

Policies of the University of North Texas	Chapter 14
14.005 Electronic and Information Resources Accessibility	Information Technology

Policy Statement. The University of North Texas is committed to providing a work environment that affords equal access and opportunity to otherwise qualified individuals with disabilities, in compliance with federal and state law. Consistent with this commitment, the University strives to provide electronic and information resources (“EIRS”) that are accessible to all members of the University community and that meet the requirements of the Texas Department of Information Resources.

Application of Policy. Total University

Definitions.

1. DIR Accessibility Rules. “DIR Accessibility Rules” means rules issued by the Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR) regarding the development, procurement, maintenance and use of EIRS by institutions of higher education and set forth in Title 1, Chapter 206, Rule §206.70 of the Texas Administrative Code and in Title 1, Chapter 213 of the Texas Administrative Code.
2. Electronic and Information Resource or Electronic and Information Resources (“EIR” or “EIRS”). “Electronic and Information Resource or Electronic and Information Resources (“EIR” or “EIRS”)” means Information Technology and any equipment or interconnected system or subsystem of equipment that is used in the creation, conversion, duplication, or delivery of data or information. The term electronic and information resources includes, but is not limited to, telecommunications products (such as telephones), information kiosks and transaction machines, World Wide Web sites, multimedia, and office equipment such as copiers and fax machines. The term does not include any equipment that contains embedded information technology that is used as an integral part of the product, but the principal function of which is not the acquisition, storage, manipulation, management, movement, control, display, switching, interchange, transmission, or reception of data or information. For example, HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) equipment such as thermostats or temperature control devices, and medical equipment where information technology is integral to its operation, and are not information technology.
3. Exception. “Exception” means when a requirement of the DIR Accessibility Rules is waived by the President in accordance with this policy. An Exception must be determined by the President as necessary to avoid significant difficulty or expense to the University. At a minimum, an Exception shall include a written justification that will include the following: a date of expiration; a plan for alternate means of access for persons with disabilities; justification for the exception including relevant cost avoidance estimates; and signature of the President.

4. EIR Accessibility Coordinator. In accordance with Texas Administrative Code Title 1, Part 10, §213.41, "EIR Accessibility Coordinator" means the Information Technology Shared Services Director of Management and Risk Services.
5. Information Technology. "Information Technology" means any equipment or interconnected system or subsystem of equipment, that is used in the automatic acquisition, storage, manipulation, management, movement, control, display, switching, interchange, transmission, or reception of data or information. The term includes computers (including desktop and laptop computers), ancillary equipment, desktop software, client-server software, mainframe software, Web application software and other types of software, firmware and similar procedures, services (including support services), and related resources.

Procedures and Responsibilities.

- I. Comply with the DIR Accessibility Rules, this policy and procedures related to EIRS in the development, procurement, maintenance, or use of EIRS. Any request for an exception to the DIR Accessibility Rules, this policy or procedures related to EIRS shall be submitted to the EIR Accessibility Coordinator for review and processing.

Responsible Party: All faculty and staff
- II. Oversee and monitor development, support, maintenance and compliance with this policy and University-wide compliance with the DIR Accessibility Rules.

Responsible Party: EIR Accessibility Coordinator
- III. Notify University community of procedures related to the procurement of EIRS that support compliance with the DIR Accessibility Rules.

Responsible Party: Purchasing and Payment Services and EIR Accessibility Coordinator
- IV. Notify University community of procedures related to the development, maintenance and use of EIRS that support compliance with the DIR Accessibility Rules.

Responsible Party: EIR Accessibility Coordinator
- V. Monitor compliance with the DIR Accessibility Rules, this policy, and procurement procedures related to EIRS in regard to purchases made under purchasing contracts, purchase orders or P-Cards.

Responsible Party: Purchasing and Payment Services and EIR Accessibility Coordinator
- VI. Develop and implement a plan by which EIRS and standards related to EIRS accessibility will be brought into compliance with the DIR Accessibility Rules, this policy and procedures related to EIRS.

Responsible Party: EIR Accessibility Coordinator
- VII. Oversee and provide training on compliance with the DIR Accessibility Rules, this policy and procedures related to EIRS.

Responsible Party: EIR Accessibility Coordinator

- VIII. Review requests for exceptions to the DIR Accessibility Rules, this policy and procedures related to EIRS. In the event that a request does not rise to the level of an Exception as defined in this policy, then make a determination regarding the request. In the event the request relates to the granting of an Exception, then ensure the request meets the requirements for an Exception. If the request for an Exception complies with the requirements of this policy, then forward the request to the President with a recommendation regarding adoption.

Responsible Party: EIR Accessibility Coordinator

- IX. Review and, if acceptable, approve any Exception to the DIR Accessibility Rules.

Responsible Party: President

- X. Maintain exception requests related to EIRS in accordance with the University's record retention schedule.

Responsible Party: EIR Accessibility Coordinator

- XI. Conduct and complete EIR surveys as required by DIR.

Responsible Party: EIR Accessibility Coordinator

References and Cross-References.

Section 508 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act (codified at 29 U.S.C. § 794d)

Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Part 1194 - Electronic and Information Technology Accessibility Standards

Texas Government Code, Chapter 2054, Subchapter M, "Access to Electronic and Information Resources by Individuals with Disabilities"

Texas Administrative Code, Title 1, Chapter 213, "Accessibility Standards for Institutions of Higher Education"

Texas Administrative Code, Title 1, Chapter 206, §206.70, Accessibility and Usability of Institution of Higher Education Web Sites"

University of North Texas Web Accessibility Policy (14.008)

Forms and Tools.

Electronic and Information Resources Accessibility Compliance Plan

Statewide Accessibility for Electronic and Information Resources

Statewide Accessibility Resources (DIR)

Approved: 7/09

Effective:

Revised: 8/12*

*Format only