

US Department of Justice
Notice of Proposed Rule Making on
*Nondiscrimination on the Basis of
Disability; Accessibility of Web Information
and Services of State and Local
Government Entities*



James E. Mitchell, Ph. D. Chair, Accessibility committee
Louisiana governor's Advisory Council n Disability Affairs
September, 2023

NPRM Comments Due Date

➔ **October 3, 2023** ➔

Department of Justice Seeks Public Comment on Proposed Rule to Strengthen Web and Mobile App Access for People with Disabilities

Website:

[Department of Justice Seeks Public Comment on Proposed Rule to Strengthen Web and Mobile App Access for People with Disabilities \(access-board.gov\)](https://www.access-board.gov/department-of-justice-seeks-public-comment-on-proposed-rule-to-strengthen-web-and-mobile-app-access-for-people-with-disabilities)

On this page you will find links to submit Written Comments on the web:

[Federal Register](#): Select the “Submit a Formal Comment” link at the top of the notice and follow the instructions.

- [Regulations.gov e-rulemaking portal](#): Select “Comment” link and follow the instructions.

Options are also available for US Mail and Overnight Delivery

Background Information

National Law Review:

<https://www.natlawreview.com/article/us-doj-issues-guidance-web-accessibility-under-ada>

This article provides useful historical and technical background information regarding web/digital accessibility. Specifically, it reviews issues related to Title II and Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

The summary of issues presented, will be useful in preparing your public comments.

Specific Issues and Points to Make

- The technology exists to make websites and web apps accessible, if they are designed to do so, from the start.
- Technology exists to scan and audit websites for compliance with the existing Web Accessibility Guidelines (<https://www.w3.org/WAI/standards-guidelines/wcag>).
 - These are well-documented and have been in-place for many years.
 - Compliance can be attained through regular IT website maintenance.
 - Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act has required these for all Federal websites and web apps, since 2010.
 - All entities receiving federal funds (state and local entities, *and their contractors*) must comply with these 508 regulations.

Implementation Comments

The NPRM documents provide a great deal of information regarding the cost to implement the rules, at different levels of government.

They are considering the following schedule:

<u>Time to</u> <u>Comply</u>	<u>Size of the</u> <u>Jurisdiction</u>
1 Year	Pop \geq 50,000
2 Years	Pop $<$ 50,000
3 years	Special District Governments

In Louisiana:

8 of almost 480 (~1.7%) “cities” are over 50,000

22 of 64 (~34.4%) Parish are over 50,000

REMINDER

COMMENTS ARE DUE BY COB

→ OCTOBER 3, 2023 ←

If you have any questions or want to discuss any comments or issues

Please contact

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By

Friday, September 29, 2023