STATE OF MINNESOTA STANDARDS

From the Office of the State Chief Information Officer

Accessibility Standard

Number to be assigned

Issuing Authority

This directive was issued by the State of Minnesota CIO through the Architecture Review Board.

Standard Statement

All impacted State information systems, tools, and information content shall comply with the following, in the form adopted as of the effective date of this Directive:

- **WCAG 2.0 level AA.** Level AAA compliance is encouraged.

- **Section 508 Subpart A General:**

  - 1194.3 General exceptions subparts (a), (b), (c) for workstations of State employees, (d), (e), (f) and other exceptions defined in Minnesota law or set forth in State policy.

  - 1194.4 Definitions, except definitions of "Agency" and "Undue burden" which are defined in Minnesota State Statute

  - 1194.5 Equivalent facilitation

- **Section 508 Subpart B** Technical Standards:

  - 1194.21 Software applications and operating systems

  - 1194.22 Web-based intranet and internet information and application. Notes to §1194.22 are to be disregarded as the profile of WCAG 2.0 cited above applies instead.

  - 1194.23 Telecommunications products

  - 1194.24 Video and multimedia products

  - 1194.25 Self contained, closed products

  - 1194.26 Desktop and portable computers

- **Section 508 Subpart C** Functional Performance Criteria:

  - 1194.31 Functional performance criteria

- **Section 508 Subpart D** Information, Documentation, and Support:

  - 1194.41 Information, documentation and support

Where a State information system, tool, or information content is not able to be brought into compliance, the system or content owner is responsible for reasonable accommodation.

Reason for the Standard

The reason for this standard is to improve the accessibility and usability of information technology products and services for all State of Minnesota government end-users. This standard is consistent with the Chapter Law 131/HF1744 introduced by the 2009 Legislature, directing the adoption of accessibility standards for use by the State of Minnesota. 2009 Chapter Law 131/HF 1744 was signed into law on May 21, 2009.

Impact

The standards adopted under this Directive apply to all information technology procured, developed, or substantially modified or substantially enhanced after the effective date of this Directive. This Directive does not apply to any procurement or development process initiated before the effective date of the Directive.

This standard does not apply to information content linked to but maintained by entities external to the State of Minnesota. However, links to such content should be clearly marked in such a way that it is clear before clicking the link that the destination is not maintained by the State of Minnesota.

Who Should Know About This Standard

This standard applies to executive branch state agencies as defined in the State of Minnesota Enterprise Security Office Applicability Standard as included government entities.

Legislative, Judicial, and other non-Executive branch organizations are invited to follow this policy.

Related Information

- 2009 Chapter Law 131/HF 1744.
  https://www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/?id131&doctype=Chapter&year=2009&type=0
- The State of Minnesota Enterprise Architecture Policy, April 6, 2010
- Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0. http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/
- Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C 794d).
  http://www.section508.gov/index.cfm?FuseAction=Content&ID=12
- State of Minnesota Enterprise Security Office Applicability Standard.
  http://www.state.mn.us/mn/externalDocs/OET/bESOEnterprise_Security_Program_Applicability_Standard_62209_072309081937_EnterpriseSecurityProgramApplicabilityStandard_FINAL_v01.pdf
- Minnesota Statutes Section 16E.03. https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=16E.03

Contacts

Contact the State Enterprise Architecture Office within OET for further information.

Issue Date

The directive was issued September 1, 2010.

Effective Date

The directive is effective September 1, 2010.

Applicability

This standard applies to executive branch state agencies as defined in the State of Minnesota Enterprise Security Office Applicability Standard as included government entities.

Legislative, Judicial, and other non-Executive branch organizations are invited to follow this policy.

Additional Definitions

See the State of Minnesota Enterprise Security Office *Glossary of Information Security Terms and Definitions*.

Procedures and Exceptions

No special procedures are defined.

Exceptions to this standard shall follow process recommended by the Technical Accessibility Advisory Committee pursuant to 2009 Chapter Law 131/H.F. 1744, Section 12. In accordance with Minn. Stat. §16E.03, subd. 9(a), the standards shall not impose an undue burden on the state.