INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ACCESSIBILITY

I.   Purpose:

        A. The University of Arkansas System is committed to ensuring equal access to all programs, services, and activities provided through information technology.

        B. This policy is intended to assist all campuses, or divisions and units in implementing practices that comply with state and federal accessibility standards, including the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, and the Arkansas Technology Access for the Blind Act. The University believes that compliance with these laws furthers its mission to effectively communicate and provide educational and research-based information to students, faculty, staff, administrators, and the people of Arkansas.

II.   Establishment of Policies and Procedures:

        Each campus or division or unit in the University of Arkansas System shall develop policies and procedures to ensure compliance with the requirements of applicable state and federal laws and regulations on accessibility, including the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, and the Arkansas Technology Access for the Blind Act (ATABA), Ark. Code Ann. § 25-26-201 *et seq*. Each campus shall undertake reasonable efforts to do the following:

        A. Make websites, web-based applications (including mobile applications), educational collaboration tools, and other information technology accessible to students, faculty, staff, and participants in University programs and activities;

        B. Require all academic and administrative units that create, edit, or maintain websites, web-based content, and web-based applications used in the University's programs and activities to undertake reasonable efforts to ensure that websites and web-based applications conform to the most recent Worldwide Web Consortium Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG). In circumstances in which conformance with WCAG standards is not feasible, content and functionality shall be made available to users upon request (such as by a request to the Student Disability Office);

        C. Instruct all persons involved in the procurement, preparation, and maintenance of University websites, web-based content, web-based applications, and other information technology to adopt this goal and, where necessary, seek the assistance of campus resources that support online accessibility; and

D. Require that all purchases of information technology comply with state and federal law, including inclusion of a technology access clause developed pursuant to that statute.

III.   Review and Approval of Policies and Procedures by the Office of General Counsel

All Information Technology Accessibility policies and procedures must be reviewed and approved by the Office of General Counsel prior to their implementation by each campus, division or unit.

March 30, 2016