

McGraw Hill Accessibility Conformance Report WCAG Edition

(Based on VPAT® Version 2.5Rev)

Name of Product/Version:

McGraw Hill's AccessScience

Report Date:

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Product Description:

AccessScience is an authoritative and dynamic online resource that contains incisively written, high-quality educational material covering all major scientific disciplines.

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Notes:

BarrierBreak performed an accessibility audit for McGraw Hill's AccessScience website.

Evaluation Methods Used:

A sample set of 21 pages of the McGraw Hill's AccessScience website was identified to perform the audit.

The pages were evaluated using:

- Windows 10 / Google Chrome / JAWS 2024
- Mac / Safari / VoiceOver
- Windows 10 / Google Chrome / ZoomText
- Windows 10 / Google Chrome / Dragon Naturally Speaking

Accessibility testers performed the audit using:

- Automated tools
 - Color contrast checker
- Code Inspection
- Keyboard-only interaction
- Screen readers
- Screen magnifier
- Speech recognition

Accessibility testers performed the test based on WCAG 2.2 guidelines. Homepage and Information for: Librarians pages were tested using ZoomText and Dragon Naturally Speaking, respectively. These results reflect the accessibility of a set of 21 pages. The following pages were evaluated:

- Home page
- Search results
- Topics page
- About page
- Information for: Educators
- Information for: Librarians
- Information for: Students
- Contact page
- Help/FAQ
- Remote access page
- Subscribe page
- CONTENT: Article page
- CONTENT: Book landing page
- CONTENT: Book chapter page
- CONTENT: Editorial Briefing
- CONTENT: News Story
- CONTENT: Text Biography
- CONTENT: Video Biography
- CONTENT: Video/Animation - with interactive transcript
- CONTENT: Video/Animation - without interactive transcript

- Search widget page

The following third-party widgets, libraries, and plugins are present on the tested pages. Apart from ReadSpeaker, other third-party components have some limitations regarding fixing accessibility issues according to WCAG. These issues are also highlighted in the conformance table:

- ReadSpeaker (<https://www.readspeaker.com/>)
- YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/>)
- Tippy.js JavaScript library
- Marketo

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: No
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1	Level A: Yes Level AA: Yes Level AAA: No
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.2	Level A: Yes Level AA: Yes Level AAA: No

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 2.2 Report

Note: When reporting on conformance with the WCAG 2.2 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: Applicable for a sample set of 21 pages of McGraw Hill’s AccessScience website.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.1.1 Non-text Content (Level A)	Supports	Informative and functional images have accurate textual descriptions.
1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Not Applicable	Prerecorded audio-only and video-only content is not present.
1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Supports	Captions are provided for the Prerecorded multimedia content.
1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Supports	Text transcript is provided for the Prerecorded multimedia content.
1.3.1 Info and Relationships (Level A)	Partially Supports	Most of the headings and many list items are defined accurately to depict the content structure. Form controls have programmatically defined labels. Few headings are not defined to depict the correct content structure. Few related items are not grouped using list mark-up and thereby fail to convey the relationship to assistive technology users.
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence (Level A)	Supports	Information is present in a correct sequence through code to ensure that it can be accessed logically by assistive technologies, such as screen readers.
1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics (Level A)	Supports	Important instructions to access the webpage content are not presented using sensory characteristics, such as size, shape, sound and so on.
1.4.1 Use of Color (Level A)	Partially Supports	Color is not used as the only visual means for most of the elements indicating an action, prompting a response, or distinguishing a visual element. Color alone is used to distinguish a few links on Contact page.
1.4.2 Audio Control (Level A)	Not Applicable	Audio content that plays automatically is not present.
2.1.1 Keyboard (Level A)	Partially Supports	Most of the interactive elements are keyboard operable.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		Few links and interactive elements lack keyboard support on CONTENT: Video/Animation - with interactive transcript and CONTENT: Editorial Briefing pages.
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap (Level A)	Supports	User's keyboard focus does not get trapped while interacting with the website functionality and they can easily navigate between different interactive elements.
2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Not Applicable	Character key shortcuts are not defined for interactive elements.
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable (Level A)	Not Applicable	Time dependent content is not present.
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide (Level A)	Supports	Play/pause mechanism is provided to the moving content.
2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold (Level A)	Not Applicable	Flickering and flashing content is not present.
2.4.1 Bypass Blocks (Level A)	Supports	Headings and landmarks are defined on all pages to help users bypass repetitive elements and access the main content quickly.
2.4.2 Page Titled (Level A)	Supports	Unique and descriptive titles are provided for all the pages.
2.4.3 Focus Order (Level A)	Supports	Keyboard users can navigate between different elements in a meaningful and sequential order.
2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context) (Level A)	Partially Supports	Most of the links have unique and descriptive text that clearly describes their destination target. However, a few links with identical and non-descriptive text are present on CONTENT: Editorial Briefing page.
2.5.1 Pointer Gestures (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Not Applicable	Functionality dependent on multipoint or path-based gestures is not present.
2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Functionality of all the interactive elements is triggered on up-event.
2.5.3 Label in Name (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Accessible names of the user interface controls and interactive elements match with their visual labels.
2.5.4 Motion Actuation (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Not Applicable	Functionality that requires device motion or user motion is not present.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
3.1.1 Language of Page (Level A)	Supports	Primary language is defined programmatically.
3.2.1 On Focus (Level A)	Supports	When any component receives focus, it does not initiate a change of context.
3.2.2 On Input (Level A)	Supports	When a user inputs any data, it does not initiate a change of context.
3.2.6 Consistent Help (Level A 2.2 only)	Supports	Help mechanisms are consistently placed across the tested pages.
3.3.1 Error Identification (Level A)	Supports	Error messages are identified for assistive technology users.
3.3.2 Labels or Instructions (Level A)	Supports	Labels and instructions are provided for the form controls.
3.3.7 Redundant Entry (Level A 2.2 only)	Not Applicable	Form fields that require redundant entry are not present.
4.1.1 Parsing (Level A) WCAG 2.0 and 2.1 – Always answer ‘Supports’ WCAG 2.2 (obsolete and removed) - Does not apply	Supports	For WCAG 2.0 and 2.1, the September 2023 errata update indicates this criterion is always supported. See the WCAG 2.0 Editorial Errata and the WCAG 2.1 Editorial Errata .
4.1.2 Name, Role, Value (Level A)	Partially Supports	Most custom controls have name, role and value attributes defined programmatically. Roles and attributes for a few interactive elements are either not defined or defined inappropriately. State information is not defined for a few interactive elements. The role is not defined programmatically for a non-modal dialog on Information for: Librarians page. Accessible name is missing for a non-modal dialog and a modal dialog on Information for: Librarians and CONTENT: Editorial Briefing pages. Dynamically updating content is inaccessible for screen reader users.

Table 2: Success Criteria, Level AA

Notes: Applicable for a sample set of 21 pages of McGraw Hill’s AccessScience website.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.2.4 Captions (Live) (Level AA)	Not Applicable	Live multimedia content is not present.
1.2.5 Audio Description (Prerecorded) (Level AA)	Supports	Audio descriptions are provided for prerecorded multimedia content.
1.3.4 Orientation (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	All the pages support device orientation.
1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	The purpose of input fields that collect user information programmatically defined.
1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum) (Level AA)	Partially Supports	Sufficient color contrast is used for displaying most of the textual information. Color contrast for few text is insufficient.
1.4.4 Resize text (Level AA)	Supports	All the content is available when zoomed up to 200 percent.
1.4.5 Images of Text (Level AA)	Supports	Plain text is used to present information rather than images of text on all pages.
1.4.10 Reflow (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	When content is reflowed, all the content and functionality are available for low vision users.
1.4.11 Non-text Contrast (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Partially Supports	Sufficient color contrast is used to display all informative and functional images as well as most of the user interface controls and their states. Color contrast of the keyboard focus indicator of a few user interface controls is insufficient on CONTENT: Video/Animation - without interactive transcript page.
1.4.12 Text Spacing (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	When text spacing styles are applied, users can easily access all the content and functionality.
1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Not Applicable	Information displayed on hover or focus is not present.
2.4.5 Multiple Ways (Level AA)	Supports	Multiple ways for users to locate the required content are available.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.4.6 Headings and Labels (Level AA)	Supports	All the heading text and the form control labels are unique and descriptive.
2.4.7 Focus Visible (Level AA)	Supports	On screen, focus indicator is clearly visible for all the interactive elements.
2.4.11 Focus Not Obscured (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only)	Supports	All the focused items are either completely visible or at least partially visible.
2.5.7 Dragging Movements (Level AA 2.2 only)	Not Applicable	Functionality that uses a dragging movement for operation is not present.
2.5.8 Target Size (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only)	Supports	All interactive elements have a sufficiently defined target size for pointer inputs which enables users to activate controls.
3.1.2 Language of Parts (Level AA)	Not Applicable	Content in the secondary language is not present.
3.2.3 Consistent Navigation (Level AA)	Supports	A consistent navigation mechanism is used across the tested pages.
3.2.4 Consistent Identification (Level AA)	Supports	Elements with identical functionality are identified consistently.
3.3.3 Error Suggestion (Level AA)	Supports	Error messages are descriptive.
3.3.4 Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data) (Level AA)	Not Applicable	Forms that include legal commitments, financial transactions, and user-controllable data are not present.
3.3.8 Accessible Authentication (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only)	Not Applicable	Form fields that require accessible authentication are not present.
4.1.3 Status Messages (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Error messages are identified for assistive technology users.

Table 3: Success Criteria, Level AAA

Notes: This table was removed as it is not applicable to this audit.

Legal Disclaimer (McGraw Hill)

This report reflects the results of testing performed by BarrierBreak in July 2025 on representative content contained in the AccessScience platform by McGraw Hill. Some accessibility support features are content dependent. As a result, some compliance exceptions noted in this Accessibility Conformance Report arise from exceptions relevant to the specific content tested and similar content types may not reflect the same exceptions. Content accessibility may vary by component and may not represent improvements made at a later date. This report is provided for informational purposes only.