

Technology Accessibility Task Force Talking Points

What is “Technology Accessibility?”

- It is vital that ALL students and staff have access to the same tools and information to advance their education and/or career.
- “Technology Accessibility” refers to the principle that access to technological information and tools should be universal, and encompasses a series of legal, policy and process implications in operationalizing that principle.
- As public institutions, we have an opportunity to reduce any barriers students, employees and community members may face in accessing our educational resources.
- Technology accessibility isn’t about compliance, it’s about doing the right thing.

Task Force Background

- In recent years, as more institutions are utilizing new and exciting technological tools to improve the student and employee experience, the profile of technology accessibility has grown.
- For Los Rios, technology accessibility represents an important opportunity to deliver on our organizational values and ensure that our colleges are open to every person who seeks a better life through higher education.
- The Technology Accessibility Task Force is made up of representative faculty, classified staff and managers from throughout the district and its colleges. It was formed to assess the state of technology accessibility in our district and create a proactive plan to address any issues moving forward.

Scope and Objectives

- The Technology Accessibility Task Force aims to do a full review and inventory of accessibility issues in Los Rios and make recommendations regarding the implementation of appropriate procedures, and potentially policies, to help remove any barriers to our educational experience and resources.
- In order for this work to be sustainable in the long term, it must be embedded into the day-to-day work of our district and colleges, rather than contained in an isolated and separate group.
- Once the Task Force completes its review and makes recommendations, its work will come to an end as individual colleges and district departments are charged with operationalizing the appropriate recommendations.

Additional Resources

- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Technology Accessibility website - www.ada.gov/access-technology/index.html
- The Center for Accessible Technology - www.cforat.org