

TECHNOLOGY ACCESSIBILITY SECTION 508 AND CA GOVERNMENT CODE 11135 COMPLIANCE

Section 508 is part of the federal law known as the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Amendments to the Rehabilitation Act, known as Section 508 Standards for Electronic and Information Technology (EIT), went into effect in June 2001. These standards clarify how to ensure that persons with disabilities have access to technology.

Web-based intranet, internet information, and applications must have a text equivalent for every non-text element. Telecommunication products must offer caller identification and similar telecommunication functions for users of text telephone, teletype terminal, teletypewriter (TTY), and for users who can't see displays.

As vendors become more aware of how to make their products accessible, and requestors become more aware of Section 508 compliant products, EIT accessibility will improve.

EIT includes:

- Software applications and operating systems
- Web-based intranet, internet information and applications
- Telecommunications products
- Video and multimedia products
- Desktop and laptop computers

Los Rios Community College District is working to develop processes that will improve requestor and vendor awareness and compliance with Section 508. The Educational Technology Advisory Committee (ETAC) has worked to develop simple processes for accessibility requestors.

Additional information may be obtained at this website: <http://www.section508.gov>.