

## Voluntary Product Evaluation Template (VPAT) for MERLOT Content Builder

**Date:**

**Name of Product:** MERLOT (Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching) Content Builder

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Summary Table		
Criteria	Supporting Features	Remarks and explanations
Section 1194.21 <a href="#">Software Applications and Operating Systems</a>		
Section 1194.22 <a href="#">Web-based internet information and applications</a>		
Section 1194.23 <a href="#">Telecommunications Products</a>	Not Applicable	
Section 1194.24 <a href="#">Video and Multi-media Products</a>	Not Applicable	
Section 1194.25 <a href="#">Self-Contained, Closed Products</a>	Not Applicable	
Section 1194.26 <a href="#">Desktop and Portable Computers</a>	Not Applicable	
Section 1194.31 <a href="#">Functional Performance Criteria</a>		
Section 1194.41 <a href="#">Information, documentation, and support.</a>		

[Return to the top of the page.](#)

Section 1194.21 Software Applications and Operating Systems		
* Refer to ( <a href="http://www.access-board.gov/sec508/guide/1194.21.htm">http://www.access-board.gov/sec508/guide/1194.21.htm</a> ) for details on the guidelines listed below.		
Criteria	Supporting Features	Remarks and explanations
(a) When software is designed to run on a system that has a keyboard, product functions shall be executable from a keyboard where the function itself or the result of performing a function can be discerned textually.	Supports with exception	All functionality in the Content Builder is designed to be keyboard accessible. The MERLOT Content Builder dialog boxes are not fully keyboard accessible.

**Section 1194.21 Software Applications and Operating Systems**

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Criteria	Supporting Features	Remarks and explanations
<p>(b) Applications shall not disrupt or disable activated features of other products that are identified as accessibility features, where those features are developed and documented according to industry standards. Applications also shall not disrupt or disable activated features of any operating system that are identified as accessibility features where the application programming interface for those accessibility features has been documented by the manufacturer of the operating system and is available to the product developer.</p>	<p>Supports</p>	<p>The MERLOT Content Builder does not interfere with accessibility features of the operation system. Accessibility features like sticky keys, magnifiers, screen readers, cursor sizes, and virtual keyboards are not disrupted or disabled.</p>
<p>(c) A well-defined on-screen indication of the current focus shall be provided that moves among interactive interface elements as the input focus changes. The focus shall be programmatically exposed so that Assistive Technology can track focus and focus changes.</p>	<p>Supports</p>	<p>Content Builder uses standard HTML controls which convey focus status to assistive technology.</p>
<p>(d) Sufficient information about a user interface element including the identity, operation and state of the element shall be available to Assistive Technology. When an image represents a program element, the information conveyed by the image must also be available in text.</p>	<p>Supports</p>	<p>Content Builder uses standard HTML controls which convey identify, operate, and state information to assistive technology.</p>
<p>(e) When bitmap images are used to identify controls, status indicators, or other programmatic elements, the meaning assigned to those images shall be consistent throughout an application's performance.</p>	<p>Supports</p>	<p>Such functionality is provided through a standard, browser interface All buttons with images/text are consistent throughout the MERLOT Content Builder and have alt text.</p>
<p>(f) Textual information shall be provided through operating system functions for displaying text. The minimum information that shall be made available is text content, text input caret location, and text attributes.</p>	<p>Supports</p>	<p>Such functionality is provided through a standard, browser interface. The MERLOT Content Builder uses standard operating system functions for displaying text.</p>

**Section 1194.21 Software Applications and Operating Systems**

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Criteria	Supporting Features	Remarks and explanations
(g) Applications shall not override user selected contrast and color selections and other individual display attributes.	Supports	Such functionality is provided through a standard, browser interface. The MERLOT Content Builder supports color settings as identified in the browsers display settings.
(h) When animation is displayed, the information shall be displayable in at least one non-animated presentation mode at the option of the user.	n/a	It is possible for a user to create a web page that would not have a non-animated presentation mode. MERLOT Content Builder does not contain any animations. User-uploaded content may not be compliant
(i) Color coding shall not be used as the only means of conveying information, indicating an action, prompting a response, or distinguishing a visual element.	Does not support	Color alone is not used to convey meaning or status or other indicators of status in MERLOT Content Builder.
(j) When a product permits a user to adjust color and contrast settings, a variety of color selections capable of producing a range of contrast levels shall be provided.	Supports with exception	MERLOT Content Builder does not offer any control over color/contrast for its interface other than what can be controlled with a standard browser.
(k) Software shall not use flashing or blinking text, objects, or other elements having a flash or blink frequency greater than 2 Hz and lower than 55 Hz.	n/a	MERLOT Content Builder does not contain flashing or blinking objects. It is possible for a user to create a web page that would have this problem.
(l) When electronic forms are used, the form shall allow people using Assistive Technology to access the information, field elements, and functionality required for completion and submission of the form, including all directions and cues.	Supports	MERLOT Content Builder uses 'for' and 'id' attributes. There are <label> elements and title attributes for each <input>. AT can detect that a given label is associated with a given control.

[Return to the top of the page.](#)

**Section 1194.22 Web-based Internet information and applications**

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Criteria	Supporting Features	Remarks and explanations
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**Section 1194.22 Web-based Internet information and applications**

\* Refer to ( <http://www.access-board.gov/sec508/guide/1194.22.htm>) for details on the guidelines listed below.

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(a) A text equivalent for every non-text element shall be provided (e.g., via "alt", "longdesc", or in element content).	Supports	Alt text descriptions are given for images in the MERLOT Content Builder. This is primarily buttons. Images that are not relevant to functionality are given blank alt text. The MERLOT Content Builder not only allows alternate text but actually prompts for it when the user is adding images
(b) Equivalent alternatives for any multimedia presentation shall be synchronized with the presentation.	Supports	MERLOT Content Builder is not considered a multimedia product. MERLOT Content Builder supports captions for videos of user-uploaded content (video) in which captions are embedded. The video will play as long as the player on the user's side supports it.
(c) Web pages shall be designed so that all information conveyed with color is also available without color, for example from context or markup.	Supports	The MERLOT Content Builder does not contain color coding as the only means for information
(d) Documents shall be organized so they are readable without requiring an associated style sheet.	Supports	The MERLOT Content Builder uses style sheets for visual design and is readable without the associated style sheet.
(e) Redundant text links shall be provided for each active region of a server-side image map.	n/a	The MERLOT Content Builder does not use server-side image maps.
(f) Client-side image maps shall be provided instead of server-side image maps except where the regions cannot be defined with an available geometric shape.	n/a	The MERLOT Content Builder does not use server-side image maps.
(g) Row and column headers shall be identified for data tables.	Supports	MERLOT Content Builder allows users to specify which cells serve as row and column headers. Tables can be added using TinyMCE and there is a way to specify if a row is part of the body or part of the header for the table.

**Section 1194.22 Web-based Internet information and applications**

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<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(h) Markup shall be used to associate data cells and header cells for data tables that have two or more logical levels of row or column headers.	n/a	User uploaded content may or may not be compliant.
(i) Frames shall be titled with text that facilitates frame identification and navigation	n/a	The MERLOT Content Builder does not use frames for layout.
(j) Pages shall be designed to avoid causing the screen to flicker with a frequency greater than 2 Hz and lower than 55 Hz.	Supports	MERLOT Content Builder does not have blinking or flashing within the frequency of 2Hz and 55 Hz.
(k) A text-only page, with equivalent information or functionality, shall be provided to make a web site comply with the provisions of this part, when compliance cannot be accomplished in any other way. The content of the text-only page shall be updated whenever the primary page changes.	n/a	MERLOT Content Builder's accessibility features are integrated throughout the interface and mostly compliant with criteria (a) through (j).
(l) When pages utilize scripting languages to display content, or to create interface elements, the information provided by the script shall be identified with functional text that can be read by Assistive Technology.	n/a	MERLOT Content Builder uses JavaScript. Information is marked as being a dynamic region and that any screen reader needs to pay attention to the updates (you can mark regions to be unimportant or needs to be paid attention to) elements.
(m) When a web page requires that an applet, plug-in or other application be present on the client system to interpret page content, the page must provide a link to a plug-in or applet that complies with 1194.21(a) through (l).	n/a	MERLOT Content Builders interface does not contain objects which require an applet or plug-in. It supports user-uploaded content
(n) When electronic forms are designed to be completed on-line, the form shall allow people using Assistive Technology to access the information, field elements, and functionality required for completion and submission of the form, including all directions and cues.	Supports	MERLOT Content Builder uses JavaScript. Information is marked as being a dynamic region and that any screen reader needs to pay attention to the updates (you can mark regions to be unimportant or needs to be paid attention to) elements.

**Section 1194.22 Web-based Internet information and applications**

\* Refer to ( <http://www.access-board.gov/sec508/guide/1194.22.htm>) for details on the guidelines listed below.

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(o) A method shall be provided that permits users to skip repetitive navigation links.	Supports	MERLOT Content Builder provides a method that permits users to skipnav links. When a page loads, JavaScript is used to put the focus on the first item that can be selected.
(p) When a timed response is required, the user shall be alerted and given sufficient time to indicate more time is required.	n/a	MERLOT Content Builder does not require a timed response on any page.

Note to 1194.22: The Board interprets paragraphs (a) through (k) of this section as consistent with the following priority 1 Checkpoints of the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 1.0 (WCAG 1.0) (May 5 1999) published by the Web Accessibility Initiative of the World Wide Web Consortium: Paragraph (a) - 1.1, (b) - 1.4, (c) - 2.1, (d) - 6.1, (e) - 1.2, (f) - 9.1, (g) - 5.1, (h) - 5.2, (i) - 12.1, (j) - 7.1, (k) - 11.4.

[Return to the top of the page.](#)

**Section 1194.31 Functional Performance Criteria**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(a) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require user vision shall be provided, or support for Assistive Technology used by people who are blind or visually impaired shall be provided.	Supports with exception	MERLOT Content Builder supports to some extent, alternate text for visual elements, name/role/state information for controls, conveying text using text controls – not pictures of text.
(b) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require visual acuity greater than 20/70 shall be provided in audio and enlarged print output working together or independently, or support for Assistive Technology used by people who are visually impaired shall be provided.	Supports with exception	MERLOT Content Builder provides limited support for issues critical for low vision (conveying text as text, allowing text size adjustment, providing adequately contrast) A users guide is in online and a browser can enlarge the screen.
(c) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require user hearing shall be provided, or support for Assistive Technology used by people who are deaf or hard of hearing shall be provided	Supports	MERLOT Content Builder does not require hearing for operation.
(d) Where audio information is important for the use of a product, at least one mode of operation and information retrieval shall be provided in an enhanced auditory fashion, or support for assistive hearing devices shall be provided.	n/a	Audio is not used in the use of the MELROT Content Builder. User uploaded content may not be compliant Possible for users to create their own pages that fail this criteria

<b>Section 1194.31 Functional Performance Criteria</b>		
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(e) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require user speech shall be provided, or support for Assistive Technology used by people with disabilities shall be provided.	Supports	MERLOT Content Builder does not require user speech for operation.
(f) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require fine motor control or simultaneous actions and that is operable with limited reach and strength shall be provided.	Supports	MERLOT Content Builder does not require fine motor control or simultaneous actions. It is accessible by keyboard.

[Return to the top of the page.](#)

<b>Section 1194.41 Information, documentation, and support</b>		
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(a) Product support documentation provided to end-users shall be made available in alternate formats upon request, at no additional charge.	Supports	MERLOT Content Builder documentation is available in accessible HTML.
(b) End-users shall have access to a description of the accessibility and compatibility features of products in alternate formats or alternate methods upon request, at no additional charge.	Supports with exceptions	Accessibility documentation can be found at <a href="http://taste.merlot.org">taste.merlot.org</a> . NO method to request alternate format materials is currently offered.
(c) Support services for products shall accommodate the communication needs of end-users with disabilities.		

[Return to the top of the page.](#)