Electronic and Information Technology Accessibility

I. Policy Statement and Purpose

In accordance with Athens State University's commitment as an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution, this policy establishes that information and communication technology (ICT) will undergo continuous review and modification to conform to the accessibility standards specified in *Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973,* as amended, and Section 255 of the Communication Act as revised in January 2017, also known as the ICT Refresh. The revised technical requirements require covered hardware, software, electronic content, and support documentation and services to be accessible to, and usable by, people with disabilities where readily achievable.

This policy applies to all employees who procure, develop, maintain, and implement information and communication technology; the University website, software applications, computers and peripherals, telecommunications equipment and services, audio and video content, and digital documents.

II.   Accessibility Requirements

Information and communication technology is considered to be accessible if it can be independently accessed   by individuals with disabilities in a manner that is substantially equivalent to that of individuals without disabilities.

The University will conform to ICT Refresh ([Federal Register Information and Communication Technology Standards)](#) and the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 that is appropriately tailored to the specific circumstances of Athens State University.

III. Responsibility for this Operating Policy

Policy Owner

As part of the initial approval of this policy by the President and subsequent to the original dissemination of the policy, the President has assigned the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Services as the policy owner for the ongoing evaluation, review, and approval of this policy.

Subsequent reviews and revisions to this policy must be in accordance with approved operating policy procedures and processes.

This policy will be reviewed every two years or more frequently as needed by the Policy Owner. Revisions will be reviewed/affirmed by the Cabinet and approved by the University President. This policy will be updated/published in the University's Policy Library.

Responsibility for Policy Implementation

The President has assigned the responsibility of implementing this policy to the Chief Information Officer.