American Physical Society Journals

Accessibility Conformance Report

International Edition

(Based on VPAT® Version 2.5)

Name of Product/Version: American Physical Society Journals (Web pages only)

Report Date: 29th January 29, 2024; Notes added (by APS) May 16, 2024 for items that have been addressed.

Product Description: 71 Web pages of APS Journals, including informational as well as research paper pages

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Notes: Accessibility testing has been performed as per the defined scope, with recurring issues clubbed together. The scope is related to web content and hence "Web" is applicable for the mentioned criteria in the tables below. This VPAT does not address the ten article PDFs identified as part of the audit scope. All PDFs are untagged. As such, they do not support almost all success criteria for WCAG 2.0 and 2.1, Levels A, AA, and

AAA. However, this VPAT does address the HTML versions of the same articles as [possibly conforming alternate versions](#).

Evaluation Methods Used: Manual and automated, using Windows 10-Chrome-NVDA, Android-Chrome-TalkBack, CCA, Nu Html Checker, axe DevTools, browser developer tools, high contrast mode (both dark and light)

Applicable Standards/Guidelines

This report covers the degree of conformance for the following accessibility standard/guidelines:

Standard/Guideline	Included In Report
[Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0](#)	Level A (Yes) Level AA (Yes) Level AAA (Yes)
[Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1](#)	Level A (Yes) Level AA (Yes) Level AAA (Yes)
[Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.2](#)	Level A (No) Level AA (No) Level AAA (No)
[Revised Section 508 standards published January 18, 2017 and corrected January 22, 2018](#)	(Yes)
[EN 301 549 Accessibility requirements for ICT products and services - V3.1.1 (2019-11)](#) *AND* [EN 301 549 Accessibility requirements for ICT products and services - V3.2.1 (2021-03)](#)	(Yes)

Terms

The terms used in the Conformance Level information are defined as follows:

Supports: The functionality of the product has at least one method that meets the criterion without known defects or meets with equivalent facilitation.
Partially Supports: Some functionality of the product does not meet the criterion.
Does Not Support: The majority of product functionality does not meet the criterion.
Not Applicable: The criterion is not relevant to the product.
Not Evaluated: The product has not been evaluated against the criterion. This can only be used in WCAG Level AAA criteria.

WCAG 2.x Report

Tables 1 and 2 also document conformance with:

EN 301 549: Chapter 9 - Web, Sections 10.1-10.4 of Chapter 10 - Non-Web documents, and Sections 11.1-11.4 and 11.8.2 of Chapter 11 - Non-Web Software (open and closed functionality), and Sections 12.1.2 and 12.2.4 of Chapter 12 – Documentation
Revised Section 508: Chapter 5 – 501.1 Scope, 504.2 Content Creation or Editing, and Chapter 6 – 602.3 Electronic Support Documentation.

Note: When reporting on conformance with the WCAG 2.x Success Criteria, they are scoped for full pages, complete processes, and accessibility-supported ways of using technology as documented in the WCAG 2.0 Conformance Requirements.

Table 1: Success Criteria, Level A

Notes:

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.1.1 Non-text Content (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.1.1 (Web) 10.1.1.1 (Non-web document) 11.1.1.1.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.1.1.2 (Closed Functionality Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	**Partially Supports**	Some images have generic alt texts such as 'Cover image' or 'Key image;' some images straight up don't have an alt attribute. Some images are within links, and insufficient or missing alt text leave those links without a proper accessible name.
1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded) (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.2.1 (Web) 10.1.2.1 (Non-web document) 11.1.2.1.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.2.1.2.1 and 11.1.2.1.2.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	**Does Not Support**	Pre-recorded video-only content in the Article pages do not have any media alternative (such as a text description of the video).
1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded) (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.2.2 (Web)	**Supports**	Pre-recorded videos are YouTube embeds and there are auto-generated captions.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
10.1.2.2 (Non-web document) 11.1.2.2 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.2.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)		
1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded) (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.2.3 (Web) 10.1.2.3 (Non-web document) 11.1.2.3.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.2.3.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	**Does Not Support**	Pre-recorded videos are YouTube embeds and they do not have either audio descriptions or media alternatives.
1.3.1 Info and Relationships (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.3.1 (Web) 10.1.3.1 (Non-web document) 11.1.3.1.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.3.1.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software)	**Partially Supports**	A lot of information provided visually is not available programmatically, from expand-collapse widgets (accordions) to haphazard use of heading elements, not in order.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)		
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.3.2 (Web) 10.1.3.2 (Non-web document) 11.1.3.2.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.3.2.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	**Partially Supports**	~~In slide shows, invisible slides are readable by screen readers.~~ **[FIXED 2024Q2]** In the Article pages, the "tooltips" are *not* right after the element which trigger them.
1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.3.3 (Web) 10.1.3.3 (Non-web document) 11.1.3.3 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.3.3 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	**Supports**	Instructions provided for understanding and operating content do not rely solely on sensory characteristics of components such as shape, color, size, visual location, orientation, or sound.
1.4.1 Use of Color (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.4.1 (Web) 10.1.4.1 (Non-web document) 11.1.4.1 (Open Functionality Software)	**Partially Supports**	Almost all links are only distinguishable by color (and there is no other visual cue, such as an underline or a box). ~~Some links are the *exact* same color as their surrounding text, making it difficult to identify them as links.~~ **[FIXED 2024Q2]** In the Article pages, the current article's tags are highlighted in color, and this

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
11.1.4.1 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)		information is not available programmatically. In addition, many color and shaded figures in the underlying scientific content use color as the sole means of representing concepts or data.
1.4.2 Audio Control (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.4.2 (Web) 10.1.4.2 (Non-web document) 11.1.4.2 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.4.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	**Not Applicable**	No such content
2.1.1 Keyboard (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.1.1 (Web) 10.2.1.1 (Non-web document) 11.2.1.1.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.1.1.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	**Partially Supports**	A lot of UI components are not keyboard operable at all, most notably the Close buttons in dialogue boxes and some links which act as buttons. Also, the expand-collapse widgets (accordions) in the Article pages.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.1.2 (Web) 10.2.1.2 (Non-web document) 11.2.1.2 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.1.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	**Supports**	No keyboard traps
2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts (Level A 2.1 and 2.2) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.1.4 (Web) 10.2.1.4 (Non-web document) 11.2.1.4.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.1.4.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Not Applicable**	No such content
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.2.1 (Web) 10.2.2.1 (Non-web document) 11.2.2.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.2.1 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508	**Not Applicable**	No such content

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)		
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.2.2 (Web) 10.2.2.2 (Non-web document) 11.2.2.2 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.2.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	~~**Does Not Support**~~ **Not Applicable**	~~The autorotation in the carousels does not stop. There is no mechanism to pause it either.~~ **[FIXED 2024Q2]**
2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.3.1 (Web) 10.2.3.1 (Non-web document) 11.2.3.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.3.1 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	**Not Applicable**	No such content
2.4.1 Bypass Blocks (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.4.1 (Web) 10.2.4.1 (Non-web document) – Does not apply	~~**Does Not Support**~~ **Supports**	~~There is neither a `main` element nor any element with `role="main"`. The skip links do not work, either.~~ **[FIXED 2024Q2]**

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
11.2.4.1 (Open Functionality Software) – Does not apply 11.2.4.1 (Closed Software) – Does not apply 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) – Does not apply to non-web software 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) – Does not apply to non-web docs		
2.4.2 Page Titled (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.4.2 (Web) 10.2.4.2 (Non-web document) 11.2.4.2 (Open Functionality Software) - Does not apply 11.2.4.2 (Closed Software) – Does not apply 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	**Partially Supports**	The Search Results page is simply titled "Physical Review Journals - Search" and does not include what has been searched. Also, some Article pages, whose main heading contains MathJax content, have garbage characters in the page title.
2.4.3 Focus Order (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.4.3 (Web) 10.2.4.3 (Non-web document) 11.2.4.3 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.4.3 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool)	**Partially Supports**	There are some invisible social networking links towards the bottom of every page which take keyboard focus. In a lot of places, focus is not managed, causing focus to be lost; also in the dialogue boxes.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
602.3 (Support Docs)		
2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context) (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.4.4 (Web) 10.2.4.4 (Non-web document) 11.2.4.4 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.4.4 (Closed Software 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	**Partially Supports**	A lot of links, which contain images as their only content, do not have an accessible name, as those images do not have an `alt` attribute.
2.5.1 Pointer Gestures (Level A 2.1 and 2.2) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.5.1 (Web) 10.2.5.1 (Non-web document) 11.2.5.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.5.1 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	~~**Does Not Support**~~ **Not Applicable**	~~In the slide shows on mobile devices, the slides only change with swiping; there are no buttons available.~~ **[FIXED 2024Q2]**
2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation (Level A 2.1 and 2.2) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.5.2 (Web) 10.2.5.2 (Non-web document) 11.2.5.2 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.5.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs)	**Supports**	Works as expected

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
Revised Section 508 – Does not apply		
2.5.3 Label in Name (Level A 2.1 and 2.2) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.5.3 (Web) 10.2.5.3 (Non-web document) 11.2.5.3.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.5.3.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Partially Supports**	A lot of `input` elements are not correctly associated with their visible labels.
2.5.4 Motion Actuation (Level A 2.1 and 2.2) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.5.4 (Web) 10.2.5.4 (Non-web document) 11.2.5.4 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.5.4 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Not Applicable**	No such content
3.1.1 Language of Page (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.3.1.1 (Web) 10.3.1.1 (Non-web document) 11.3.1.1.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.3.1.1.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool)	**Supports**	All pages, `html` elements have got the correct `lang` attribute.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
602.3 (Support Docs)		
3.2.1 On Focus (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.3.2.1 (Web) 10.3.2.1 (Non-web document) 11.3.2.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.3.2.1 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	**Supports**	No context change on focus
3.2.2 On Input (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.3.2.2 (Web) 10.3.2.2 (Non-web document) 11.3.2.2 (Open Functionality Software) 11.3.2.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	**Partially Supports**	In some dropdowns (also in the Article pages at 110% zoom and up), selecting an option loads a new page; same for some checkboxes. Also, in some checkboxes, toggling it causes focus to go to a different checkbox.
3.2.6 Consistent Help (Level A 2.2 only) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Not Applicable**	Out of scope
3.3.1 Error Identification (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.3.3.1 (Web)	~~**Partially** Supports~~	~~In the 'Email this Article' dialogue boxes in the Article pages, error is automatically detected, but the erroneous field is not identified properly.~~ **[FIXED 2024Q2]**

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
10.3.3.1 (Non-web document) 11.3.3.1.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.3.3.1.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)		
3.3.2 Labels or Instructions (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.3.3.2 (Web) 10.3.3.2 (Non-web document) 11.3.3.2 (Open Functionality Software) 11.3.3.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	**Partially Supports**	A lot of `input` elements are not correctly associated with their visible labels. Some checkboxes and radio buttons, which belong in a group, are not identified to be part of that group.
3.3.7 Redundant Entry (Level A 2.2 only) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Not Applicable**	Out of scope
4.1.1 Parsing (Level A) Applies to: WCAG 2.0 and 2.1 – Always answer 'Supports' WCAG 2.2 (obsolete and removed) - Does not apply EN 301 549 Criteria 9.4.1.1 (Web) 10.4.1.1 (Non-web document) 11.4.1.1.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.4.1.1.2 (Closed Software) – Does not apply	**Partially Supports**	In some places, HTML elements have not been used properly, from `ul` containing `ul` directly and wrong use of `dl` elements to `img` elements (in `figure` element) not having any `src` attribute.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)		
4.1.2 Name, Role, Value (Level A) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.4.1.2 (Web) 10.4.1.2 (Non-web document) 11.4.1.2.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.4.1.2.2 (Closed Software) – Does not apply 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	**Partially Supports**	A lot of elements, which function as buttons, are identified by screen readers as links. A lot of buttons and links do not have any accessible name at all. A lot of `input` elements are not correctly associated with their visible labels.

Table 2: Success Criteria, Level AA

Notes:

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.2.4 Captions (Live) (Level AA) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.2.4 (Web) 10.1.2.4 (Non-web document) 11.1.2.4 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.2.4 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool)	**Not Applicable**	No such content

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)		
1.2.5 Audio Description (Prerecorded) (Level AA) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.2.5 (Web) 10.1.2.5 (Non-web document) 11.1.2.5 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.2.5 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	**Does Not Support**	Pre-recorded videos are YouTube embeds and they do not have audio descriptions. [This is a single video.]
1.3.4 Orientation (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.3.4 (Web) 10.1.3.4 (Non-web document) 11.1.3.4 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.3.4 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Supports**	Content does not restrict its view and operation to a single display orientation, such as portrait or landscape.
1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.3.5 (Web) 10.1.3.5 (Non-web document)	~~**Does Not Support**~~ **Supports**	The 'Username' and 'Password' fields in the 'Log In' dialogue box do not contain the `autocomplete` attributes. **[Fixed - 2024Q1]**

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
11.1.3.5.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.3.5.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 – Does not apply		
1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum) (Level AA) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.4.3 (Web) 10.1.4.3 (Non-web document) 11.1.4.3 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.4.3 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	~~Partially~~ **Supports**	The light-blue links towards the end of the page have a contrast ratio of ~2.3:1. Any text which is NOT light-on-dark or *vice versa* should be assumed to fail color contrast ratio requirements. **[Fixed - 2024Q1]**
1.4.4 Resize text (Level AA) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.4.4 (Web) 10.1.4.4 (Non-web document) 11.1.4.4.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.4.4.2 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	**Partially Supports**	A lot of functionality becomes unavailable when the page is zoomed (or viewed on mobile), such as missing links, buttons, textboxes, checkboxes, *etc.* Some sticky content gets cut off and cannot be scrolled into view. Buttons in the slideshow disappear. **[Partially fixed - 2024Q1]**
1.4.5 Images of Text (Level AA) Also applies to:	**Does Not Support**	Some images of texts have been used, which could have been created using either HTML-CSS or SVGs.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.4.5 (Web) 10.1.4.5 (Non-web document) 11.1.4.5.1 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.4.5.2 (Closed Software) – Does not apply 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)		
1.4.10 Reflow (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.4.10 (Web) 10.1.4.10 (Non-web document) 11.1.4.10 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.4.10 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Partially Supports**	A lot of functionality becomes unavailable when the page is zoomed (or viewed on mobile), such as missing links, buttons, textboxes, checkboxes, *etc.* Some sticky content gets cut off and cannot be scrolled into view. Buttons in the slideshow disappear. Some dialogue boxes get cut off in Firefox at 400% and on mobile devices and cannot be scrolled into view.
1.4.11 Non-text Contrast (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.4.11 (Web) 10.1.4.11 (Non-web document) 11.1.4.11 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.4.11 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Partially Supports**	Custom focus indicators are insufficient and, in some cases, not visible at all. Some icons turn into boxes in high contrast mode. In the articles, meaningful adjacent colors or meaningful colors and the background have less than 3:1 contrast.
1.4.12 Text Spacing (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2) Also applies to:	**Partially Supports**	In the 'Email this Article' dialogue boxes, in the Article pages, some labels get overlapped on applying text

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.4.12 (Web) 10.1.4.12 (Non-web document) 11.1.4.12 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.4.12 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 – Does not apply		spacing. In one page, the sticky navigation list on the left cannot be scrolled completely into view when text spacing is applied.
1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.1.4.13 (Web) 10.1.4.13 (Non-web document) 11.1.4.13 (Open Functionality Software) 11.1.4.13 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Does Not Support**	In the Article pages, the "tooltips" cannot be dismissed without moving pointer hover or keyboard focus; same for the 'Journals' drop-down at the top of every page. In the Search Results page, the □ tooltip is neither hoverable nor dismissible without moving the pointer.
2.4.5 Multiple Ways (Level AA) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.4.5 (Web) 10.2.4.5 (Non-web document) – Does not apply 11.2.4.5 (Open Functionality Software) – Does not apply 11.2.4.5 (Closed Software) – Does not apply 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) – Does not apply to non-web software 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) – Does not apply to non-web docs	**Supports**	Seems to support. Only a subset of the whole APS Website was tested, not every page starting from the home page in sequence,
2.4.6 Headings and Labels (Level AA) Also applies to:	**Partially Supports**	In the paginations, the Previous and Next links are not read properly by screen readers (they are simply

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.4.6 (Web) 10.2.4.6 (Non-web document) 11.2.4.6 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.4.6 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)		announced as "link"); same for the RSS link towards the top of every page.
2.4.7 Focus Visible (Level AA) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.2.4.7 (Web) 10.2.4.7 (Non-web document) 11.2.4.7 (Open Functionality Software) 11.2.4.7 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	**Partially Supports**	In some elements, the focus indicator has been deliberately made invisible with CSS. In others (some textboxes), only a subtle change in color occurs. In some elements, the focus indicator is a thin line which lies outside of the element, making it nearly impossible to see.
2.4.11 Focus Not Obscured (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Not Applicable**	Out of scope
2.5.7 Dragging Movements (Level AA 2.2 only) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Not Applicable**	Out of scope
2.5.8 Target Size (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Not Applicable**	Out of scope

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
3.1.2 Language of Parts (Level AA) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.3.1.2 (Web) 10.3.1.2 (Non-web document) 11.3.1.2 (Open Functionality Software) – Does not apply 11.3.1.2 (Closed Software) – Does not apply 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	**Does Not Support**	No non-English language text contains a proper `lang` attribute.
3.2.3 Consistent Navigation (Level AA) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.3.2.3 (Web) 10.3.2.3 (Non-web document) – Does not apply 11.3.2.3 (Open Functionality Software) – Does not apply 11.3.2.3 (Closed Software) – Does not apply 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) – Does not apply to non-web software 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) – Does not apply to non-web docs	**Supports**	Navigational mechanisms that are in every page (header and footer) occur in the same relative order in every page.
3.2.4 Consistent Identification (Level AA) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.3.2.4 (Web) 10.3.2.4 (Non-web document) – Does not apply 11.3.2.4 (Open Functionality Software) – Does not apply 11.3.2.4 (Closed Software) – Does not apply 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool)	**Supports**	The UI components in the header and footer in every page are identified consistently.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) – Does not apply to non-web software 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) – Does not apply to non-web docs		
3.3.3 Error Suggestion (Level AA) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.3.3.3 (Web) 10.3.3.3 (Non-web document) 11.3.3.3 (Open Functionality Software) 11.3.3.3 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	**Not Applicable**	No such content
3.3.4 Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data) (Level AA) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.3.3.4 (Web) 10.3.3.4 (Non-web document) 11.3.3.4 (Open Functionality Software) 11.3.3.4 (Closed Software) 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs)	**Not Applicable**	No such content
3.3.8 Accessible Authentication (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply	**Not Applicable**	Out of scope

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
Revised Section 508 – Does not apply		
4.1.3 Status Messages (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2) Also applies to: EN 301 549 Criteria 9.4.1.3 (Web) 10.4.1.3 (Non-web document) 11.4.1.3 (Open Functionality Software) 11.4.1.3 (Closed Software) – Does not apply 11.8.2 (Authoring Tool) 12.1.2 (Product Docs) 12.2.4 (Support Docs) Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Does Not Support**	No live announcement implemented anywhere, none for error

Table 3: Success Criteria, Level AAA

Notes:

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.2.6 Sign Language (Prerecorded) (Level AAA) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Does Not Support**	Pre-recorded videos are YouTube embeds and they do not have sign language interpretations.
1.2.7 Extended Audio Description (Prerecorded) (Level AAA) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Not Applicable**	The video in question seems to have enough "gaps" within to allow for regular audio descriptions. In addition, these may be third party videos which is not under control
1.2.8 Media Alternative (Prerecorded) (Level AAA) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Does Not Support**	Pre-recorded video-only content in the Article pages do not have any media alternative (such as a text description of the video); pre-recorded YouTube videos don't, either.
1.2.9 Audio-only (Live) (Level AAA) EN 301 549 Criteria– Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Not Applicable**	No such content
1.3.6 Identify Purpose (Level AAA 2.1 and 2.2) EN 301 549 Criteria– Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Partially Supports**	None of the landmark regions have any accessible name; a lot of icons and UI components do not, either.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.4.6 Contrast (Enhanced) (Level AAA) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Partially Supports**	The light-blue links towards the end of the page have a contrast ratio of ~2.3:1. Any text which is NOT light-on-dark or *vice versa* should be assumed to fail color contrast ratio requirements. Here the color options are limited
1.4.7 Low or No Background Audio (Level AAA) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Not Applicable**	No such content
1.4.8 Visual Presentation (Level AAA) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Supports**	Works as expected
1.4.9 Images of Text (No Exception) (Level AAA) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Partially Supports**	Some images of texts have been used, which could have been created using either HTML-CSS or SVGs.
2.1.3 Keyboard (No Exception) (Level AAA) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Partially Supports**	A lot of UI components are not keyboard operable at all, most notably the Close buttons in dialogue boxes and some links which act as buttons. Also, the expand-collapse widgets (accordions) in the Article pages.
2.2.3 No Timing (Level AAA) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Not Applicable**	No such content
2.2.4 Interruptions (Level AAA) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Not Applicable**	No such content
2.2.5 Re-authenticating (Level AAA) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Not Applicable**	No such content
2.2.6 Timeouts (Level AAA 2.1 and 2.2) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Not Applicable**	No such content
2.3.2 Three Flashes (Level AAA) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Not Applicable**	No such content

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.3.3 Animation from Interactions (Level AAA 2.1 and 2.2) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Does Not Support**	When changing a slide in the slide shows, a different slide animates into view.
2.4.8 Location (Level AAA) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Does Not Support**	Towards the top of some pages, in the list of navigation links, the current page is highlighted in color; this information is not available programmatically; same in the paginations.
2.4.9 Link Purpose (Link Only) (Level AAA) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Partially Supports**	A lot of links are named "here" or "Learn more." Some links only make sense in context. A lot of links, which contain images as their only content, do not have an accessible name, as those images do not have an `alt` attribute.
2.4.10 Section Headings (Level AAA) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Does Not Support**	Heading elements have not been used in order, mostly for their looks. As a result, they do not create a proper outline of any page.
2.4.12 Focus Not Obscured (Enhanced) (Level AAA 2.2 only) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Not Applicable**	Out of scope
2.4.13 Focus Appearance (Level AAA 2.2 only) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Not Applicable**	Out of scope
2.5.5 Target Size (Level AAA 2.1 and 2.2) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Partially Supports**	A lot of targets are not of the appropriate size.
2.5.6 Concurrent Input Mechanisms (Level AAA 2.1 and 2.2) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Partially Supports**	In the slide shows on mobile devices, the slides only change with swiping; there are no buttons available.
3.1.3 Unusual Words (Level AAA) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Not Applicable**	Out of scope
3.1.4 Abbreviations (Level AAA) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Partially Supports**	A lot of abbreviations, such as AAAS or Phys. Rev. D do not have their expanded forms provided in a way which makes them obvious.
3.1.5 Reading Level (Level AAA) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Not Applicable**	Out of scope

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
3.1.6 Pronunciation (Level AAA) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Not Applicable**	Out of scope
3.2.5 Change on Request (Level AAA) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Supports**	Works as expected
3.3.5 Help (Level AAA) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Does Not Support**	No help has been provided where content requires user input.
3.3.6 Error Prevention (All) (Level AAA) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Partially Supports**	In the 'Log In' form, if the user submits the form with either field empty, they are taken to an error page. Instead, the error should show in the current page itself. The form should not submit with either field empty.
3.3.9 Accessible Authentication (Enhanced) (Level AAA 2.2 only) EN 301 549 Criteria – Does not apply Revised Section 508 – Does not apply	**Not Applicable**	Out of scope

Revised Section 508 Report

Notes:

Chapter 3: Functional Performance Criteria (FPC)

Notes:

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
302.1 Without Vision	**Partially Supports**	Works with screen readers but some page structures are not enough or appropriate for the same; HTML semantics not properly used
302.2 With Limited Vision	**Partially Supports**	Insufficient color contrasts, insufficient focus indicators, some icons invisible in high contrast mode, some content overlap or get cut off when zoomed
302.3 Without Perception of Color	**Partially Supports**	Links and icons are distinguishable only by color.
302.4 Without Hearing	**Partially Supports**	Pre-recorded videos do not have audio descriptions, media alternatives, or sign language interpretations.
302.5 With Limited Hearing	**Partially Supports**	Pre-recorded videos do not have either audio descriptions or media alternatives.
302.6 Without Speech	**Not Applicable**	No such content
302.7 With Limited Manipulation	**Partially Supports**	Some target sizes are too small and require fine motor control. On mobile devices, the slide shows require swiping
302.8 With Limited Reach and Strength	**Not Applicable**	Out of scope
302.9 With Limited Language, Cognitive, and Learning Abilities	**Partially Supports**	Some errors are not identified appropriately. In some places, focus order is not correctly maintained. In some places, design breaks on zoom, making content confusing.

Chapter 4: [Hardware](#)

Notes: Not Applicable

Chapter 5: [Software](#)

Notes: Not Applicable

This is not a platform (native) software.

See [Chapter 5: Software § 501 General § 501.1 Scope](#) ("… EXCEPTION: Where Web applications do not have access to platform accessibility services and do not include components that have access to platform accessibility services, they shall not be required to conform to 502 or 503 provided that they conform to Level A and Level AA Success Criteria and Conformance Requirements in WCAG 2.0 …") and [E205 Electronic Content § E205.4 Accessibility Standard](#) ("Electronic content shall conform to Level A and Level AA Success Criteria and Conformance Requirements in WCAG 2.0 …"). [Web pages/sites are covered under Section 508 § E205 Electronic Content.](#)

Chapter 6: [Support Documentation and Services](#)

Notes: Not Applicable

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Notes:

Chapter [4: Functional Performance Statements](#) (FPS)

Notes:

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
4.2.1 Usage without vision	**Partially Supports**	Works with screen readers but some page structures are not enough or appropriate for the same; there is a lot of HTML misuse
4.2.2 Usage with limited vision	**Partially Supports**	Insufficient color contrasts, insufficient focus indicators, some icons invisible in high contrast mode, some content overlap or get cut off when zoomed
4.2.3 Usage without perception of color	**Partially Supports**	Links and icons are distinguishable only by color.
4.2.4 Usage without hearing	**Partially Supports**	Pre-recorded videos do not have either media alternatives or sign language interpretations.
4.2.5 Usage with limited hearing	**Partially Supports**	Pre-recorded videos do not have either audio descriptions or media alternatives.
4.2.6 Usage with no or limited vocal capability	**Not Applicable**	No such content
4.2.7 Usage with limited manipulation or strength	**Partially Supports**	Some target sizes are too small and require fine motor control. On mobile devices, the slide shows require swiping
4.2.8 Usage with limited reach	**Not Applicable**	Out of scope
4.2.9 Minimize photosensitive seizure triggers	**Supports**	No content that may trigger photosensitive seizures
4.2.10 Usage with limited cognition, language, or learning	**Partially Supports**	Some errors are not identified appropriately. In some places, focus order is not correctly maintained. In

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		some places, design breaks on zoom, making content incomprehensible.
4.2.11 Privacy	**Supports**	Accessibility features do not seem to breach user privacy.

Chapter 5: Generic Requirements

Notes: Not Applicable

There are no closed functionality, biometrics, operable parts, locking or toggle controls, *etc.*

Chapter 6: ICT with Two-Way Voice Communication

Notes: Not Applicable

Chapter 7: ICT with Video Capabilities

Notes:

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
7.1 Caption processing technology	Heading cell – no response required	Heading cell – no response required
7.1.1 Captioning playback	**Supports**	Pre-recorded videos are YouTube embeds and there are auto-generated captions.
7.1.2 Captioning synchronization	**Supports**	In the pre-recorded YouTube videos, the captions are properly synchronized.
7.1.3 Preservation of captioning	**Supports**	Pre-recorded videos are YouTube embeds and the auto-generated caption data are preserved correctly for proper playback.
7.1.4 Captions characteristics	**Supports**	Pre-recorded videos are YouTube embeds and YouTube provides for customizing caption styles.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
7.1.5 Spoken subtitles	**Supports**	Pre-recorded videos are YouTube embeds and YouTube provides the captions as a separate text-stream, but no option to select different languages.
7.2.1 Audio description playback	**Does Not Support**	Pre-recorded videos are YouTube embeds and they do not have audio descriptions.
7.2.2 Audio description synchronization	**Not Applicable**	Pre-recorded videos are YouTube embeds and they do not have audio descriptions.
7.2.3 Preservation of audio description	**Does Not Support**	Pre-recorded videos are YouTube embeds and they do not have audio descriptions.
7.3 User controls for captions and audio description	**Partially Supports**	Pre-recorded videos are YouTube embeds; there are auto-generated captions but no audio descriptions.

Chapter **8: Hardware**

Notes: Not Applicable

Chapter **9: Web** *(see *WCAG 2.x section*)*

Notes: These pages have been tested in accordance with WCAG 2.1 AAA; see the **WCAG 2.x Report** section.

Chapter **10: Non-Web Documents**

Notes: Not Applicable

Chapter **11: Software**

Notes: Not Applicable

This is not a platform (native) software.

Chapter [12: Documentation and Support Services](#)

Notes: Not Applicable

Chapter [13: ICT Providing Relay or Emergency Service Access](#)

Notes: Not Applicable

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