

The Accessibility For Manitobans Act: What it means for libraries

On May 1, 2024, the Accessible Information and Communication Standard requires libraries to remove and prevent barriers that exist digitally, in-print or through interaction with technology or people.

Examples of alternate formats:

- Large print
- Recorded audio
- Screen reader compatible
 - Braille
- Writing in plain language
- Text transcripts of visual and audio information

Examples of communication supports:

- Sign language interpretation
- Screen reader technology
- Captions used in video content or virtual meetings
 - Video relay services
- Adaptive or assistive technology

1 Inform

Let your community know what information is available in accessible formats.



2 Feedback

Find out from patrons whether the supports or formats remove barriers.



3 Timeliness

Provide requested supports or formats in a timely manner.



4 No Cost

Provide the requested supports at no cost to patrons.



5 Websites

Ensure websites meet WCAG 2.1 Level AA guidelines.



6 Training

Provide training to library staff.



7 Policies

Develop policies and documentation.



Examples of exceptions:

- Not technically feasible
 - Lack of availability
 - Hardship on the library
- Lack of control over the library resource
- Resource relates to product labels or other product information

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:

<https://mla.mb.ca/document-library/accessibility-library/>