Accessibility Conformance Report

WCAG Edition

(Based on VPAT® Version 2.5Rev)

Name of Product/Version:

Gale OneFile Products including:

Gale Academic OneFile, Gale OneFile: Agriculture, Gale OneFile: Business, Gale OneFile: Economics and Theory, Gale OneFile: Communications and Mass, Gale OneFile: Computer Science, Gale OneFile: Contemporary Women's, Gale OneFile: CPI.Q, Gale OneFile: Criminal Justice, Gale OneFile: Culinary Arts, Gale OneFile: Diversity Studies, Gale OneFile: Educator's Reference, Gale OneFile: Environmental Studies, Gale Academic OneFile Select, Gale OneFile: Fine Arts, Gale OneFile: Gardening and Horticulture, Gale OneFile: Gender Studies, Gale General OneFile, Gale OneFile: Science, Gale OneFile: Health and Medicine, Gale OneFile: Home Improvement, Gale OneFile: Hospitality and Tourism ,Gale OneFile: Information Science, Gale OneFile: Informe Académico, Gale OneFile: News, Gale OneFile: Insurance and Liability, Gale OneFile: LegalTrac, Gale OneFile: Military and Intelligence, Gale OneFile: Nursing and Allied Health, Gale OneFile: Physical Therapy, Gale OneFile: Pop Culture Studies, Gale OneFile: Popular Magazines, Gale OneFile: Leadership and Management, Gale OneFile: Psychology, Gale OneFile: Religion and Philosophy, Gale OneFile: Entrepreneurship, Gale OneFile: High School Edition, Gale OneFile: U.S. History, Gale OneFile: Vocations and Careers, Gale OneFile: War and Terrorism, Gale OneFile: World History, Gale Literature: Book Review Index

Report Date:

September 4, 2025

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Contact Information:

For any questions about the accessibility of this application, please contact the Gale Accessibility Council accessibility@cengage.com.

Evaluation Methods Used:

Qualitest, an independent quality assurance testing company, was contracted by Cengage to test the product and document their findings in this VPAT. Qualitest thoroughly reviewed the Gale One File application for conformance to the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.2 Level A and Level AA using the following testing techniques:

Automated Testing: Axe automated plugin has been used for the initial scanning of different pages present in the application.

Manual Testing: This report has been generated based on the tests conducted via accessibility experts. The tools which have been used for testing are JAWS 2025, NVDA 2025, and Voiceover on Windows 11/Mac Platforms. Apart from these screen readers below assistive tools are used to validate the accessibility success criteria:

- ➢ Keyboard Controls
- ➢ Steve Faulkner Text Spacing Bookmarklet
- ➢ Color Contrast Analyzer
- ➢ Browser Zoom
- ➢ Dragon

Compatibility Matrix and Testing Scope:

Applicable

Platform	Edge Latest	Chrome Latest	Safari
Win 11	NVDA 2025 Smoke QA	JAWS 2025 Full QA	
MAC 15.X			VoiceOver Full QA

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.x Success Criteria, they are scoped for full pages, complete processes, and accessibility-supported ways of using technology as documented in the WCAG 2.2 Conformance Requirements.

Table 1: Success Criteria, Level A

Notes:

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.1.1 Non-text Content (Level A)	Partially Supports	Most of the informative images and icons within the application are equipped with appropriate text alternatives, ensuring that visually impaired users accessing the content through screen readers or refreshable braille displays receive equivalent information. However, there is an exception on the **Home/Search** page where decorative images are not hidden from screen reader virtual focus. Electronic Docs: 3rd party documents in the product come from thousands of sources and have varied accessibility. Charts, graphs and images don't always have alt or descriptive text, depending on the source.
1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Not Applicable	There is no audio-only or video-only content available in the application.
1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Web: Supports Electronic Docs: Partially supports	Web: No web components include video Electronic Docs:3rd party hosted audio and video content can't guarantee captions.
1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Web: Supports Electronic Docs: Partially supports	Web: No web components include video or audio Electronic Docs: Audio only content (podcasts) hosted by 3rd parties cannot guarantee a transcript.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.3.1 Info and Relationships (Level A)	Partially Supports	Most elements in the application are correctly marked up with HTML semantics, enabling assistive technologies like screen readers to recognize their structure and relationships. However, there are a few exceptions where screen reader users encounter challenges in understanding the information, structure, and relationships of certain elements that rely on visual representation. Electronic Docs: Tables and graphs do not have proper row/column associations. Some third party content doesn't have properly tagged headers.
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence (Level A)	Web: Supports Electronic Docs: Partially Supports	Screen readers are able to read the application's content in a logical sequence using arrow keys or other reading methods, which helps visually impaired users understand the meaning and context. Electronic Docs: 3rd party documents in the product come from thousands of sources and have varied accessibility. Documents are presented in meaningful sequence, but there is not always markup allowing it to be navigated based on that sequence.
1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics (Level A)	Web: Supports	There are several visual cues/symbols used in the application that convey specific meaning, and all these visual cues are provided with equivalent text alternatives for screen reader users. Documents in the product come from thousands of sources and have varied accessibility. Charts, graphs

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
	Electronic Docs: Partially supports	and infographics embedded in 3rd party content may use color or shape in a way that violates this standard.
1.4.1 Use of Color (Level A)	Web: Supports Electronic Docs: Partially supports	The application provides appropriate text alternatives for information conveyed by color, which supports users with color vision deficiencies. Electronic Docs: Documents in the product come from thousands of sources and have varied accessibility. Charts, graphs and infographics embedded in 3rd party content may use color or shape in a way that violates this standard.
1.4.2 Audio Control (Level A)	Not Applicable	There is no such audio available in the application that plays automatically as soon as any page is launched.
2.1.1 Keyboard (Level A)	Partially Supports	The application has many interactive user interface components like buttons and links, and most of these elements are operable using a keyboard for screen reader/ keyboard users. However, there are a few exceptions where it is difficult for screen reader/keyboard-only users to access some of the interactive elements using a keyboard.
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap (Level A)	Supports	The application ensures that both screen reader users and keyboard users can navigate freely without encountering focus traps. No element restricts users from moving forward or backward through the content using keyboard controls or screen reader navigation.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Not Applicable	Single key character shortcuts are not used anywhere in the application.
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable (Level A)	Not Applicable	The application does not include any time-based functionality/activity that requires user interaction within a set time limit (e.g., session timeouts, quizzes, or auto-submissions).
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide (Level A)	Not Applicable	The application does not feature any moving, blinking, or auto-updating content that would need to be paused or stopped for individuals with certain disabilities.
2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold (Level A)	Not Applicable	There is no flashing/blinking content available anywhere in the application.
2.4.1 Bypass Blocks (Level A)	Supports	The "Skip to Content" link is available at the top of web pages that helps screen reader users and keyboard users to bypass the repetitive block of header content in a single activation to locate the page main content.
2.4.2 Page Titled (Level A)	Supports	The application is equipped with meaningful and descriptive page titles that effectively communicate the purpose and context of each page, supporting navigation and orientation for all users, including screen reader users.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.4.3 Focus Order (Level A)	Web: Supports	Focus order is logical for most of the interactive elements/widgets available in the application using the keyboard and keyboard interfaces.
	Electronic Docs: Partially Supports	Electronic Docs: Documents in the product come from thousands of sources and have varied accessibility. There are a few exceptions, where TAB order is incorrect for some components, and logical focus has not been maintained in some pages.
2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context) (Level A)	Supports	All the links available in the application are provided with sufficient link text that clearly describes the purpose/target destination of these elements.
2.5.1 Pointer Gestures (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Not Applicable	Accessibility testing for this application has been conducted primarily on desktop platforms. Mobile device testing, including assessments on iOS and Android platforms, was not part of the current audit scope.
2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	All the user interface controls available in the application activate a UP event. Even if the user accidentally clicks on a control, s/he can move away from its target area and lift up the pointer to abort the action.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.5.3 Label in Name (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	The visible text labels of all interactive controls accurately match their accessible names. This alignment enables motor-impaired users to reliably activate these controls by speaking their visible text labels using speech recognition tools such as 'Dragon'.
2.5.4 Motion Actuation (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Not Applicable	Accessibility testing for this application has been conducted primarily on desktop platforms. Mobile device testing, including assessments on iOS and Android platforms, was not part of the current audit scope.
3.1.1 Language of Page (Level A)	Supports	Application content is available in English language, and this language is programmatically defined using the lang = "en" attribute in the <html> tag on all the web pages.
3.2.1 On Focus (Level A)	Supports	The application does not have any feature/functionality that initiates a change of context on receiving keyboard focus.
3.2.2 On Input (Level A)	Supports	The application prevents user interface actions like entering text or selecting options from unexpectedly changing context, supporting a predictable and accessible user experience.
3.2.6 Consistent Help (Level A 2.2 only)	Supports	The application provides a **Help** link in the footer section, which is consistently available across all pages.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		This ensures users can reliably locate help when needed.
3.3.1 Error Identification (Level A)	Supports	The product identifies input errors and provides clear, descriptive error messages when user input fails validation. For example, required fields are marked, and if left empty or filled incorrectly, an error message is displayed adjacent to the field, indicating the nature of the error.
3.3.2 Labels or Instructions (Level A)	Partially Supports	Most of the form fields in the application are properly labeled with meaningful text labels, and relevant instructions are provided to assist users in completing them. However, there are a few exceptions where labels or instructions are missing or not clearly associated with the corresponding fields, which may impact users relying on assistive technologies.
3.3.7 Redundant Entry (Level A 2.2 only)	Not Applicable	The application avoids using repeated form fields that would require users to re-enter information unnecessarily.
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.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
4.1.2 Name, Role, Value (Level A)	Partially Supports	Most of the components present in the application have proper name/label/role/state and value, which helps screen reader users to know the actual purpose and nature of these components. However, there are a few exceptions where name, role, and value attributes are inappropriate for web elements.

Table 2: Success Criteria, Level AA

Notes:

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.2.4 Captions (Live) (Level AA)	Not Applicable	There is no live multimedia content available in the application.
1.2.5 Audio Description (Prerecorded) (Level AA)	Web: Supports Electronic Docs: Partially supports	Web: Product UI does not contain any video content. Electronic Docs: Video content includes 3rd party content and cannot guarantee an audio description. Gale's video player does not support audio description tracks.
1.3.4 Orientation (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Not Applicable	Accessibility testing for this application has been conducted primarily on desktop platforms. Mobile device testing, including assessments on iOS and

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		Android platforms, was not part of the current audit scope.
1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Not Applicable	The application does not have such form fields that collect user's personal information such as First Name and Last Name.
1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum) (Level AA)	Supports	Application has a sufficient contrast ratio i.e., 4.5:1 (For regular text) and 3:1 (For large text) across all color combinations used on the web pages.
1.4.4 Resize text (Level AA)	Supports	The page content in the application remains accessible and functional when text is resized up to 200% using browser zoom, supporting users with mild or low vision by allowing them to view content at an enlarged scale.
1.4.5 Images of Text (Level AA)	Web: Supports Electronic Docs: Partially Supports	The application does not use images of text; instead, regular text, HTML, and CSS are employed to present all meaningful content visually. There is a logo in the header, but logos are exempt from this success criterion. Electronic Docs: PDF scans of documents do not offer the OCR text but all PDF scans have an accessible HTML version. Some articles may have images of tables/charts/graphs without proper plain text labeling.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.4.10 Reflow (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Partially Supports	Most web pages in the application properly reflow into a single vertical column when the viewport width is reduced to 320px, supporting users on small screens. However, in the application, horizontal scrolling is required to access the controls in the toolbar.
1.4.11 Non-text Contrast (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	The application provides sufficient contrast for different active user interface components. Non-Text UI elements such as buttons, input form fields, etc. have a contrast ratio of at least 3:1 to their adjacent colors.
1.4.12 Text Spacing (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Web: Supports	This success criteria have been validated for persons with low vision and reading disabilities using Steve Faulkner's Text Spacing Bookmarklet, and the application content is easily readable and accessible after adjusting the text spacing using this tool.
1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Partially Supports	Most of the additional content that appears on keyboard focus or mouse hover is hoverable, dismissible, and persistent. However, there are a few exceptions where tooltips or additional information cannot be dismissed using the ESC key, and in some cases, the tooltip content is still read by the screen reader even when the tooltip is not visible.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.4.5 Multiple Ways (Level AA)	Supports	This application provides multiple ways to locate content, including a consistent navigation menu and a search functionality, allowing users to efficiently find information through different methods.
2.4.6 Headings and Labels (Level AA)	Web: Supports Electronic Docs: Partially Supports	Web: Most of the headings and labels available on various pages of the application are descriptive enough to understand their context and purpose. Sufficient labels are available for all of the user interface components. Electronic Docs: On the **Document page**, the label for the '**Display Options'** control is not descriptive enough to convey its purpose effectively.
2.4.7 Focus Visible (Level AA)	Supports	All the interactive elements available in the application receive a clear visual focus indicator using the keyboard. Users are able to identify the currently focused element while navigating the page using the Tab key.
2.4.11 Focus Not Obscured (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only)	Supports	The platform ensures that when a component receives keyboard focus, the focus indicator is not hidden or obscured by other content. Visual focus is consistently visible as users navigate through interactive elements.
2.5.7 Dragging Movements (Level AA 2.2 only)	Not Applicable	Application does not have any author created draggable components.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.5.8 Target Size (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only)	Partially Supports	Most interactive elements meet the required 24x24 CSS pixel size, but some controls in dense layouts are smaller, which may hinder usability for touch or low dexterity users.
3.1.2 Language of Parts (Level AA)	Supports	Web: Product updates <lang> tags to reflect the translation of UI. Electronic Docs: The document Translate feature specifies what language content is translated into.
3.2.3 Consistent Navigation (Level AA)	Supports	Repeated components like navigation bars are occurring in the same order on every page of the application that helps users predict the location of these user interface elements after navigating to a new web page.
3.2.4 Consistent Identification (Level AA)	Supports	Elements that have the same functionality across multiple pages in the application have the same labels or the same accessible name.
3.3.3 Error Suggestion (Level AA)	Supports	Error messages available in form fields are descriptive enough for users to understand and resolve the problem.
3.3.4 Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data) (Level AA)	Not Applicable	This success criterion is related to legal commitment, financial data, etc. which involves serious risk, if no option is provided for the user to review or revert to the data before submission. However, this

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		application does not have any such forms, where such risk is associated.
3.3.8 Accessible Authentication (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only)	Not Applicable	This Success Criteria is not applicable for the given scope of the application, as it does not include any form of user authentication, such as login screens, password fields, or identity verification processes.
4.1.3 Status Messages (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Partially Supports	Most of the dynamic changes and alerts are automatically identified by assistive technology (Screen readers). However, there are a few exceptions where changes and alerts are not announced automatically.

Legal Disclaimer

The information provided in this document is in good faith based on the Gale database at the time of the review and does not represent a legally binding claim. Please contact us to report any accessibility errors or for re-evaluation and correction, if necessary.