

VPAT/ACR Voluntary Product Accessibility Template ScienceDirect

26 June 2025 Madison Russell Elsevier Digital Accessibility Team (accessibility@elsevier.com)



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Version History

Version	Authors	Description
19 Sep 2017	T Gies, J Nemchik	This PPT format replaces the legacy VPAT in Word. This VPAT uses the WCAG 2.1 A and AA standards.
10 Nov 2017	T Gies	Added: conformance claim, 508 chapter 302, chapter 6. Revised 3.1.2 to Partially Supports since the lang tag was added to articles.
7 Jun 2019	T Gies	Added: additional system pages. Top to bottom review based upon current SD Web application. Updated scores and evaluation based upon remediation efforts.
10 Dec 2020	T Gies	Added 12 A/AA WCAG 2.1 Criteria Evaluations. Fixed color contrast issues for reference collection branding colors, article highlights text. Provided many updates to fixes from past year. Added details as requested from 21 Sept demo to CSU Vendor Accessibility Demo. New tips for Bypass blocks. Removed all Personal Details pages as ID+ system now handles these pages in a separate VPAT. Upgraded checkpoints to fully supports: 1.4.1 Use of Color, 3.2.4 Consistent Identification.
24 August 2022	T Gies	 1.2.2 Closed Captions – Switched to partially supports based upon new Science Talks journal. 1.3.1 Info and Relationships – Added updates on PDF tagging for articles. 1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence – Fixed issue with visually hidden forms being announced by AT. 1.4.3 Text Contrast – Darkened the orange hover states for links/buttons. Fixed other contrast issues. 2.4.3 Focus Order – Fixed search history maintaining focus issue. 2.5.3 Label in Name – Fixed Feedback button and publication link in search results. 3.1.2 Language of Parts – Non-English search results now identified correctly. 4.1.3 Search History – Saved message is now accessible.
16 November 2023	T. Gies	Captured new pages since last VPAT (Author Page redesign, Topics Index Page, Topics Subject Page, Landing page for 3 rd party content, Calls for papers). Link Purpose (2.4.4), Label in name (2.5.3), Labels or instructions (3.3.2), Name, role, value (4.1.2) upgraded to Supports. Removed all references to Enhanced Reader (a retired feature). Incorporated feedback from Clark Community College (through Deque Audit).
17 December2024	M. Russell	Captured new pages since last VPAT (Open Access Options, Guide for Authors, Special Issues, 3P Landing Page, Insights, Call for Paper, Reading Assistant, SD AI Banner, Selected Query in Search, SD AI Landing Page, SD AI Results Page, New Autosuggest Component for Keyword and "Journal or Book", Q&A), tested all pages against new criteria for WCAG 2.2

Product Information and Scope

Name of Product	ScienceDirect					
URL	http://www.sciencedirect.com					
Date of Last Evaluation	26 June 2025					
Completed by	Madison Russell Accessibility Specialist <u>accessibility@elsevier.com</u>					
Testing Tools and Methods	Hands-on keyboard operation Chrome DevTools Wave, PopeTech Color Contrast Analyzer JAWS 17, NVDA 2020.3 on Chrome V 95, Windows 10 HTML Validator for Firefox User Testing with people who use screen readers					
Guidelines Used to Complete this VPAT	W3C WCAG 2.2 <u>https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG22/</u> Elsevier Accessibility Checklist: <u>http://romeo.elsevier.com/accessibility_checklist/</u>					
Pages Covered	Home, Mobile Menu/Spine, Quick Search, Journals & Books, Search Results, Journal Article, Book Home Page, Book Series, Handbook, MRW, Book Chapter, Journal Home Page, Recommended Articles, Shopping Cart, Check Out, Author Videos, Reference Modules, Browse Topics, Topic Page, Author Page, Topics Index, Topics Subject, 3 rd Party Landing Page, Calls for Papers Browse, Open Access Options, Guide for Authors, Special Issues, Compare, Content Syndication Page, Insights, Call for Papers, Reading Assistant, SD AI Banner, Selected Query in Search, SD AI Landing Page, SD AI Results Page, Q&A					
Notes	<u>Conformance according to the W3C</u> : If there is no content to which a success criterion applies, the success criterion is satisfied. In this case where we conform due to no applicable content, we have marked the slide 5 with "Supports*" – note the asterisks.					
Additional Information	ScienceDirect Accessibility Statement: https://service.elsevier.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/37160/c/10543/supporthub/sciencedirect/ Elsevier Accessibility policy: https://www.elsevier.com/about/accessibility RELX accessibility policy: https://www.relx.com/~/media/Files/R/RELX- Group/documents/responsibility/policies/accessibility-policy-2024.pdf					

Conformance Claim

On 26 June 2025, all Web pages at https://www.sciencedirect.com/ conform with level A and AA checkpoints of the WCAG 2.2 (Web Content Accessibility Guidelines) as described in this document. All current development and future page revisions target Level AA WCAG 2.2. When pages are not in full conformance, the specific violations are noted in the "Examples of Does not Support" section. PDF files are currently not conformant to the PDF UA spec, but contain machine readable text for compatibility with text to speech engines. A PDF workaround document is available upon request. Tagged PDFs on ScienceDirect for new journal articles started for some titles in 2022, and is available for all chapters published after June 2025. The technologies that this content relies upon are HTML5, CSS 2.0, JavaScript 1.2, JPEG, SVG, ARIA 1.1 and mathML V3.0, MathJax.js v2.7.5. Users having any accessibility issues with ScienceDirect can contact the Elsevier Digital Accessibility Team at: accessibility@elsevier.com.

Current ScienceDirect WCAG 2.2 Individual Guideline Conformance (2025 June)

WCAG 2.2 Success Criterion		Evaluation	WCAG 2.2 Success Criterion		Evaluation
<u>1.1.1</u> Non-text Content	А	Partially Supports	2.4.3 Focus Order	A	Supports
1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded)	A	Partially Supports	2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context)	A	Supports
1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded)	А	Partially Supports	(Supports		Supports
1.2.3 Audio Description or Full Text Alternative	А	Partially Supports			Supports
<u>1.2.4</u> Captions (Live)	AA	Supports (N/A)			
1.2.5 Audio Description	AA	Partially Supports			Partially supports
1.3.1 Info and Relationships	А	Partially Supports		AA	Supports
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence	А	Supports	2.5.1 Pointer Gestures	A	Supports (N/A)
1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics	А	Supports		A	Supports
1.3.4 Orientation	AA	Supports		A	Supports
1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose	AA	Supports (N/A)	2.5.4 Motion Actuation	A	Supports (N/A)
1.4.1 Use of Color	A	Supports	2.5.7 Dragging Movements	AA	Supports (N/A)
1.4.2 Audio Control	A	Supports (N/A)	2.5.8 Target Size (Minimum)	AA	Supports
1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum)		Supports	<u>3.1.1</u> Language of Page	A	Supports
1.4.4 Resize text		Supports	<u>3.1.2</u> Language of Parts	AA	Partially Supports
1.4.5 Images of Text		Supports	<u>3.2.1</u> On Focus	A	Supports
1.4.10 Reflow		Supports	<u>3.2.2</u> On Input	A	Supports
1.4.11 Non-text Contrast		Supports	3.2.3 Consistent Navigation	AA	Supports
1.4.12 Text Spacing	AA	Supports	3.2.4 Consistent Identification	AA	Supports
1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus	AA	Supports (N/A)	3.2.6 Consistent Help	A	Supports
2.1.1 Keyboard		Supports	3.3.1 Error Identification	A	Supports
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap		Supports	3.3.2 Labels or Instructions	A	Supports
2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts		Supports (N/A)	3.3.3 Error Suggestion	AA	Supports
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable		Supports (N/A)	<u>3.3.4</u> Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data)	AA	Supports
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide		Partially supports	<u>3.3.7</u> Redundant Entry	А	Supports
2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold		Supports (N/A)	3.3.8 Accessible Authentication (Minimum)	AA	Supports
2.4.1 Bypass Blocks		Supports	4.1.1 Parsing	A	Supports
2.4.2 Page Titled		Supports	<u>4.1.2</u> Name, Role, Value	А	Supports
			4.1.3 Status Messages	AA	Supports

Current ScienceDirect WCAG 2.2 Individual Guideline Conformance (2024 December)

WCAG 2.2 Success Criterion		Evaluation	WCAG 2.2 Success Criterion		Evaluation
<u>1.1.1</u> Non-text Content	А	Partially Supports		А	Supports
1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded)	А	Partially Supports	2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context)	A	Supports
1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded)	A	Partially Supports			Supports
1.2.3 Audio Description or Full Text Alternative	А	Partially Supports			Supports
<u>1.2.4</u> Captions (Live)	AA	Supports (N/A)			
1.2.5 Audio Description	AA	Does Not Support			Partially supports
1.3.1 Info and Relationships	А	Partially Supports		AA	Supports
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence	А	Supports		A	Supports (N/A)
1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics	А	Supports		A	Supports
1.3.4 Orientation	AA	Supports		A	Supports
1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose	AA	Supports (N/A)	2.5.4 Motion Actuation	A	Supports (N/A)
1.4.1 Use of Color	А	Supports	2.5.7 Dragging Movements	AA	Supports (N/A)
1.4.2 Audio Control	А	Supports (N/A)	2.5.8 Target Size (Minimum)	AA	Supports
1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum)	AA	Supports	<u>3.1.1</u> Language of Page	A	Supports
1.4.4 Resize text	AA	Supports	<u>3.1.2</u> Language of Parts	AA	Partially Supports
1.4.5 Images of Text		Supports	<u>3.2.1</u> On Focus	A	Supports
1.4.10 Reflow	AA	Supports	<u>3.2.2</u> On Input	A	Supports
1.4.11 Non-text Contrast		Supports	3.2.3 Consistent Navigation	AA	Supports
1.4.12 Text Spacing		Supports	3.2.4 Consistent Identification	AA	Supports
1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus		Supports (N/A)	3.2.6 Consistent Help	A	Supports
2.1.1 Keyboard		Supports	3.3.1 Error Identification	А	Supports
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap		Supports	3.3.2 Labels or Instructions	А	Supports
2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts		Supports (N/A)	3.3.3 Error Suggestion	AA	Supports
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable		Supports (N/A)	3.3.4 Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data)	AA	Supports
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide	A	Partially supports	<u>3.3.7</u> Redundant Entry	А	Supports
2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold		Supports (N/A)	3.3.8 Accessible Authentication (Minimum)	AA	Supports
2.4.1 Bypass Blocks		Supports	<u>4.1.1</u> Parsing	А	Supports
2.4.2 Page Titled		Supports	<u>4.1.2</u> Name, Role, Value	А	Supports
			4.1.3 Status Messages	AA	Supports

Previous ScienceDirect WCAG 2.1 Individual Guideline Conformance (2023 November)

WCAG 2.1 Success Criterion		Evaluation
1.1.1 Non-text Content	А	Partially Supports
<u>1.2.1</u> Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded)	А	Partially Supports
1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded)	А	Partially Supports
<u>1.2.3</u> Audio Description or Full Text Alternative	A	Partially Supports
<u>1.2.4</u> Captions (Live)	AA	Supports (N/A)
1.2.5 Audio Description	AA	Does Not Support
1.3.1 Info and Relationships	А	Partially Supports
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence	А	Supports
1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics	А	Supports
1.3.4 Orientation	AA	Supports
1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose	AA	Supports (N/A)
<u>1.4.1</u> Use of Color	А	Supports
<u>1.4.2</u> Audio Control	А	Supports (N/A)
1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum)	AA	Supports
<u>1.4.4</u> Resize text	AA	Supports
<u>1.4.5</u> Images of Text	AA	Supports
<u>1.4.10</u> Reflow	AA	Supports
<u>1.4.11</u> Non-text Contrast	AA	Supports
1.4.12 Text Spacing	AA	Supports
1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus	AA	Supports (N/A)
2.1.1 Keyboard	А	Supports
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap	А	Supports
2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts	А	Supports (N/A)
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable	А	Supports (N/A)
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide	А	Supports (N/A)

WCAG 2.1 Success Criterion		Evaluation
2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below	А	Supports (N/A)
Threshold	A	Supports (N/A)
2.4.1 Bypass Blocks	А	Supports
2.4.2 Page Titled	А	Supports
2.4.3 Focus Order	А	Supports
2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context)	А	Supports
2.4.5 Multiple Ways	AA	Supports
2.4.6 Headings and Labels	AA	Supports
2.4.7 Focus Visible	AA	Supports
2.5.1 Pointer Gestures	А	Supports (N/A)
2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation	А	Supports
<u>2.5.3</u> Label in Name	А	Supports
2.5.4 Motion Actuation	А	Supports (N/A)
<u>3.1.1</u> Language of Page	А	Supports
<u>3.1.2</u> Language of Parts	AA	Partially Supports
<u>3.2.1</u> On Focus	А	Supports
<u>3.2.2</u> On Input	А	Supports
3.2.3 Consistent Navigation	AA	Supports
3.2.4 Consistent Identification	AA	Supports
3.3.1 Error Identification	А	Supports
3.3.2 Labels or Instructions	А	Supports
3.3.3 Error Suggestion	AA	Supports
<u>3.3.4</u> Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data)	AA	Supports
<u>4.1.1</u> Parsing	А	Supports
4.1.2 Name, Role, Value	А	Supports
4.1.3 Status Messages	AA	Supports

Previous ScienceDirect WCAG 2.1 Individual Guideline Conformance (2022 August)

WCAG 2.1 Success Criterion		Evaluation
1.1.1 Non-text Content	А	Partially Supports
<u>1.2.1</u> Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded)	А	Partially Supports
1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded)	А	Partially Supports
<u>1.2.3</u> Audio Description or Full Text Alternative	А	Partially Supports
<u>1.2.4</u> Captions (Live)	AA	Supports (N/A)
1.2.5 Audio Description	AA	Does Not Support
1.3.1 Info and Relationships	А	Partially Supports
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence	А	Supports
1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics	А	Supports
1.3.4 Orientation	AA	Supports
1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose	AA	Supports (N/A)
<u>1.4.1</u> Use of Color	А	Supports
<u>1.4.2</u> Audio Control	А	Supports (N/A)
<u>1.4.3</u> Contrast (Minimum)	AA	Supports
<u>1.4.4</u> Resize text	AA	Supports
1.4.5 Images of Text	AA	Supports
<u>1.4.10</u> Reflow	AA	Supports
1.4.11 Non-text Contrast	AA	Supports
1.4.12 Text Spacing	AA	Supports
1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus	AA	Supports (N/A)
2.1.1 Keyboard	А	Supports
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap	А	Supports
2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts	А	Supports (N/A)
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable	А	Supports (N/A)
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide	А	Supports (N/A)

WCAG 2.1 Success Criterion		Evaluation
2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below	А	Supports (N/A)
Threshold	A	Supports (N/A)
2.4.1 Bypass Blocks	А	Supports
2.4.2 Page Titled	А	Supports
<u>2.4.3</u> Focus Order	А	Supports
2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context)	А	Partially Supports
2.4.5 Multiple Ways	AA	Supports
2.4.6 Headings and Labels	AA	Supports
2.4.7 Focus Visible	AA	Supports
2.5.1 Pointer Gestures	А	Supports (N/A)
2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation	А	Supports
<u>2.5.3</u> Label in Name	А	Partially Supports
2.5.4 Motion Actuation	А	Supports (N/A)
<u>3.1.1</u> Language of Page	А	Supports
<u>3.1.2</u> Language of Parts	AA	Partially Supports
<u>3.2.1</u> On Focus	А	Supports
<u>3.2.2</u> On Input	А	Supports
3.2.3 Consistent Navigation	AA	Supports
3.2.4 Consistent Identification	AA	Supports
3.3.1 Error Identification	А	Supports
3.3.2 Labels or Instructions	А	Partially Supports
3.3.3 Error Suggestion	AA	Supports
<u>3.3.4</u> Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data)	AA	Supports
<u>4.1.1</u> Parsing	А	Supports
<u>4.1.2</u> Name, Role, Value	А	Partially Supports
4.1.3 Status Messages	AA	Supports

PREVIOUS ScienceDirect WCAG 2.1 Individual Guideline Conformance (2020 December)

WCAG 2.1 Success Criterion		Evaluation
1.1.1 Non-text Content	А	Partially Supports
<u>1.2.1</u> Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded)	А	Partially Supports
1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded)	А	Does Not Support
<u>1.2.3</u> Audio Description or Full Text Alternative	A	Partially Supports
1.2.4 Captions (Live)	AA	Supports (N/A)
1.2.5 Audio Description	AA	Does Not Support
1.3.1 Info and Relationships	А	Partially Supports
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence	А	Supports
1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics	А	Supports
1.3.4 Orientation	AA	Supports
1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose	AA	Supports (N/A)
<u>1.4.1</u> Use of Color	А	Supports
<u>1.4.2</u> Audio Control	А	Supports (N/A)
<u>1.4.3</u> Contrast (Minimum)	AA	Partially Supports
<u>1.4.4</u> Resize text	AA	Supports
<u>1.4.5</u> Images of Text	AA	Supports
<u>1.4.10</u> Reflow	AA	Supports
<u>1.4.11</u> Non-text Contrast	AA	Partially Supports
1.4.12 Text Spacing	AA	Supports
1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus	AA	Supports (N/A)
2.1.1 Keyboard	А	Supports
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap	А	Supports
2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts	А	Supports (N/A)
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable	А	Supports (N/A)
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide	А	Supports (N/A)

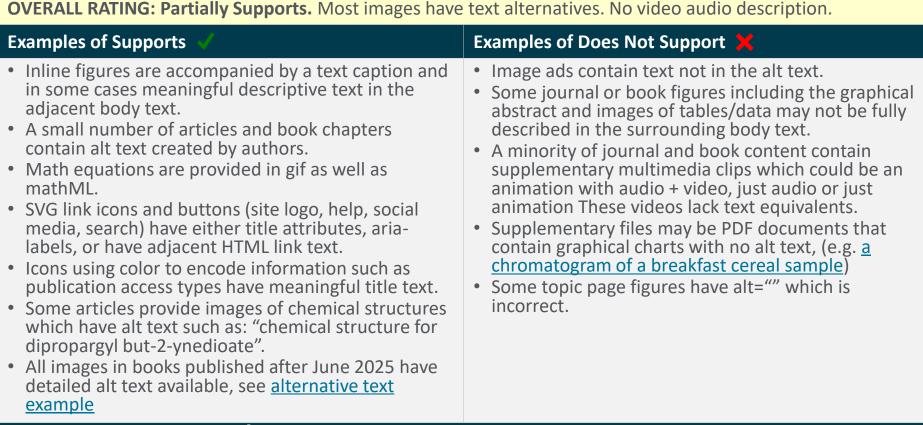
WCAG 2.1 Success Criterion		Evaluation
2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below	А	Supports (N/A)
Threshold	A	Supports (N/A)
2.4.1 Bypass Blocks	А	Supports
2.4.2 Page Titled	А	Supports
2.4.3 Focus Order	А	Supports
2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context)	А	Supports
2.4.5 Multiple Ways	AA	Supports
2.4.6 Headings and Labels	AA	Supports
2.4.7 Focus Visible	AA	Supports
2.5.1 Pointer Gestures	А	Supports (N/A)
2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation	А	Supports
<u>2.5.3</u> Label in Name	А	Partially Supports
2.5.4 Motion Actuation	А	Supports (N/A)
<u>3.1.1</u> Language of Page	А	Supports
<u>3.1.2</u> Language of Parts	AA	Partially Supports
<u>3.2.1</u> On Focus	А	Supports
<u>3.2.2</u> On Input	А	Supports
3.2.3 Consistent Navigation	AA	Supports
3.2.4 Consistent Identification	AA	Supports
3.3.1 Error Identification	А	Supports
3.3.2 Labels or Instructions	А	Partially Supports
3.3.3 Error Suggestion	AA	Supports
<u>3.3.4</u> Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data)	AA	Supports
<u>4.1.1</u> Parsing	А	Supports
<u>4.1.2</u> Name, Role, Value	А	Partially Supports
4.1.3 Status Messages	AA	Partially Supports

PREVIOUS ScienceDirect WCAG 2.0 Individual Guideline Conformance (2017 Nov)

	2.0 Individual Guideline Conformance (2	2017 NOV) 11
WCAG 2.1 Success Criterion	Level	Evaluation
1.1.1 Non-text Content	A	Partially Supports
1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded)	A	Partially Supports
1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded)	A	Does Not Support
1.2.3 Audio Description or Full Text Alternative	A	Partially Supports
1.2.4 Captions (Live)	AA	Supports (N/A)
1.2.5 Audio Description	AA	Does Not Support
1.3.1 Info and Relationships	A	Partially Supports
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence	A	Supports
1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics	A	Supports
1.4.1 Use of Color	A	Partially Supports
1.4.2 Audio Control	A	Supports (N/A)
<u>1.4.3</u> Contrast (Minimum)	AA	Partially Supports
1.4.4 Resize text	AA	Supports
1.4.5 Images of Text	AA	Supports
2.1.1 Keyboard	A	Partially Supports
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap	A	Supports
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable	A	Supports (N/A)
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide	A	Supports (N/A)
2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold	A	Supports (N/A)
2.4.1 Bypass Blocks	A	Supports
2.4.2 Page Titled	A	Supports
2.4.3 Focus Order	A	Supports
2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context)	A	Supports
2.4.5 Multiple Ways	AA	Supports
2.4.6 Headings and Labels	AA	Supports
2.4.7 Focus Visible	AA	Partially Supports
3.1.1 Language of Page	A	Partially Supports
3.1.2 Language of Parts	AA	Partially Supports
<u>3.2.1</u> On Focus	A	Supports
<u>3.2.2</u> On Input	A	Supports
3.2.3 Consistent Navigation	AA	Supports
3.2.4 Consistent Identification	AA	Partially Supports
3.3.1 Error Identification	A	Supports
3.3.2 Labels or Instructions	A	Partially Supports
3.3.3 Error Suggestion	AA	Supports
3.3.4 Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data)	AA	Supports
4.1.1 Parsing	A	Partially Supports
4.1.2 Name, Role, Value	A	Partially Supports

To deliver WCAG 2.2 1.1.1 – Non-text Content

Provide text alternatives for non-text content (e.g. images). Level A W3C Guideline



Workarounds and User Tips 🔧

- Author contact information is provided in case users wanted to request an alternative format of figure.
- Math equations are announced by JAWS, NVDA, and VoiceOver screen readers.

Partially

WCAG 2.2 1.2.1 – Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded)

Provide alternatives for pre-recorded audio-only or video-only content. Level A W3C Guideline

OVERALL RATING: Partially Supports. Some article video/audio includes adjacent body text description.

Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
 Sound clip (e.g. <u>MP3 of whistling techniques</u>) includes descriptive caption text and descriptive background information in the adjacent article text. Video with no sound (e.g. <u>MP4 of a robotic</u> <u>hardware experiment</u>) includes an adjacent description of the experiment and a timeline of what happens in the visual scene, e.g. <i>In 0-5 s, both</i> <i>two robots compressed their arms</i>. An audio description track is available for all chapters without sound, within all books published after June 2025, as well as for a selection of highly used older titles. (e.g. <u>MP4 video without sound</u>) 	 An article contains a video of Supplementary Data in the Appendix. The video does not have sound. (e.g. <u>MP4 showing 4 dough baking results from an</u> <u>experiment around redox agents</u>). The data collected on height and volume is displayed in a table graphic. The video does not have an audio track (audio description) and there is not a text alternative for time-based media.

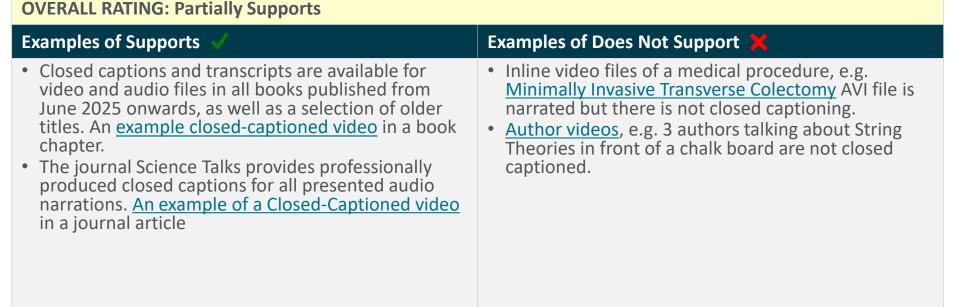
Workarounds and User Tips 🔧

- Author contact information is provided in case users wanted to request a description of an audio only or video only.
- Video clips can be downloaded by users and edited to add captioning or audio description.

Partially Supports

WCAG 2.2 1.2.2 – Captions (Prerecorded)

Provide captions for pre-recorded video with audio. Level A W3C Guideline



Workarounds and User Tips 🔍

Video clips can be downloaded by users and edited to add captioning. The Able Player is the accessible media player used for ScienceDirect. With the Able Player users can customize the display of the closed captions text. Users may also use the interactive transcript which highlights the caption text in a searchable window. <u>MAGpie (Media Access Generator) is a free tool to help add captions and descriptions to multimedia.</u> Partially

WCAG 2.2 1.2.3-Audio Description or Media Alternative

Provide either audio description or a text screen play for videos.

Level A W3C Guideline

OVEDALL DATING: Dartially Supports

OVERALL RATING. Partially Supports	
Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
 An audio description track is available for all chapters without sound, within all books published after June 2025, as well as for a selection of highly used older titles. (e.g. MP4 video without sound) Article contains a video with no sound (e.g. MP4 file of a robotic hardware experiment). The article text includes an adjacent description of the experiment and what happens by timeline, e.g. <i>In 0-5 s, both two robots compressed their arms.</i> Article contains a video with no sound (e.g. MP4 file of a 3D model of a CT-scanned human cranium). The caption contains a description of the number, shape, and colors of landmarks in the model. 	 An article contains a video of Supplementary Data in the Appendix. The video does not have sound. (e.g. <u>MP4 showing 4 dough baking results from an</u> <u>experiment around redox agents</u>). The data collected on height and volume is displayed in a table graphic. The video does not have an audio track (audio description) and there is not a text alternative for time-based media.
Workarounds and User Tips	

Video clips can be downloaded by users and edited to add audio description. <u>MAGpie (Media Access Generator) is a free tool to help add captions and descriptions to multimedia.</u> Partially

WCAG 2.2 1.2.4 Captions (Live)

Captions are provided for all live audio content in synchronized media. Level AA W3C Guideline

OVERALL RATING: Supports (no content to which this success criterion applies)

• ScienceDirect does not contain live video so the success criterion is satisfied according to the <u>W3C's</u> <u>Understanding Conformance.</u>



WCAG 2.2 1.2.5 Audio Description (Prerecorded)

Audio description is provided for prerecorded videos in synchronized media. <u>Level AA W3C Guideline</u>



OVERALL RATING: Partially Supports

Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🛛 🔀
 An audio description track is available for all chapters without sound, within all books published after June 2025, as well as for a selection of highly used older titles. (e.g. <u>MP4 video without sound</u>) 	 Inline video files of a medical procedure, e.g. <u>Minimally Invasive Transverse Colectomy</u> AVI file is narrated and there is not an audio description track. <u>Author videos</u>, e.g. a MP4 video of 3 authors talking about String Theories in front of a chalk board does not have an audio description track. <u>Supplementary files</u>, e.g. a MP4 video shows a 3D model of a CT-scanned human cranium and rotating around a vertical axis. There is a descriptive caption but not an audio description track.

Workarounds and User Tips 🔍

Video clips can be downloaded by users and edited to add audio description.

WCAG 2.2 1.3.1 Info and Relationships

Information, structure, and can be programmatically determined. Level A W3C Guideline



Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
 Well-constructed landmarks are used on all pages. Logically ordered headings are used on all pages. Areas of repeated links are contained in unordered or ordered lists, for example lists of journals, books, chapters, and articles. Groups of related inputs are labelled using <fieldset> and <legend> tags, e.g. Advanced Search.</legend></fieldset> Table data within articles utilize proper table structure with headers defined. Quick search provides aria-labels for form inputs. Pages are still usable with styles disabled. Approximately 50% of the journals have PDF tagging starting from 2024 such as Addiction Neuroscience. Tagged PDFs are available for all chapters in books published after June 2025, as well as for a selection of highly used older titles. 	 Many journal titles and some of the older book chapters do not yet have PDF tagging. Some tables on the <u>Open Access Options</u> Page are missing table heading tags. Some <u>Guide for Authors</u>, <u>Call for Papers</u>, and <u>Aims and Scope</u> headings need headings tags.
Workarounds and User Tips 🔧	
 Screen reader users (e.g. JAWS) can benefit from: Polying on the HTML article and book chapter prices 	

- Relying on the HTML article and book chapter pages.
- headings navigation to skim through search results quickly.
- regions navigation to skip around to main functions and page areas.
- Send an email to accessibility@elsevier.com for any specific format needs including HTML, PDFs, EPUBs, etc.

Partially

WCAG 2.2 1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence

The correct reading sequence can be programmatically determined. Level A W3C Guideline

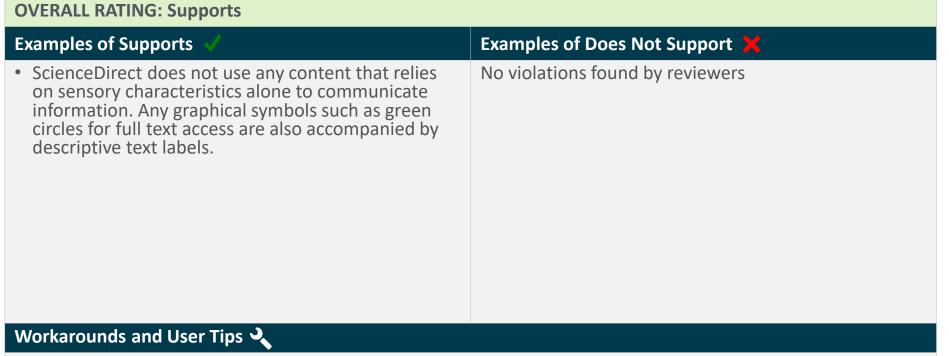
OVERALL RATING: Supports Examples of Supports Examples of Supports Examples of Does Not Support Examples of Does Not Support No violations found by reviewers. • HTML text is in a meaningful sequence. No violations found by reviewers. • The DOM order matches the visual order. No violations found by reviewers. • Content is positioned based on structural markup and style sheets. No violations found by reviewers. • Articles utilize left-justified text. • Ordered lists are used to convey a meaningful sequence with sorted search results. • There is not just one reading order that makes sense, for instance users can go between independent functions such as search and search results.

Workarounds and User Tips 🔌

Note: For reading journal articles and book chapters, we recommend using the default HTML full text view.

WCAG 2.2 1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics

Do not rely on sensory characteristics such as size, visual location, etc. Level A W3C Guideline



None

WCAG 2.2 1.3.4 Orientation

Do not restrict a page's view to portrait or landscape, unless essential. Level AA W3C Guideline

OVERALL RATING: Supports	
Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
All page content on ScienceDirect allows users to go between portrait and landscape views.	No violations found by reviewers
Workarounds and User Tips 🍳	

None

WCAG 2.2 1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose

For text input elements, the autocomplete attribute should be in place. <u>Level AA W3C Guideline</u>

OVERALL RATING: Supports	
Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
ScienceDirect does not have many inputs relevant to autocomplete.	No violations found by reviewers
Our Elsevier common authentication system ID+ provides all the relevant fields such as user name, password, name, address, etc.	
Elsevier ID+ has its own VPAT/ACR to reference for this checkpoint.	

Workarounds and User Tips 🔧

OVEDALL DATINE COMPARE

Some browsers such as Chrome provide Autofill settings which help suggest commonly used fields such as Name, Address.

WCAG 2.2 1.4.1 Use of Color

Color is not used as the only visual means of conveying information. <u>Level A W3C Guideline</u>

OVERALL RATING: Supports	
Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🂢
 Links are identified using color but also with a cursor change, and visual hover and focus states with color change and either a border or underline. Blue non-underlined links (#0C7DBB) within article Highlights text (#2E2E2E) have 3:1 contrast relative. Subscribed, Open Access, and Abstract-only icons are designated through color, which is supplemented sometimes by text, and always with a title attribute. Error messages such as No search results found utilize an icon in addition to red color and an alert role to denote the error state. Disabled links like Next Chapter in book are shown in gray but also coded with aria-disabled or disabled. 	No violations found by reviewers

Workarounds and User Tips 🔧

- If users are having trouble identifying links, disable style sheets or apply a custom style sheet which provides stronger indication (e.g. underlined) links.
- Links are always identified with an underline if users hover or tab to a link.

WCAG 2.2 1.4.2 Audio Control

Audio can be paused and stopped, or the audio volume can be changed. Level A W3C Guideline

OVERALL RATING: Supports

• ScienceDirect does not have any auto-playing audio, or any embedded content which uses audio, so the success criterion is satisfied according to the <u>W3C's Understanding Conformance</u>.

Workarounds and User Tips 🔧

Content with audio including sound clips and videos may be downloaded and played by a native operating system application such as Windows Media player where volume many be independently controlled.

WCAG 2.2 1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum)

Text has enough contrast with the background (4.5:1 ratio for small text). Level AA W3C Guideline

OVERALL RATING: Supports	
Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
Text and background colors including links and content text have at least a 4.5:1 contrast ratio with background colors.	No violations found by reviewers.
 Blue links (#0C7DBB), (#007398) passes contrast ratios on a white background and gray #007398. Dark gray text used on content text (#2E2E2E, #737373, and #505050) pass contrast ratios on a white background. Red error text #c83727 against white background such as in the registration and login error messages. Large Text (>24 px) provides at least 3:1 contrast ratio: Orange text #eb6500 against white background for the A-Z letter headings on Browse Journals and Books. 	
Workarounds and User Tips	

Users can disable styles or apply their own style sheets that can show their own preferred color contrast values.

WCAG 2.2 1.4.4 Resize Text

Text can be enlarged up to 200% without loss of functionality. Level AA W3C Guideline

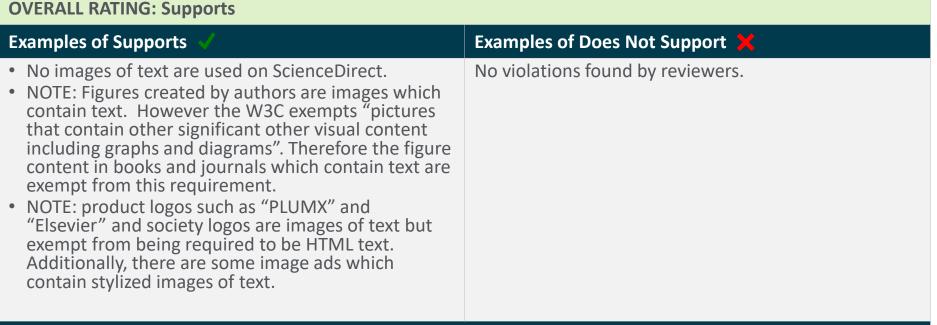
OVERALL RATING: Supports	
Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🄀
 ScienceDirect is fully responsive. This view remains accessible to mouse and keyboard users. Multiple column layouts become are responsive, becoming two-column, and single-column layouts as text magnification increases. 	No violations found by reviewers.

Workarounds and User Tips

- Text magnification options can be found in all browser options.
- Keyboard shortcut for Windows browser zoom is (CTRL + PLUS), and (CTRL + MINUS).
- When using browser zoom, left side navigation and top navigation collapse down into expandable "hamburger menus".

WCAG 2.2 1.4.5 Images of Text

Text is used rather than images of text. Level AA W3C Guideline

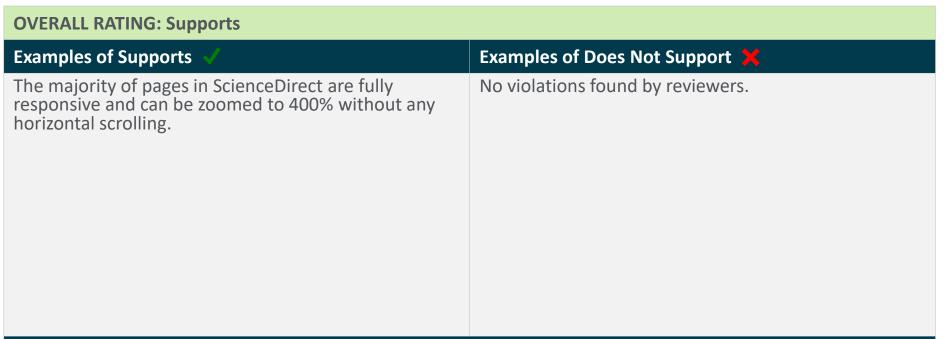


Workarounds and User Tips Վ

None

WCAG 2.2 1.4.10 Reflow

When page is zoomed, content adapts with scrolling in only one direction. Level AA W3C Guideline



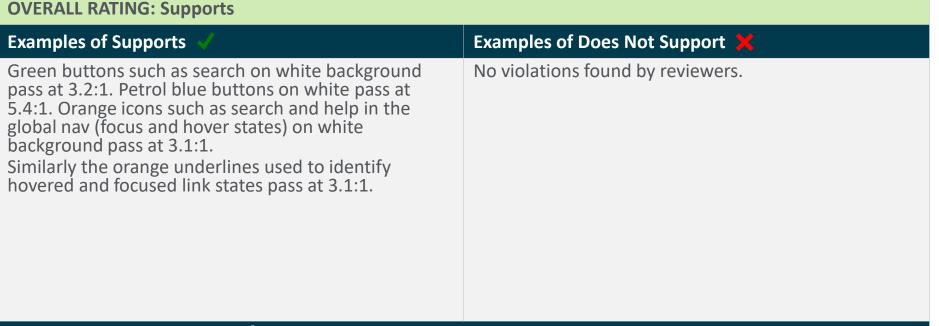
Workarounds and User Tips Վ

We recommend the HTML view for article and book chapter pages when zooming content using browser controls.

To magnify math equations within a book chapter or article, right click on a math equation, select math settings, then zoom trigger and zoom factor.

WCAG 2.2 1.4.11 Non-Text Contrast

Visual objects must have a contrast ratio of 3:1 against adjacent color(s). Level AA W3C Guideline



Workarounds and User Tips Վ

WCAG 2.2 1.4.12 Text Spacing

Text-based CSS settings can be changed to certain minimum values without loss of content or functionality. Level AA W3C Guideline

OVERALL RATING: Supports	
Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
 Using the text spacing bookmarklet across core pages, the layout remained intact with no clipping, overlaying, or loss of functionality. The bookmarklet applies the W3C 1.4.12 criteria: Line height (line spacing) to at least 1.5 times the font size; Spacing following paragraphs to at least 2 times the font size; Letter spacing (tracking) to at least 0.12 times the font size; 	No violations found by reviewers.
• Word spacing to at least 0.16 times the font size.	
Workarounds and User Tips 🍳	

None

WCAG 2.2 1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus

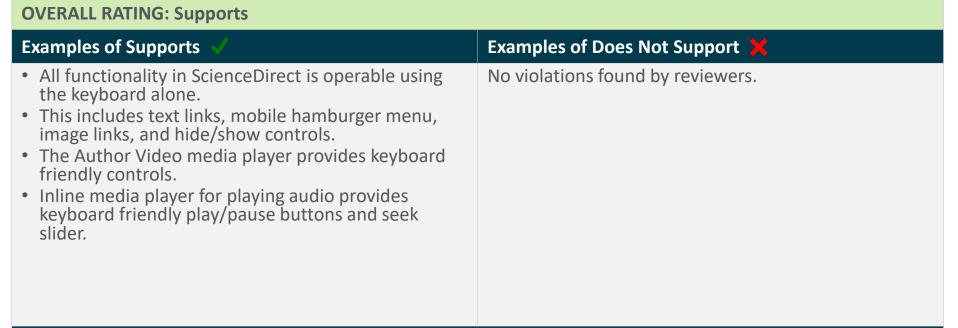
Content that appears on mouse hover or keyboard focus must be dismissible, hoverable, and persistent. Level AA W3C Guideline

OVERALL RATING: Supports (no content to which this success criterion applies)

• ScienceDirect does not provide any content which appears on mouse hover or keyboard focus.

WCAG 2.2 2.1.1 Keyboard

All functionality is available from a keyboard. Level A W3C Guideline



Workarounds and User Tips 🔌

- When using JAWS, if a link takes you to a place which opens a window or anchors away, use the K hot key to return to the original link.
- Use the Tab key to move focus forward from one element to the next. Use Shift-Tab to move backwards.
- Use the Escape key to close out of any panel or dialog window.
- Expand/collapse buttons such as Article Metrics on a journal article page can be opened and closed with the Enter key.

WCAG 2.2 2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap

User does not become trapped on any elements when using the keyboard. Level A W3C Guideline



OVERALL RATING: Supports

Examples of Supports 🗸	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
 There are no keyboard traps on ScienceDirect. 	No violations found by reviewers.

Workarounds and User Tips 🔧

Users can hit the escape key to cancel out of any dialog or user interface overlay or menu.

WCAG 2.2 2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts

Single character key shortcuts can either be turned off, remapped, or are only active when the shortcut for a UI component has focus. Level A W3C Guideline



• ScienceDirect does not provide any single character key shortcuts.



WCAG 2.2 2.2.1 Timing Adjustable

Users are warned of time limits and time limits can be turned off or extended. Level A W3C Guideline



OVERALL RATING: Supports (no content to which this success criterion applies)

• ScienceDirect does not contain any time limits, so the success criterion is satisfied according to the <u>W3C's</u> <u>Understanding Conformance</u>.

WCAG 2.2 2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide

Users can stop, pause, or hide moving or scrolling information. Level A W3C Guideline

OVERALL RATING: Partially supports

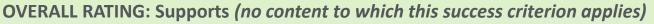
Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
	 A Reaxys advertisement on certain pages has movement that cannot be paused, stopped, or hidden by the user.

Workarounds and User Tips 🔧

Partially

WCAG 2.2 2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold

No more than three flashes in a 1-second period. Level A W3C Guideline

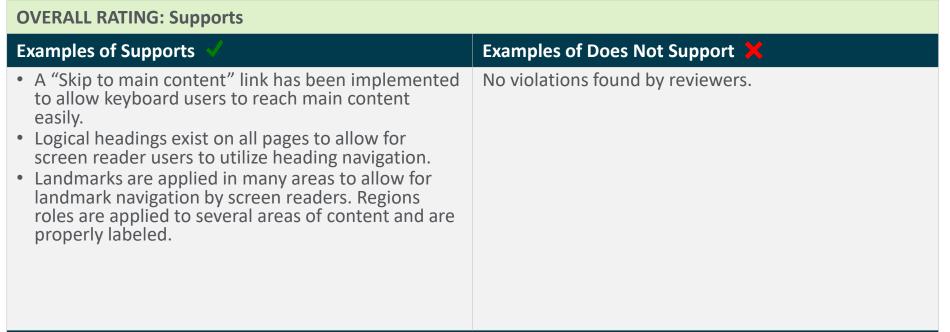


• ScienceDirect does not contain any content that flashes, so the success criterion is satisfied according to the W3C's Understanding Conformance.



WCAG 2.2 2.4.1 Bypass Blocks

Users can bypass repetitive blocks of content, such as navigation menus. Level A W3C Guideline



Workarounds and User Tips 🏒

Screen reader users (e.g. JAWS) can utilize headings navigation, landmark navigation, lists navigation, link navigation, etc. as ways to bypass repetitive links.

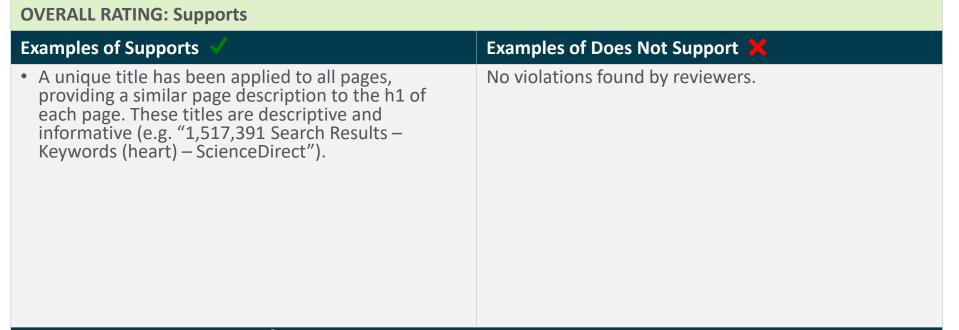
For example, on search results pages JAWS users can use the 2 key to quickly navigate between results. On article/book chapter pages:

- Users can quick link from the article outline to a specific section in an article.
- Users can select the skip to article link to go straight to the main article content.
- JAWS users can hit the 1 key to go straight to the article title and subsequent article text.



WCAG 2.2 2.4.2 Page Titled

The page has a title describing its topic or purpose. Level A W3C Guideline



Workarounds and User Tips 🔍

Screen reader users (e.g. JAWS) can bring up the title of a web page using INSERT + T. The descriptive page title provides a detailed bookmark text for each page.

WCAG 2.2 2.4.3 Focus Order

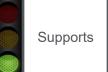
Users can tab through the elements of a page in a logical order. <u>Level A W3C Guideline</u>

OVERALL RATING: Supports	
Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
 A logical keyboard focus order is maintained throughout ScienceDirect. Focus order follows left to right, top to bottom. Dialog windows and fly out panels receive focus when opened. Within a book chapter or article, activating a TOC outline section or reference sets the user's focus into the article to the associated spot. When dialog windows and panels close, focus is put back on the invoking controls, e.g. Focus remains on "Show More/Less" links when being activated. 	No violations found by reviewers

Workarounds and User Tips 🔍

OVEDALL DATING: Supports

 The HTML article or book chapter outline will place focus into the article section itself. This will be useful for screen reader users and for sighted keyboard users who like to scroll the article using up and down arrow keys.



WCAG 2.2 2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context)

The purpose of each link can be determined from the link text or context. Level A W3C Guideline

OVERALL RATING: Supports	
Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
 Most all links provide a description of the destination or the action. For example: "View more documents authored by Doe, J" 	No violations found by reviewers
 For repeated links where there is some ambiguity (e.g. Download PDF, Abstract, Export Citation) we apply aria references to clarify the container document. 	
• This is also done for "Show more" within the results filter function. Any ambiguously labelled links are within the same list structure, under a heading, or within a sentence which provides context.	

Workarounds and User Tips 🔧

OVEDALL DATING: Supporte

Screen reader users receive extra context from some links, e.g. "PDF" by using arrow navigation instead of tab navigation. Arrow navigation will in some cases yield aria-describedby references such as the parent article of the "PDF" link. For example on topic pages using arrow key navigation will help screen reader users know which PDF or chapter will be opened.

WCAG 2.2 2.4.5 Multiple Ways

More than one way is available to navigate to other web pages. Level AA W3C Guideline

OVERALL RATING: Supports	
Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
 Journal Articles and Book Chapters can be found through the search functionality or through the Journals and Books pages. Alerts can be accessed through the logged in profile panel or though a link on the home page. Recommendations, History, and Alerts can be accessed through the logged in profile panel or through the logged in profile panel or through the main Search History page. Search history can be accessed through logged in profile panel, Advanced Search, and the main Search History page. 	No violations found by reviewers

Workarounds and User Tips 🔧

Users are able to bookmark any page, book, journal, article, chapter etc. because ScienceDirect utilizes well formed URLs.

WCAG 2.2 2.4.6 Headings and Labels

Headings and labels are clear, consistent, and accurate. Level AA W3C Guideline

OVERALL RATING: Supports	
Examples of Supports 😽	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
 When headings and labels are provided they are descriptive, concise, and accurate across ScienceDirect. Each section of content within ScienceDirect is supplemented by an associated descriptive heading. Lists of journals, books, and articles, are displayed consistently across ScienceDirect. Form fields are labelled clearly. 	No violations found by reviewers

Workarounds and User Tips Վ

Screen reader users can bring up a list of headings or form fields for the page. Descriptive headings and labels help make this list more usable and precise.

WCAG 2.2 2.4.7 Focus Visible

All interactive elements on a page have a visible focus indicator. Level AA W3C Guideline

OVERALL RATING: Partially supports Examples of Supports Examples of Supports Image: Support Sup

Workarounds and User Tips 🔾

Links are always identified with an underline if users hover or tab to a link.

Partially Supports

WCAG 2.2 2.4.11 Focus Not Obscured (Minimum)

When a user interface component receives keyboard focus, the component is not entirely hidden due to author-created content. Level AA W3C Guideline

OVERALL RATING: Supports Examples of Supports Examples of Does Not Support % • On most SD pages, focus is not obscured when tabbing and shift tabbing through the page. No violations found by reviewers.

Workarounds and User Tips 🔧

Magnifying the page to at least 250% removes the sticky header and allows for focus on all elements without being obscured.

WCAG 2.2 2.5.1 Pointer Gestures

If complex gestures exist, a single touch or click alternative must be given. Level A W3C Guideline



OVERALL RATING: Supports (no content to which this success criterion applies)

• ScienceDirect does not contain any inputs or interactions which require complex gestures.

WCAG 2.2 2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation

Allow users to recover from accidental pointer input (touch screen taps, mouse clicks).

Level A W3C Guideline

OVERALL RATING: Supports

Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
Links and buttons are activated on the Up event not down event. This means if users click or tap a button and want to abort, they can simply move the mouse away from the link or button. Or they can move their finger on a touchscreen away from the selected link or button to abort.	No violations found by reviewers.

Workarounds and User Tips 🔧

WCAG 2.2 2.5.3 Label in Name

For user interface components with visible text, ensure that the accessible name includes the visible text.

Level A W3C Guideline

OVEDALL DATING: Supports

OVERALL RATING: Supports	
Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
User interface components are labelled to include the visible label text.	No violations found by reviewers.
Text links such as journal names have an accessible name that matches the visible text exactly. Form elements such as refine checkboxes and buttons provide a form label (accessible name) matching the visible text label.	
Note: in some cases, the accessible name appends contextual information to the beginning or end of the visible text. Such as for "View details" on recommended articles, the accessible name appends the name of the particular article. Such as for the Logged in profile button – The user's first and last name link has an accessible name of " <first last<br="" name="">name > Profile information".</first>	
Workprounds and Usor Tins J	

Workarounds and User Tips 🔍

WCAG 2.2 2.5.4 Motion Actuation

Motion input (shaking, orientation change, tilting, etc.) must be accompanied by another means of input (such as a button) Level A W3C Guideline

OVERALL RATING: Supports (no content to which this success criterion applies)

• ScienceDirect does not have any features which require motion input.

WCAG 2.2 2.5.7 Dragging Movements

All functionality that uses a dragging movement for operation can be achieved by a single pointer without dragging. Level AA W3C Guideline

OVERALL RATING: Supports (no content to which this success criterion applies)

• ScienceDirect does not have any features which require dragging movements.



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WCAG 2.2 2.5.8 Target Size (Minimum)

The size of the target for pointer inputs is at least 24 by 24 CSS pixels. Level AA W3C Guideline

OVERALL RATING: Supports	
Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
 ScienceDirect uses accessible targets with a size of at least 24 by 24 CSS pixels. Navigation elements and footer links are large enough and have enough space between them to satisfy the target size requirement. 	No violations found by reviewers.
Markarounds and Llear Tine	

Workarounds and User Tips 🔧

WCAG 2.2 3.1.1 Language of Page

The language of the web page is specified. Level A W3C Guideline

OVERALL RATING: S	upports
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Examples of Supports 😽	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
 All pages either have lang="en-us" or lang="en" in the <html> tag (e.g. Homepage, Search Results, Journal Articles).</html> 	NOTE: Some PDF documents are currently not tagged with a language.

Workarounds and User Tips 🔧

Most content is in English where page content should be read fine by a screen reader set to use an English synthesizer.

ScienceDirect help system is available in English, Chinese (simplified), Japanese, and Korean.

WCAG 2.2 3.1.2 Language of Parts

The language of passages of text that differ from the default are specified. Level AA W3C Guideline



OVERALL RATING: Partially Supports	
Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
 Non-English HTML articles have the appropriate lang attributes on: Article outline Article body text Search Result article titles Recommended articles Non-English HTML book chapters have the appropriate lang attributes on: Chapter body text Book Contents TOC Chapter Contents TOC Book descriptions Book home pages NOTE: There may be English UI text interspersed with non-English article text such as: "Next Chapter" and "Pages". 	 Non-English Publication Titles on Journals & Books Non-English content on book home, e.g. Book descriptions.
Workarounds and User Tips 🧕	

None

WCAG 2.2 3.2.1 On Focus

Elements that receive focus do not cause unexpected changes in context. Level A W3C Guideline



OVERALL RATING: Supports

Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
 No components trigger changes in context when they receive focus. 	No violations found by reviewers.
Workarounds and User Tips 🔌	

None

WCAG 2.2 3.2.2 On Input

Changing an input or UI element does not cause unexpected changes. Level A W3C Guideline



Workarounds and User Tips 🔍

Downloading a PDF article or book chapter opens a new browser with the PDF.

The original browser window displays a suggested articles dialog window and focus is set to this dialog window. Users may turn off suggested articles by selecting "Don't show this again".

WCAG 2.2 3.2.3 Consistent Navigation

Navigation menus are in the same location and order on all pages. Level AA W3C Guideline

OVERALL RATING: Supports	
Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
 Header navigation is the same across all pages. A main landmark consistently marks the main content of pages. Navigation menus change depending upon logged in state and mobile view versus desktiop view. Once in a particular view/state the menus are in the same location and order on all pages. 	No violations found by reviewers.

Workarounds and User Tips 🔍

Screen reader users may navigate directly to the main content using regions navigation.

WCAG 2.2 3.2.4 Consistent Identification

UI components used across all pages are identified consistently. <u>Level AA W3C Guideline</u>

OVERALL RATING: Supports	
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Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
 UI components are consistent across pages in ScienceDirect. 	No violations found by reviewers
Workarounds and User Tips 🔍	

None

WCAG 2.2 3.3.1 Error Identification

Input errors are clearly marked and described to the user. Level A W3C Guideline

OVERALL RATING: Supports	
Examples of Supports 🤟	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
 Sign In and Register pages show specific and descriptive input error messages below the associated input in red text. Error text below the inputs is connected to the input itself through the use of aria-describedby attributes. Errors on the sign in pages are communicated to assistive technology through aria alerts. Quick Search/Advanced Search: fields that show dynamic validation (title, volume, issue, page) are communicated to assistive technology through aria alerts. 	No violations found by reviewers

Workarounds and User Tips 🔍

None

WCAG 2.2 3.3.2 Labels or Instructions

Items requiring user input are clearly labeled or have clear instructions. Level A W3C Guideline

OVERALL RATING: Supports

Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
 Most input elements are programmatically labeled through the use of plain text <label> or aria-labels. (e.g. Quick search inputs, Refine result checkboxes).</label> Query examples are provided in the Expert search field. Fieldset/Legends are provided on Advanced Search 	No violations found by reviewers
Workarounds and User Tips	

Note: All account related forms such as username and password are covered by the ID+ VPAT.

WCAG 2.2 3.3.3 Error Suggestion

When a user makes an input error, give suggestions for valid input. <u>Level AA W3C Guideline</u>

OVERALL RATING: Supports		
Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 💥	
 The error messages given in the Login and Register pages serve as acceptable error suggestions. 	No violations found by reviewers	
 For example a user who does not have a valid email address will get "User E-mail address may be invalid." 		
 Required fields that are left blank will result in an error message indicating that the field must be completed. 		
• Password guidelines which are not met clearly state acceptable lengths of passwords. Additionally, there is a link to the password guidelines page adjacent to the password input field.		
 Invalid search entry for titles, volumes, issues, and pages trigger contextual suggestions for valid inputs. 		
Workarounds and User Tips 🤍		
None		

WCAG 2.2 3.3.4 Error Prevention (legal, financial, data)

For web pages with legal or financial commitments, users can review and correct information.

Level AA W3C Guideline

Examples of Supports 🗸	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
 The Shopping cart feature provides a way to review and modify a purchase before submitting. User account data such as name, email, and address information can be changed/corrected at any time by logging in and going to My Account & Privacy. Note: All account related forms to manage user- controllable data such as user name and password are covered by the ID+ VPAT. 	No violations found by reviewers

Workarounds and User Tips 🔧

ScienceDirect customer support is available from email, live chat, and phone. Please see the below page with several customer support contact options: https://service.elsevier.com/app/answers/detail/a id/11436/supporthub/sciencedirect/

WCAG 2.2 3.3.7 Redundant Entry

Information previously entered by or provided to the user that is required to be entered again in the same process is either auto-populated or available for the user to select.

Level A W3C Guideline

OVERALL RATING: Supports

Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
 ScienceDirect does not contain elements requiring redundant entry. 	No violations found by reviewers.

Workarounds and User Tips 🔧

WCAG 2.2 3.3.8 Accessible Authentication (Minimum)

A cognitive function test (such as remembering a password or solving a puzzle) is not required for any step in an authentication process unless that step provides certain alternative methods.

Level AA W3C Guideline

OVERALL RATING: Supports

Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
Authentication through ID+ passes the requirement for accessible authentication (minimum) by using a login link that does not include a cognitive function test. Additionally, login information can be pasted into the field.	

Workarounds and User Tips 🔧



OVEDALL DATING Supports

WCAG 2.2 4.1.2 Name, Role, Value

The name, role, and value of all UI elements can be programmatically determined. Level A W3C Guideline

OVERALL RATING: Supports	
Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
 Hide/show buttons are given aria-expanded attribute to indicate expanded or collapsed content. Aria landmark roles are in extensive use on all pages, including banner, main, navigation, search, and labeled region roles. Repeated links are given aria-describedby attributes to give context to associated result (Download PDF, Abstract, Export Citation). Journals & Books - Refine publications by Domain/Subdomain – buttons to open and close list are labelled and provide expanded/collapsed value information. Domain list box provides role="listbox". Actions for selected chapters: Disabled elements/grayed out are given aria-disabled="true". Frames with ads are titled with "3rd party ad content". The Usabilla (3rd party) feedback button is a HTML page with an image within an iFrame but should be a button or link with an accessible name. 	
Workarounds and User Tips 🔍	

Screen reader users receive extra context from some links, e.g. "PDF" by using arrow navigation instead of tab navigation. Arrow navigation will yield aria-describedby references such as the parent article of the "PDF" link.

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WCAG 2.2 4.1.3 Status Messages

Status Messages must be available to AT such as screen readers. This does not include context changes (e.g. alert or dialogs).

Level AA W3C Guideline

OVEDALL DATING: Comment

OVERALL RATING: Supports	
Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀
Advanced search provides immediate feedback when there are form input errors such as an invalid date text entry. These messages are role="alert", aria- live="assertive".	No violations found by reviewers
Book Table of Contents provides role="status" around heading to indicated number of selected chapters.	

Workarounds and User Tips 🍳

None



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US 508: Chapter 3: Functional Support Criteria

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
302.1 Without Vision	Partially Supports	ScienceDirect User Interface and HTML Journal and Book content is compatible with screen readers. Many PDFs lack tagging/semantic structure. Videos do not have audio description. Many figures have alt text from either the surrounding text and/or captions.
302.2 With Limited Vision	Supports	Style sheets separate presentation from content. Personal style sheets and Operating System contrast can be applied. Browser Zoom and Screen magnification apps are supported. ScienceDirect is responsive/mobile friendly.
302.3 Without Perception of Color	Supports	ScienceDirect does not require color perception.
302.4 Without Hearing	Partially Supports	Science Talks videos contain professional closed captioning.
302.5 With Limited Hearing	Supports	Independent volume control is provided in the media player for video content.
302.6 Without Speech	Supports	ScienceDirect does not require speech input. Customer support offers live text chat or email.
302.7 With Limited Manipulation	Supports	ScienceDirect provides labels to make form controls easier to select. Elements have accessible name and can be operated using speech input.
302.8 With Limited Reach and Strength	Supports	Does not apply
302.9 With Limited Language, Cognitive, and Learning Abilities	Supports	ScienceDirect offers compatibility with text to speech literacy programs (e.g. Read and Write Gold). Articles are provided with summaries to highlight main points in simple English. Book content is broken up into smaller sections. Screen may be magnified to simplify user interface.

US 508: Chapter 6: Support Documentation and Services

508 Criterion	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
602 Support Documentation	N/A	Heading cell – no response required
602.2 Accessibility and Compatibility Features		Supports
602.3 Electronic Support Documentation	N/A	Heading cell – no response required
602.3.1 Documentation is WCAG 2 Conformant		Partially Supports
602.3.2 Alternate Formats		Supports
603 Support Services	N/A	Heading cell – no response required
603.2 Information on Accessibility and Compatibility Features		Supports
603.3 Accommodation of Communication Needs		Supports

508 602.2 Accessibility and Compatibility Features

Documentation shall list and explain how to use the accessibility and compatibility features. 508 Chapter 6

OVERALL RATING: Supports		
Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀	
 This VPAT provides descriptions of accessibility features as well as work arounds and user tips for users of assistive technology. Details on accessibility features grouped by functional area (e.g. Screen Reader, Keyboard) are on the web accessibility support page: https://www.elsevier.com/solutions/sciencedirect/support/web-accessibility 	No violations found by reviewers	
on the web accessibility support page: <u>https://www.elsevier.com/solutions/sciencedirect/s</u>		

Workarounds and User Tips 🔧

• Send an email to <u>accessibility@elsevier.com</u> for any additional questions on accessibility and assistive technology compatibility features.

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508 602.3 Electronic Support Documentation 602.3.1 WCAG Conformant

Documentation in electronic format shall conform to all Level A and Level AA 508 Chapter 6



OVERALL RATING: Partially Supports

Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀		
 The ScienceDirect Support Center is a set of searchable HTML pages organized by topic. Most content in the Support Center is WCAG AA compliant. 	 A few minor exceptions can be found on the next page of WCAG requirements. 		

Workarounds and User Tips 🔧

- The helps system is called the ScienceDirect Support Center: service.elsevier.com/app/home/supporthub/sciencedirect
- Send an email to <u>accessibility@elsevier.com</u> for any additional questions on accessibility and assistive technology compatibility features.

ScienceDirect Support Center - 602.3.1 Documentation is WCAG 2 Conformant

OcienceDirect Support Center - 002.0				70
WCAG 2.1 Success Criterion	Level	Evaluation	Remarks	
1.1.1 Non-text Content	Α	Supports	Hamburger menu has an accessible name: "toggle mobile menu".	
1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded)	Α	Supports	Tutorials have HTML transcripts or equivalent how to sections in HTML.	
1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded)	Α	Supports (N/A)	Video tutorials provide open captioning.	
1.2.3 Audio Description or Full Text Alternative	Α	Supports	Tutorials have HTML text versions.	
1.2.4 Captions (Live)	AA	Supports (N/A)	No live video exists	
1.2.5 Audio Description	AA	Does Not Support	Video tutorials have an HTML text version but not audio description	
1.3.1 Info and Relationships	Α	Supports	Headings, lists, and labels are used appropriately	
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence	Α	Supports	Content has a meaningful reading order and is read fine by screen reade	ers
1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics	Α	Supports	Content does not rely on sensory characteristics such as color or shape	
1.4.1 Use of Color	Α	Supports	Text links within text paragraphs provide an arrow icon or underline	
1.4.2 Audio Control	Α	Supports (N/A)	There is no audio that auto-plays	
1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum)	AA	Partially Supports	Text provides 4.5:1 contrast except blue links on gray background.	
1.4.4 Resize text	AA	Supports	The user interface is usable when zoomed 200%	
1.4.5 Images of Text	AA	Supports	No images of text are used in the Support Center.	
2.1.1 Keyboard	Α	Supports	All interactive elements work with keyboard input	
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap	Α	Supports	No keyboard trap exists	
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable	Α	Supports (N/A)	No timeouts exist	
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide	Α	Supports (N/A)	No videos auto play	
2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold	Α	Supports (N/A)	There is no flashing content	
2.4.1 Bypass Blocks	Α	Supports	Skip to main content present, also navigation by landmarks, headings, li	ists.
2.4.2 Page Titled	Α	Supports	Page titles include page name and system name	
2.4.3 Focus Order	Α	Supports	Focus order is logical throughout	
2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context)	Α	Supports	Purpose of links can be determined from link text or fro context	
2.4.5 Multiple Ways	AA	Supports	Content is available through search or browse	
2.4.6 Headings and Labels	AA	Supports	Headings and labels are clear and consistent	
2.4.7 Focus Visible	AA	Supports	Links and buttons change color on focus and receive browser default for	cus
3.1.1 Language of Page	Α	Supports	Page language is defined on the HTML element	
3.1.2 Language of Parts	AA	Supports (N/A)	All content is in English	
3.2.1 On Focus	Α	Supports	No examples of unexpected actions on focus	
3.2.2 On Input	Α	Supports	No examples of changes of context based upon setting of UI component	ts
3.2.3 Consistent Navigation	AA	Supports	Navigation, search, and related content is consistent across pages	
3.2.4 Consistent Identification	AA	Supports	Components with the same functionality are identified consistently	
3.3.1 Error Identification	A	Supports	Error messages are part of input labels. An error summary is provided.	
3.3.2 Labels or Instructions	A	Supports	Most labels are programmatically correct, but gray tip text not part of la	abel
3.3.3 Error Suggestion	AA	Supports	Error suggestions are present and programmatically part of inputs	
3.3.4 Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data)	AA	Supports (N/A)	No web pages in support that cause legal commitments et al.	
4.1.1 Parsing	Α	Supports	No violations	
4.1.2 Name, Role, Value	Α	Supports	Elements have name, role, value.	

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508 602.3 Electronic Support Documentation 602.3.2 Alternate Formats

Alternate Formats shall be provided upon request <u>508 Chapter 6</u>

OVERALL RATING: Supports			
Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀		
 The support documentation consists of: FAQ, ScienceDirect Support/Help Center, HTML pages, e.g. How can I setup and manage my alerts?, and Tutorials/Training. Alt formats that can be generated include: PDF, HTML, and Excel. Flash tutorials have HTML equivalents 	No violations found by reviewers		

Workarounds and User Tips 🔧

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The page with Tutorials and links to HTML versions is: <u>https://service.elsevier.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/10263/supporthub/sciencedirect/</u>

Send an email to <u>accessibility@elsevier.com</u> to request alternate formats for documentation or for any additional questions on accessibility and assistive technology compatibility features.

508 603.2 Info on A11y and Compatibility Features

When ICT support services provide documentation, materials shall conform to 602.3 508 Chapter 6



Workarounds and User Tips 🔍

Send an email to <u>accessibility@elsevier.com</u> for any additional questions on accessibility and assistive technology compatibility features.



508 603.3 Accommodation of Communication Needs

When ICT support services provide documentation, materials shall conform to 602.3

508 Chapter 6

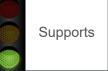
OVERALL RATING: Supports

OVERALE RATING. Supports		
Examples of Supports 🧹	Examples of Does Not Support 🔀	
 Users can contact the help desk through: Email (web form) Email (accessibility@Elsevier.com) Chat (web interface) Phone 	No violations found by reviewers	

Workarounds and User Tips Վ

The Support center main page can be found at: <u>https://service.elsevier.com/app/contact/supporthub/sciencedirect/</u>

Send an email to <u>accessibility@elsevier.com</u> for any additional questions on accessibility and assistive technology compatibility features.



To Learn More About ScienceDirect Accessibility

- <u>ScienceDirect Accessibility Statement</u>
- <u>Recent Accessibility Updates on ScienceDirect</u>
- <u>The ScienceDirect accessibility journey: A case study</u>
- <u>CSUN Conference Presentation on Article of the Future</u>
- Elsevier Accessibility Checklist
- Elsevier Company Accessibility Policy
- <u>Three Key Principles of an Accessible Website</u>

Contact <u>accessibility@elsevier.com</u> for any questions about ScienceDirect or Elsevier accessibility topics.