

1203.1 – Digital Accessibility

Purpose:

This policy is written to fulfill the North Dakota State Board of Higher Education policy 1203.1, Digital Accessibility.

Policy:

Bismarck State College (BSC) will provide access to campus websites, web services and web applications to individuals with known disabilities as required by law. An individual requesting an accommodation may be required to provide documentation of eligibility for the accommodation. Accommodations must be within reason and not create undue hardship for the college. Exceptions to the policy must receive approval from the BSC Chief Information Officer.

Definitions:

Accessibility Standards refer to official college conventions, norms or requirements intended to provide access to an environment, product, or service, particularly by people with disabilities.

Accessible means a person with a disability is afforded the opportunity to acquire the same information, engage in the same interactions, and enjoy the same services as a person without a disability in an equally effective and equally inclusive manner, with substantially equivalent ease of use.

Alternative Formats means information presented in Braille, in large print, via audio recording, or in an electronic format that can be accessed by people with disabilities. The alternative format must make the same content available and provide an equivalent level of access to the content by people with disabilities that is available to others in the original document.

Electronic Content includes but is not limited to content that is public facing; websites or web-based applications owned or controlled by the college and used in the programs or activities of the college; content that is broadly disseminated within the college; emergency notifications; formal acknowledgements; and any public educational and training materials.

Individual with a disability refers to any person who has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more of the person's major life activities; or any person who has a record of such impairment which means that a person has a history of or has been classified as having a mental or physical impairment that materially limits one or more major life activities.

Qualified individual with a disability refers to an individual who, with or without reasonable modifications to rules, policies, or practices, the removal of architectural, communication, or transportation barriers, or the provision of auxiliary aids and services, meets the essential eligibility requirements for receipt of services or participation in a system office, college, or university program or activity. Essential eligibility requirements include, but are not limited to, academic and technical standards requisite to admission or participation in an education program or activity.

Web Page is a (web) document rendered by a markup language, (e.g., xhtml, html), independent of its transmission protocol (e.g., http) and user agent (browser/reader).

Website is any collection of Web pages residing under a single domain and whose content is centered around a single organizational unit or workgroup, a course, a research or business activity, or an area of academic content.

References:

SBHE policy 1203.1

<https://ndusbpos.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/NDUSPoliciesandProcedures/EYrnAFBZZ0hDIRr4egGcYaABLRZIPa7Db6h9PJ4fpmpKUA?e=DT6uDD>

History of This Policy:

First policy reviewed and approved by Campus Council on September 9, 2023. Reviewed by the Executive Council on September 9th, 2023 and approved by the President on October 5th, 2023.