTHORITY**

<u>Virginia Code Section 23-9.2:3, as amended</u>, grants authority to the Board of Visitors to establish rules and regulations for the institution. Section 6.01(a) (6) of the <u>Board of Visitors Bylaws</u> grants authority to the President to implement the policies and procedures of the Board relating to University operations.

<u>Virginia Code Section 23-38.88, as amended</u>, Eligibility for Restructured Financial and Administrative Operational Authority.

Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 508

## C. DEFINITIONS

<u>Accessibility</u>- Refers to the University objective that everyone within the University community, regardless of physical disability, will have the opportunity for appropriate access to information technology.

<u>The World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)</u> - An international organization that develops interoperable technologies to lead the Web to its full potential. W3C is a forum of information, commerce, communication, and collective understanding.

#### D. SCOPE

This policy applies to all decision makers, developers and planners of campus systems and operations related to the conceptualization, design, acquisition, and maintenance of information technology.

#### **E. POLICY STATEMENT**

The procurement, development, and/or maintenance of information technology and user support services for persons with disabilities align with accessibility standards specified in Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act and in Web Content Accessibility Guidelines from the

<u>World Wide Web Consortium</u>, appropriately tailored to the specific circumstances of the University.

Accessibility standards are designed to evolve and change, as newer technologies are introduced and user needs change. At the same time, the standards maintain a consistent framework for accessibility training and support services. University information technology development, maintenance, training, and support personnel responsible for information technology procurement, programs, and services should possess an appropriate level of technical knowledge related to accessibility standards for persons with disabilities.

#### F. PROCEDURES

Procedures are available on the Office of Computing and Communications Services website and are also linked below.

OCCS Standard 01.9.1 - Accessibility
Old Dominion University Accessibility Rules
Web Accessibility Guidelines
ODU Web Developer's Style Guide
Building Accessible Web Sites
ALT Tags in ODUEdit Pro
ALT Tags in Dreamweaver

#### **G. RESPONSIBLE OFFICER**

Assistant Vice President for Computing and Communications Services

#### **H. RELATED INFORMATION**

University Policy 4500 - Accommodation of Students with Disabilities
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 1.0
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0
United States Access Board
Office of Educational Accessibility

# POLICY HISTORY \* Policy Formulation Committee (PFC) & Responsible Officer Approval to Proceed: /s/ Rusty Waterfield <u>February</u> 7, 2011 Responsible Officer Signature Date **Policy Review Committee (PRC) Approval to Proceed:** /s/ Donna W. Meeks December 14, 2010 Policy Review Committee (PRC), Date Chair Signature **Executive Policy Review Committee (EPRC) Approval to Proceed:** /s/ Robert L. Fenning April 19, 2011 Responsible Oversight Executive Signature Date **University Counsel Approval to Proceed:** /s/ Patrick B. Kelly April 22, 2011 **University Counsel** Date **Presidential Approval:** /s/ John R. Broderick April 26, 2011 President Date **Policy Revision Dates:** April 9, 2010; April 26, 2011

April 25, 2016

**Scheduled Review Date:**