# WCAG 1.4.9 AAA

Oracle believes that the PDF fixes SBCTC requests are above compliance requirements and meet AAA guidelines.

Additional feedback from Russell, who indicates as follows:  
  
“This is with regard to the 'No Exception' and PDF accessibility. SBCTC continues to steer us in the direction of WCAG 1.4.9.  
  
We point out that WCAG has 3 sets of guidelines A, AA, and AAA. When we say that we meet AA guidelines, this includes both A and AA.  
  
Not only is Level AAA not supported by Oracle applications across the board; to our knowledge no vendors support AAA. AA is the minimum conformance in the industry and is what all governments require as a minimum. In the US, WCAG AA critiera is the basis for Section 508 and the Americans with Disabilities Act.”

# Conforming Alternate Version

Hello Padmaja -

According to Development and the WCAG 2.1 guidelines:

1) the accessible version must provide all the same functionality as the non-accessible version for the intended mode of operation

2) the accessible version must be easily reachable from the non-accessible version...this can be accomplished through security

(i.e. only giving access to the accessible version) or through screen reader mode redirecting the user automatically to the accessible version

This information is from: [**Oracle’s Setting up Accessibility for Year End Documents**](https://docs.oracle.com/cd/F40831_01/hcm92pbr38/eng/hcm/hepy/task_SettingUpAccessibilityForYear-EndForms.html?pli=ul_d104e44_hepy)

Regards,

Kimberly

Wanted to also include some additional information received from Development for your group:

Techniques for Providing a Conforming Alternate Version

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The most important part of providing a conforming alternate version is providing a mechanism to find it from the non-conforming version. A number of different methods for doing this have been identified since particular techniques may not always be possible for specific technologies or situations. For example, if the author has control of the server there are some powerful techniques that will allow users to always have the choice up front. In many cases however the author may not have control of the services on their Web server. In these cases other techniques are provided. A link on the non-conforming page is another powerful technique but not all non-conforming technologies support hypertext links.

Below are the techniques that have been identified to date. We expect that additional techniques will also be developed over time and they will be added here as they arise and the support for these approaches by user agents including assistive technologies can be demonstrated. For example a developer of a new technology that some assistive technologies cannot access might build in a feature that would allow those technologies to automatically present a link to users that could take them to an alternate version.

Sufficient Techniques for Providing Conforming Alternative Versions of Web pages

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Each numbered item in this section represents a technique or combination of techniques that the WCAG Working Group deems sufficient for meeting this Success Criterion. However, it is not necessary to use these particular techniques. For information on using other techniques, see Understanding Techniques for WCAG Success Criteria, particularly the "Other Techniques" section.

G136: Providing a link at the beginning of a nonconforming Web page that points to a conforming alternate version

G190: Providing a link adjacent to or associated with a non-conforming object that links to a conforming alternate version

C29: Using a style switcher to provide a conforming alternate version (CSS)

SCR38: Creating a conforming alternate version for a web page designed with progressive enhancement (Scripting)

SVR2: Using .htaccess to ensure that the only way to access non-conforming content is from conforming content (SERVER)

SVR3: Using HTTP referer to ensure that the only way to access non-conforming content is from conforming content (SERVER)

SVR4: Allowing users to provide preferences for the display of conforming alternate versions (SERVER)

Common Failures Identified by the Working Group

F19: Failure of Conformance Requirement 1 due to not providing a method for the user to find the alternative conforming version of a non-conforming Web page

Additional Techniques (Advisory) for providing conforming alternative versions of Web pages

Providing reciprocal links between conforming and non-conforming versions (future link)

Excluding non-conforming content from search results (future link)

Using content negotiation (future link)

Not displaying content that relies on technologies that are not accessibility-supported when the technology is turned off or not supported. (future link)

Using metadata to allow location of a conforming alternative version from the URI of a non-conforming page (future link)

Examples of Conforming Alternate Versions

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- An intranet site with multiple versions.

A large company was concerned that the use of emerging Web technologies on an intranet site might limit their ability to address the needs of diverse office locations that have different technology bases and individual employees who use a wide variety of user agents and assistive technologies. To address these concerns, the company created an alternate version of the content that met all Level A Success Criteria using a more limited set of uses of accessibility-supported content technologies. The two versions link to each other.

- An informational site ensuring backward compatibility.

An information site covers a wide variety of subjects and wants to enable visitors to quickly find the topics they are looking for. To do this, the site has implemented an interactive menu system that is only supported in the most recent version of two popular user agents. To ensure that visitors who do not use these specific user agents are still able to effectively use the site, a navigation mechanism that does not depend on the interactive menu system is presented to user agents that do not support the newer technology.