

# **John A. Logan College**

## ***2006 Report on Web Accessibility***

### **1) Accessibility Standard**

John A. Logan College implemented its first web page in 1995 and has continuously developed, revised and improved the site. As web developers at the College became aware of accessibility issues early in the existence of the site, measures were taken to address obvious problems in accessibility. More recently, the College has attempted to design and revise pages to meet Section 508 guidelines for accessibility. Most of the pages on the web site meet the guidelines in Section 508 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act. As older pages are updated, they are also revised to conform to Section 508 guidelines. The College is striving to improve content to meet the more stringent W3C Web Content Accessibility Guidelines as pages are upgraded at the Priority 1 and Priority 2 levels, and whenever possible, the Priority 3 level. College web designers have received training in W3C Guidelines and consulted with an authority on web accessibility.

### **2) Initial Evaluation of Institutional Web Pages**

John A. Logan College has evaluated the 25 most utilized web pages on its site. The results demonstrate a site that is largely accessible at W3C Web Content Accessibility Guidelines Priority 1 level, with Priority 2 checkpoints on many pages, and some with Priority 3. Those pages not passing Priority 2 checkpoints will be reevaluated and revised as necessary.

These error reports were generated using Watchfire™ Bobby™ Version 4.01 software

#### **1. JALC Homepage**

URL: ([www.jalc.edu/](http://www.jalc.edu/))

Priority 1 errors: 0/9

Priority 2 errors: 2/11

Priority 3 errors: 3/12

**2. JALC Secure E-mail Address**

URL: ([www.jalc.edu/email.html](http://www.jalc.edu/email.html))

Priority 1 errors: 0/9

Priority 2 errors: 1/12

Priority 3 errors: 2/9

**3. JALC Student Records**

URL: ([http://www.jalc.edu/admissions/class\\_registration1.html](http://www.jalc.edu/admissions/class_registration1.html))

Priority 1 errors: 1/9

Priority 2 errors: 1/12

Priority 3 errors: 3/10

**4. JALC Library Homepage**

URL: (<http://www.jalc.edu/lrc.html> )

Priority 1 errors: 0/7

Priority 2 errors: 0/13

Priority 3 errors: 1/11

**5. JALC Athletics Homepage**

URL: ([www.jalc.edu/athletic/index.html](http://www.jalc.edu/athletic/index.html))

Priority 1 errors: 1/8

Priority 2 errors: 1/14

Priority 3 errors: 2/12

**6. JALC Library Databases**

URL: (<http://www.jalc.edu/lrclibrary/databases.html>)

Priority 1 errors: 0/7

Priority 2 errors: 0/13

Priority 3 errors: 1/11

**7. JALC Search Page**

URL: ([www.jalc.edu/search/search.html](http://www.jalc.edu/search/search.html))

Priority 1 errors: 1/9

Priority 2 errors: 2/14

Priority 3 errors: 3/11

**8. JALC Degrees and Certificates Page**

URL: ([www.jalc.edu/admissions/curriculum\\_guides.html](http://www.jalc.edu/admissions/curriculum_guides.html))

Priority 1 errors: 0/8

Priority 2 errors: 2/11

Priority 3 errors: 3/13

**9. JALC Admissions Page**

URL: (<http://www.jalc.edu/admissions/admissions1.html>)

Priority 1 errors: 1/9

Priority 2 errors: 2/13

Priority 3 errors: 3/12

**10. JALC Academic Department Listings**

URL: ([www.jalc.edu/academic\\_instruction.html](http://www.jalc.edu/academic_instruction.html))

Priority 1 errors: 1/9

Priority 2 errors: 1/11

Priority 3 errors: 2/12

**11. JALC Distance Learning Menu Page**

URL: ([www.jalc.edu/distance\\_learning.html](http://www.jalc.edu/distance_learning.html))

Priority 1 errors: 0/8

Priority 2 errors: 1/11

Priority 3 errors: 2/13

**12. JALC Baseball Homepage**

URL: ([www.jalc.edu/athletic/baseball/baseball\\_page.html](http://www.jalc.edu/athletic/baseball/baseball_page.html))

Priority 1 errors: 1/7

Priority 2 errors: 2/12

Priority 3 errors: 3/11

**13. JALC Online Resources Page**

URL: ([www.jalc.edu/online\\_resources.html](http://www.jalc.edu/online_resources.html))

Priority 1 errors: 0/9

Priority 2 errors: 2/12

Priority 3 errors: 2/12

**14. JALC Financial Aid Page**

URL: ([www.jalc.edu/admissions/fin\\_aid1.html](http://www.jalc.edu/admissions/fin_aid1.html))

Priority 1 errors: 0/9

Priority 2 errors: 2/12

Priority 3 errors: 4/12

**15. JALC Employment Opportunities Listings**

URL: ([www.jalc.edu/employment/openings.html](http://www.jalc.edu/employment/openings.html))

Priority 1 errors: 1/9

Priority 2 errors: 2/13

Priority 3 errors: 2/10

16. **JALC Maps of John A. Logan College**  
URL: ([www.jalc.edu/Online\\_Student\\_Handbook/Maps/](http://www.jalc.edu/Online_Student_Handbook/Maps/))  
Priority 1 errors: 1/9  
Priority 2 errors: 2/12  
Priority 3 errors: 2/12
17. **JALC Employment Opportunities Homepage**  
URL: ([www.jalc.edu/employment/](http://www.jalc.edu/employment/))  
Priority 1 errors: 0/8  
Priority 2 errors: 1/12  
Priority 3 errors: 2/10
18. **JALC Departments Menu Page**  
URL: ([www.jalc.edu/departments.html](http://www.jalc.edu/departments.html))  
Priority 1 errors: 0/8  
Priority 2 errors: 1/11  
Priority 3 errors: 2/13
19. **JALC Quick Reference Menu Page**  
URL: ([www.jalc.edu/quick\\_reference.html](http://www.jalc.edu/quick_reference.html))  
Priority 1 errors: 0/8  
Priority 2 errors: 1/11  
Priority 3 errors: 2/13
20. **JALC News**  
URL: ([www.jalc.edu/news/](http://www.jalc.edu/news/))  
Priority 1 errors: 1/6  
Priority 2 errors: 0/9  
Priority 3 errors: 1/8
21. **JALC Current Students Menu Page**  
URL: ([www.jalc.edu/current\\_students.html](http://www.jalc.edu/current_students.html))  
Priority 1 errors: 0/8  
Priority 2 errors: 1/11  
Priority 3 errors: 2/13
22. **JALC Welcome Page**  
URL: ([www.jalc.edu/welcome.html](http://www.jalc.edu/welcome.html))  
Priority 1 errors: 0/9  
Priority 2 errors: 1/13  
Priority 3 errors: 2/9

**23. JALC Organizations Page**

URL: ([http://www.jalc.edu/admissions/class\\_registration1.html](http://www.jalc.edu/admissions/class_registration1.html))

Priority 1 errors: 0/8

Priority 2 errors: 1/11

Priority 3 errors: 2/11

**24. JALC Student Activities and Cultural Events Homepage**

URL: ([www.jalc.edu/admissions/student\\_activities/](http://www.jalc.edu/admissions/student_activities/))

Priority 1 errors: 0/7

Priority 2 errors: 0/11

Priority 3 errors: 2/8

**25. JALC Applied Technologies Homepage**

URL: ([www.jalc.edu/departmentspages/appliedtechnologies/index.html](http://www.jalc.edu/departmentspages/appliedtechnologies/index.html))

Priority 1 errors: 0/7

Priority 2 errors: 0/12

Priority 3 errors: 0/11

**3) Plan for Continuous Improvement**

The web site at John A. Logan College, since its beginning in 1995, has been authored primarily within the Learning Resources Center (LRC) by employees whose primary responsibilities were not related to the web. Despite understaffing, those who worked on web pages were aware of accessibility issues, and strived to create an accessible web site at Section 508 compliance guidelines. Only since December of 2005 has a full-time webmaster been available to take responsibility for creating and maintaining institutional web pages. A full time webmaster has allowed for a greater focus on accessibility issues and the improvement of the web site as related to accessibility. Within the first week of reporting to work, the webmaster received training on Section 508 and W3C guidelines, and has periodically consulted with an accessibility specialist to ensure compliance on new and revised pages.

The College recognizes the need to design and build web pages accessible to as many people as possible. Design principles are linked to meeting W3C Web Content Accessibility Guidelines at Priority 1 and Priority 2 Levels, and Priority 3 Levels when possible. Since the employment of a full-time webmaster, webpage design has become more standardized, with new pages generally meeting double A (Priority 1 and Priority 2) checkpoints. Pages are created or revised when new content becomes available.

The use of software tools, such as Bobby (Watchfire WebXACT) and A-Prompt, to check compliance with W3C guidelines has enabled the webmaster to audit potential problems in new pages and correct problems in existing pages. Extended audits of older pages will be carried out in order to identify and correct problems that have been overlooked or missed. Starting in October of 2006, a biannual audit of all webpage links from the College homepage, and an additional 25 random pages will be conducted. This measure will ensure that the most frequently accessed web pages have been checked and revised for accessibility. Secondly, it will ensure that less popular pages are also reviewed and revised.

Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) have been employed by the new webmaster to ensure consistency from page-to-page. The webmaster is currently working on a plan to incorporate CSS to the entire website, which will also help ensure that accessibility issues are addressed. CSS allows styles to be turned off for plain text accessibility. The purchase of Topstyle Pro software has allowed the incorporation of CSS at an expanded rate, and also the validation of style sheet formatting for improved accessibility.

An additional problem for accessibility is that not all web pages on the College website are designed by web professionals. Pages created by faculty most likely do not adhere to accessibility guidelines due to lack of knowledge of Section 508. This will be addressed by offering training to faculty and staff on accessibility guidelines. At least one training session will be offered in the LRC's Teaching and Learning Center (TLC) each semester. Additionally, a web committee was established to help streamline the production of web pages and ensure consistency throughout the website. Pages that were being produced by multiple people are now being turned over to the webmaster.

The following measures will be implemented to ensure web accessibility in current and future web pages:

Action	Timetable
All links from the Homepage checked for W3C Guidelines at Priority 1 and Priority 2 checkpoints and revised accordingly.	Biannually, beginning in October 2006.
Twenty-five random web pages checked for W3C Guidelines at Priority 1 and Priority 2 checkpoints and revised accordingly	Biannually, beginning in October 2006.

Action	Timetable
CSS implemented throughout web site.	Most primary and secondary pages will incorporate CSS by December 2008.
Provide at least one accessibility workshop/training for faculty and staff each Fall and Spring semester.	Each Fall and Spring semester, beginning in the Fall of 2006

## **Summary**

The addition of a webmaster in December 2005 to the John A. Logan College staff ensures that a concerted effort is made to address Section 508 compliance and accessibility at W3C Web Guidelines at Priority 1 and Priority 2 levels, and Priority 3 levels when possible. The webmaster has already received additional training, and has consulted with an authority on web accessibility. Staff who back up the webmaster as secondary authoring personnel have also received the same training.

An audit of all links from the homepage, plus an additional 25 links chosen at random will be conducted biannually, revisions being made accordingly. Also, additional training will be offered to faculty and staff to address accessibility at secondary authoring points. CSS will also be incorporated throughout the website to provide text only accessibility.

John A. Logan College is committed to accessibility for all its students, faculty and staff, as well as other constituencies. The College will provide necessary training and support to ensure that accessibility concerns are recognized and addressed as fully as possible.