

ReadSpeaker TextAid VPAT 2.4 Accessibility Conformance Report

Note: “Voluntary Product Accessibility Template” and “VPAT” are registered service marks of the Information Technology Industry Council (ITI)

Name of product/version: ReadSpeaker TextAid version 4.0 and higher; current version 4.18.0

Product description: ReadSpeaker TextAid is a web-based personal literacy support tool that enables users to listen to texts and documents using text-to-speech technology within a standard web browser. It also offers useful study tools.

Contact information: support@readspeaker.com

Evaluation methods used: Testing is based on general product knowledge.

Report revision history: Previous reports were done in June 2021 for VPAT 2.4 for TextAid 4.9.2 and September 2019 for VPAT 1.3

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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, at http://www.w3.org/TR/2008/REC-WCAG20-20081211/	Level A Yes Level AA Yes Level AAA No
Revised Section 508 standards as published by the U.S. Access Board in the Federal Register on January 18, 2017 with Corrections to the ICT Final Rule as published by the US Access Board in the Federal Register on January 22, 2018	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 be used only in WCAG 2.0 Level AAA.

WCAG 2.0 Report

Tables 1 and 2 also document conformance with Revised Section 508:

- Chapter 5 – 501.1 Scope, 504.2 Content Creation or Editing
- Chapter 6 – 602.3 Electronic Support Documentation

Note: When reporting on conformance with the WCAG 2.0 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

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.1.1 Non-text Content (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">501 (Web)(Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)	Supports	TextAid uses standard HTML and WAI-ARIA techniques for providing text equivalents of non-text elements. Some purely decorative elements that have no functional or informational purpose may not provide a text alternative.
1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded) (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">501 (Web)(Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)	Not applicable	TextAid does not contain prerecorded audio.
1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded) (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">501 (Web)(Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)	Not applicable	TextAid does not contain prerecorded audio.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded) (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 501 (Web)(Software)• 504.2 (Authoring Tool)• 602.3 (Support Docs)	Not applicable	TextAid does not contain prerecorded audio.
1.3.1 Info and Relationships (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 501 (Web)(Software)• 504.2 (Authoring Tool)• 602.3 (Support Docs)	Supports	Information, structure and relationships in TextAid can be programmatically determined via markup.
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 501 (Web)(Software)• 504.2 (Authoring Tool)• 602.3 (Support Docs)	Supports	TextAid generates semantically-correct markup to allow assistive technologies to programmatically assess the right sequence of content and controls.
1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 501 (Web)(Software)• 504.2 (Authoring Tool)• 602.3 (Support Docs)	Supports	TextAid uses WAI-ARIA techniques to ensure that components are correctly conveyed to assistive technologies and do not rely on sensory characteristics.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.4.1 Use of Color (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">501 (Web)(Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)	Supports	TextAid does not use color as only visual means of conveying information, indicating an action, prompting a response, or distinguishing a visual element.
1.4.2 Audio Control (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">501 (Web)(Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)	Supports	Audio is never played automatically by TextAid. The user always has full control of audio playback, volume, position, etc. via mouse, keyboard or touch screen.
2.1.1 Keyboard (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">501 (Web)(Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)	Partially supports	Generally, TextAid navigation works well with the browser's standard navigation keys (arrow keys, tab, enter, etc.). In rare cases, elements may not be accessible via keyboard.
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">501 (Web)(Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)	Partially supports	Users cannot be trapped in content requiring the use of other input methods. Some tools, such as Reading Ruler, have limited support for tabbing with the keyboard.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) 	Not applicable	TextAid has no timing functions and thus no content that is altered on "time out".
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) 	Supports	TextAid uses moving and scrolling elements to show reading position and provide text highlighting in parallel with the text-to-speech audio. All movement is controlled by the user and never starts without the user's input.
2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) 	Supports	TextAid does not contain parts that flash more than three times in one second.
2.4.1 Bypass Blocks (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) 	Supports	TextAid lets the user bypass blocks of content.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.4.2 Page Titled (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">501 (Web)(Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)	Supports	All parts of the TextAid web application have titles that describe their topic or purpose.
2.4.3 Focus Order (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">501 (Web)(Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)	Supports	Navigation of elements in TextAid using keyboard (e.g. with tab) works in a logical sequence.
2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context) (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">501 (Web)(Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)	Supports	TextAid uses descriptive text or WAI-ARIA attributes to identify the purpose of links.
3.1.1 Language of Page (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">501 (Web)(Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)	Supports	The language of the currently visible document or section of TextAid can always be determined programmatically via lang attributes in the markup.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
3.2.1 On Focus (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) 	Supports	Change of focus alone never triggers a change of context in TextAid.
3.2.2 On Input (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) 	Supports	Changing the setting of a control in TextAid never changes context.
3.3.1 Error Identification (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) 	Supports	All errors in TextAid are described to the user in text.
3.3.2 Labels or Instructions (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 501 (Web)(Software) 504.2 (Authoring Tool) 602.3 (Support Docs) 	Partially supports	The vast majority of user input controls are described by the means of labels or instructions in TextAid. TextAid uses standard HTML and WAI-ARIA attributes to associate labels and instructions to user interface elements.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
4.1.1 Parsing (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">501 (Web)(Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)	Supports	All markup in TextAid is well formed according to markup language specifications.
4.1.2 Name, Role, Value (Level A) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">501 (Web)(Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)	Supports	TextAid uses standard HTML and WAI-ARIA attributes to describe the identity, role, operation, and state of user interface elements.

Table 2: Success Criteria, Level AA

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.2.4 Captions (Live) (Level AA) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">501 (Web)(Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)	Supports	TextAid is a text-to-speech product and produces audio from content that is already in text form. The corresponding text is highlighted while speech audio is played. TextAid does not contain prerecorded audio.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.2.5 Audio Description (Prerecorded) (Level AA) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 501 (Web)(Software)• 504.2 (Authoring Tool)• 602.3 (Support Docs)	Not applicable	TextAid does not contain video material.
1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum) (Level AA) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 501 (Web)(Software)• 504.2 (Authoring Tool)• 602.3 (Support Docs)	Partially supports	Almost all text in TextAid has a sufficient contrast ratio. A few elements may have a slightly lower contrast ratio.
1.4.4 Resize text (Level AA) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 501 (Web)(Software)• 504.2 (Authoring Tool)• 602.3 (Support Docs)	Supports	TextAid supports standard zoom capabilities built into modern web browsers and no functionality is lost when zoomed to 200%. Documents in layout mode can be zoomed with internal zoom buttons.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.4.5 Images of Text (Level AA) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 501 (Web)(Software)• 504.2 (Authoring Tool)• 602.3 (Support Docs)	Supports	TextAid's document viewport (Layout Mode) contains images of text, but this can be switched to Text Mode by choosing the text viewport.
2.4.5 Multiple Ways (Level AA) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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	Not applicable	Although TextAid is a web application based on HTML, CSS and Javascript, it is not a web page and does not have navigation links in the traditional sense.
2.4.6 Headings and Labels (Level AA) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 501 (Web)(Software)• 504.2 (Authoring Tool)• 602.3 (Support Docs)	Supports	All headings and labels in TextAid are descriptive.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.4.7 Focus Visible (Level AA) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">501 (Web)(Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)	Partially supports	The focused element is generally indicated while navigating with the keyboard in TextAid. In some cases, indication may be lost after making a selection and navigating to a new part of the application.
3.1.2 Language of Parts (Level AA) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">501 (Web)(Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)	Supports	Any deviating language in parts of TextAid are indicated with HTML lang attributes.
3.2.3 Consistent Navigation (Level AA) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">501 (Web)(Software) – Does not apply to non-web software504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs) – Does not apply to non-web docs	Supports	The user interface of TextAid has a consistent structure. Individual menus and other components are rarely used in more than one place.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
3.2.4 Consistent Identification (Level AA) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">501 (Web)(Software) – Does not apply to non-web software504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs) – Does not apply to non-web docs	Supports	In the rare cases where TextAid components are repeated, they are identified consistently.
3.3.3 Error Suggestion (Level AA) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">501 (Web)(Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)	Partially supports	Error messages in TextAid are almost always sufficiently descriptive and helpful.
3.3.4 Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data) (Level AA) Also applies to: Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none">501 (Web)(Software)504.2 (Authoring Tool)602.3 (Support Docs)	Supports	When placing orders and making account registrations in TextAid, data is checked for errors and the user gets an opportunity to review, confirm, and correct before finalizing. Submissions can generally be changed afterwards.

Table 3: Success Criteria, Level AAA

Notes: This table is not included since ReadSpeaker TextAid does not conform to WCAG 2.0 level AAA (only A and AA as seen above).

Revised Section 508 Report

Chapter 3: [Functional Performance Criteria](#) (FPC)

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
302.1 Without Vision	Supports	TextAid uses standard HTML and ARIA attributes to convey the identity, operation, and state of user interface elements to Assistive Technologies, and to let the user operate TextAid.
302.2 With Limited Vision	Supports	TextAid supports standard browser magnification and contrast adjustments.
302.3 Without Perception of Color	Supports	Using TextAid does not require perception of color.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
302.4 Without Hearing	Supports	Although TextAid is a text-to-speech product, people with no hearing can control all its features without hearing the speech.
302.5 With Limited Hearing	Supports	Although TextAid is a text-to-speech product, people with limited hearing can control all its features without hearing the speech.
302.6 Without Speech	Supports	TextAid uses speech input only in its Dictation tool, which is an optional feature.
302.7 With Limited Manipulation	Supports	Usage of TextAid does not require fine motor controls or simultaneous actions.
302.8 With Limited Reach and Strength	Supports	TextAid can be used well by users with limited reach and strength.
302.9 With Limited Language, Cognitive, and Learning Abilities	Supports	TextAid is directly targeted towards people with limited language, cognitive and learning abilities.

Chapter 4: [Hardware](#)

Notes: ReadSpeaker TextAid is a web application and is not subject to the requirements of this section.

Chapter 5: [Software](#)

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
501.1 Scope – Incorporation of WCAG 2.0 AA	See WCAG 2.0 section	See information in section WCAG 2.0 Report
502 Interoperability with Assistive Technology		
502.2.1 User Control of Accessibility Features	Not applicable	TextAid is not considered platform software as defined by Section 508.
502.2.2 No Disruption of Accessibility Features	Supports	TextAid does not disrupt accessibility features in the underlying platforms (OS or browser).
502.3 Accessibility Services		
502.3.1 Object Information	Supports	TextAid uses WAI-ARIA attributes to describe the role, state, and description of user interface elements.
502.3.2 Modification of Object Information	Supports	TextAid uses standard HTML or ARIA object roles for maximum compatibility with assistive technologies.
502.3.3 Row, Column, and Headers	Not applicable	TextAid does not contain data tables.
502.3.4 Values	Supports	TextAid uses standard HTML and ARIA object attributes to ensure that values are possible to determine with assistive technology.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
502.3.5 Modification of Values	Supports	TextAid uses standard HTML and ARIA object attributes to ensure that values are possible to modify with assistive technology.
502.3.6 Label Relationships	Supports	All label relationships in TextAid are set via standard HTML and possible to determine with assistive technology.
502.3.7 Hierarchical Relationships	Supports	All object hierarchies in TextAid are based on standard HTML and possible to determine with assistive technology.
502.3.8 Text	Supports	All objects in TextAid adhere to HTML standards and their content can be programmatically determined.
502.3.9 Modification of Text	Not applicable	Text in TextAid is placed in standard HTML elements and can be modified programmatically by the user.
502.3.10 List of Actions	Supports	All objects in TextAid adhere to HTML standards and thus all actions can be programmatically determined.
502.3.11 Actions on Objects	Supports	All objects in TextAid adhere to HTML standards and assistive technology can therefore execute actions on all objects.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
502.3.12 Focus Cursor	Supports	All objects in TextAid adhere to HTML standards and assistive technology can therefore determine focus of cursor, text insertion point or selection of GUI components.
502.3.13 Modification of Focus Cursor	Supports	All objects in TextAid adhere to HTML standards and assistive technology can therefore set cursor focus.
502.3.14 Event Notification	Supports	Notifications of events in TextAid are given with standard HTML components and are available to assistive technologies.
502.4 Platform Accessibility Features	Not applicable	TextAid is not platform software as defined by Section 508.
<u>503 Applications</u>		
503.2 User Preferences	Supports	TextAid generally respects user preferences from the browser or OS. If a user enables high contrast mode, TextAid will display with high contrast.
503.3 Alternative User Interfaces	Not applicable	TextAid does not have alternative user interfaces.
<i>503.4 User Controls for Captions and Audio Description</i>		
503.4.1 Caption Controls	Not applicable	TextAid does not provide video.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
503.4.2 Audio Description Controls	Not applicable	TextAid does not provide video.
504 Authoring Tools		
504.2 Content Creation or Editing (if not authoring tool, enter “not applicable”)	See WCAG 2.0 section	See information in section WCAG 2.0 Report
504.2.1 Preservation of Information Provided for Accessibility in Format Conversion	Not applicable	TextAid does not save content in new formats.
504.2.2 PDF Export	Not applicable	TextAid does not export PDF 1.7.
504.3 Prompts	Not applicable	TextAid does not create content to an extent that makes WCAG content relevant.
504.4 Templates	Not applicable	TextAid does not provide templates.

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

Notes: This report covers accessibility conformance for ReadSpeaker TextAid and does not discuss documentation or support services.

Legal Disclaimer

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