



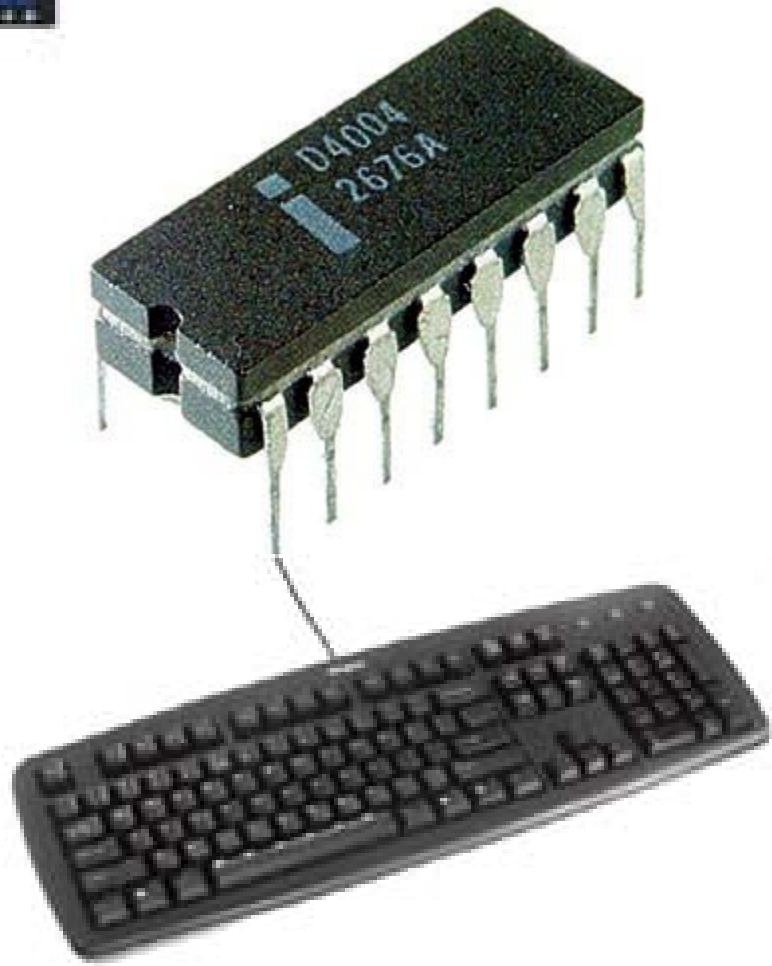
Accessibility of Local Government Websites

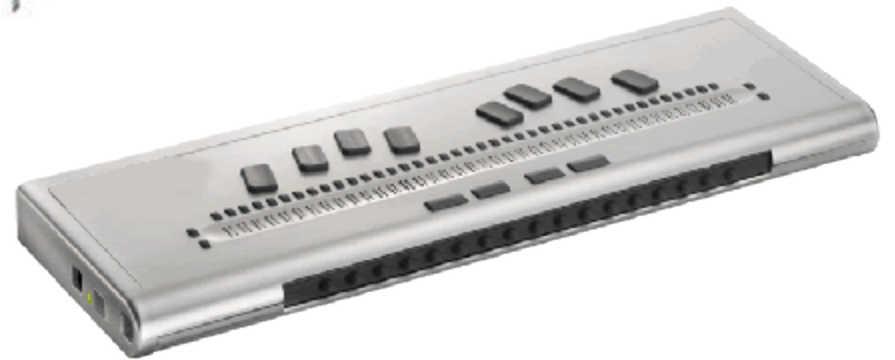
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General Purpose Code
Computer Lab
Lab Hours

```
Behavior |
of the given cell c
which the behavior is acting
c |
// START DEFINITION HERE
getNext(c, b, get());
// END DEFINITION HERE
```





A Brief History of Accessibility Laws & the Web

(from the non-legal perspective of
a technology accessibility
specialist)

1973

- The Rehabilitation Act
- Section 504 required that programs and services of federally funded programs and organizations not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities
- The Web had not been invented yet

1990

- The Americans with Disabilities Act prohibits discrimination based on disability
- Title I - Employment
- Title II – Public Entities (including state and local governments, + transportation)
- Title III – Public Accommodations

ADA (continued)

- Titles II and III requires that programs and services be accessible
- The Web had not been invented yet

1993

- The web was invented:
<http://www.w3.org/MarkUp/draft-ietf-iiir-html-01.txt>

1994

- The World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) was founded. Today they are responsible for:
 - HTML
 - CSS
 - XML
 - SVG
 - Dozens of other standards related to the Web

1999

- The W3C published the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 1.0
<http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG10>
- Fourteen guidelines
- 65 checkpoints (Priorities 1, 2, & 3)

1998

- The Rehabilitation Act was amended
- Section 508 requires that “electronic and information technology” (E&IT) procured, developed, or used by the federal government be accessible.
- The Access Board is charged with developing standards that define “accessible E&IT”

2000

- The Access Board publishes the Section 508 standards:
<http://www.access-board.gov/sec508/standards.htm>
- Covers six categories of E&IT, including web pages
- There are 16 web standards, based loosely on WCAG 1.0, Priority 1

2004-07

- Web-related settlements Under ADA
- Priceline.com and Ramada.com (2004)
 - http://www.ag.ny.gov/media_center/2004/aug/aug19a_04.html
- Target.com (2007)
 - http://www.dralegal.org/cases/private_business/nfb_v_target.php

The Question

- **Is not:** Do we have to make our web-based programs and services accessible?
- **Is:** What is web accessibility?

2008

- W3C publishes WCAG 2.0:
<http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/>
- Web pages must be:
 - Perceivable
 - Operable
 - Understandable
 - Robust

March 2010

- The Access Board releases a DRAFT update to the Section 508 standards:
<http://www.access-board.gov/508.htm>

June 2010

- US Department of Justice proposes new regulations that clarify the ADA's coverage of websites under Titles II and III
 - http://www.ada.gov/anprm2010/web%20anprm_2010.htm
 - http://www.ada.gov/anprm2010/factsht_web_anrpm_2010.htm

7 Examples of Common Web Accessibility Problems

1. Images without alternate text
2. Poor use of HTML headings
3. No accessible markup on form fields
4. No accessible markup on data tables
5. No text alternatives on multimedia
6. Navigation menus that require a mouse
7. PDF's not authored for accessibility

Adobe PDF

- Three general types:
 - Image
 - Image with embedded fonts (no structure)
 - Tagged (optimized for accessibility)

Tagged PDF

- Has HTML-like structure
- Supports alternate text for images
- Supports reflow (text wraps when zoomed)
- Is well-supported by AT
- Many PDF authoring tools and techniques do NOT create tagged PDF
- Untagged PDF docs can be tagged in Adobe Acrobat via the Accessibility menu
- Tags don't make a document accessible. They make accessibility possible.

Resources

- These slides

<http://staff.washington.edu/tft>

- “Accessible University” Mock Site

<http://washington.edu/accesscomputing/AU>

- DO-IT

<http://washington.edu/doi>

Resources on PDF Accessibility

- WebAIM
 - Creating accessible Microsoft Word docs
<http://www.webaim.org/techniques/word>
 - PDF Accessibility
<http://www.webaim.org/techniques/acrobat/>
- California State University PDF Tutorials
 - <http://tinyurl.com/y2dnyl2>
- Adobe Accessibility:
 - <http://www.adobe.com/accessibility/>