

# Universal Transfer Explorer Accessibility Conformance Report WCAG & Section 508 Edition

(Based on VPAT® Version 2.5Rev)

**Name of Product:** Universal Transfer Explorer

**Report Date:** April 2026

**Product Description:** Transfer Explorer is the only non-profit, up-to-date, and authoritative credit mobility toolbox. It was developed to support students as they plan their educational journey by providing the opportunity to explore how credits transfer and apply to degrees. It does this by bringing together transfer data from colleges across the country, making it easy to see how course credits and prior learning experiences will transfer and count.

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**Notes:** This report covers the Transfer Explorer web interface as of the report date. The evaluation included representative user flows supporting transfer planning and the exploration of credit transfer and degree applicability. Conformance statements apply to the web interface and its functionality as evaluated at the time of testing.

**Evaluation Methods Used:** MacOS - VoiceOver + Safari/Chrome/Firefox, Windows - NVDA and JAWS 2024 + Chromium Edge/Firefox, Color Contrast Analyzer Tool, axe DevTools, ANDI, text spacing bookmarklet, and using keyboard only.

## Applicable Standards/Guidelines

This report covers the degree of conformance for the following accessibility standard/guidelines:

| Standard/Guideline                                       | Included In Report                                |
|--|---|
| <a href="#">Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0</a> | Level A (Yes)<br>Level AA (Yes)<br>Level AAA (No) |
| <a href="#">Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1</a> | Level A (Yes)                                     |

| Standard/Guideline  | Included In Report                                |
|---|---|
|   | Level AA (Yes)<br>Level AAA (No)                  |
| <a href="#">Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.2</a>  | Level A (Yes)<br>Level AA (Yes)<br>Level AAA (No) |
| <a href="#">Revised Section 508 standards published January 18, 2017 and corrected January 22, 2018</a> | (Yes)   |

## Terms

The terms used in the Conformance Level information are defined as follows:

- **Supports:** The functionality of the product has at least one method that meets the criterion without known defects or meets with equivalent facilitation.
- **Partially Supports:** Some functionality of the product does not meet the criterion.
- **Does Not Support:** The majority of product functionality does not meet the criterion.
- **Not Applicable:** The criterion is not relevant to the product.
- **Not Evaluated:** The product has not been evaluated against the criterion. This can only be used in WCAG Level AAA criteria.

## WCAG 2.x Report

Note: When reporting on conformance with the WCAG 2.x Success Criteria, they are scoped for full pages, complete processes, and accessibility-supported ways of using technology as documented in the [WCAG 2.0 Conformance Requirements](#).

## Table 1: Success Criteria, Level A

Notes:

| Criteria   | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations   |
|--|-------------------|--|
| <p><b><u>1.1.1 Non-text Content</u></b> (Level A)<br/>           Also applies to:<br/>           Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul>                                     | Supports          | Meaningful images within the web interface (e.g., icons, logos, UI elements) include appropriate text alternatives.  |
| <p><b><u>1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded)</u></b> (Level A)<br/>           Also applies to:<br/>           Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul>              | Supports          | The web interface does not include audio-only or video-only media.   |
| <p><b><u>1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded)</u></b> (Level A)<br/>           Also applies to:<br/>           Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul>                               | Supports          | Videos that are hosted on the website allow users to enable captions.  |
| <p><b><u>1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded)</u></b> (Level A)<br/>           Also applies to:<br/>           Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul> | Supports          | For videos on the FAQ page, meaningful visual information is conveyed through the primary audio track. Audio description is provided where additional visual-only information is present.  |
| <p><b><u>1.3.1 Info and Relationships</u></b> (Level A)<br/>           Also applies to:<br/>           Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul>                               | Supports          | Content and functionality are implemented using semantic HTML and accessibility-supported markup to ensure information, relationships, and interactions are programmatically determinable. |
| <p><b><u>1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence</u></b> (Level A)<br/>           Also applies to:<br/>           Revised Section 508</p>  | Supports          | Content is presented in a meaningful and logical sequence when programmatically determined.  |

| Criteria  | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations   |
|---|-------------------|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul>   |                   |  |
| <p><b><u>1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics</u></b> (Level A)<br/> Also applies to:<br/> Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul> | Supports          | The website does not use sensory characteristics of interactive elements as part of instruction.   |
| <p><b><u>1.4.1 Use of Color</u></b> (Level A)<br/> Also applies to:<br/> Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul>            | Supports          | The web interface does not rely on color alone to convey meaning. Textual or additional visual indicators are provided wherever color is used to convey information, actions, or states. |
| <p><b><u>1.4.2 Audio Control</u></b> (Level A)<br/> Also applies to:<br/> Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul>           | Supports          | The web interface does not include audio-only content.   |
| <p><b><u>2.1.1 Keyboard</u></b> (Level A)<br/> Also applies to:<br/> Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul>                | Supports          | Functionality is operable through a keyboard interface. Conformance was verified through keyboard-only navigation.   |
| <p><b><u>2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap</u></b> (Level A)<br/> Also applies to:<br/> Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul>        | Supports          | Interactive elements can be entered and exited via the use of a keyboard. Conformance was verified through testing with keyboard-only navigation of the site.                            |
| <p><b><u>2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts</u></b> (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)<br/> Revised Section 508 – Does not apply</p>  | Supports          | The web interface does not include character key shortcuts.  |
| <p><b><u>2.2.1 Timing Adjustable</u></b> (Level A)<br/> Also applies to:</p>  | Supports          | The web interface does not include timeouts.   |

| Criteria   | Conformance Level  | Remarks and Explanations  |
|--|--------------------|---|
| Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 501 (Web)</li> </ul>  |                    |   |
| <u><a href="#">2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide</a></u> (Level A)<br>Also applies to:<br>Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 501 (Web)</li> </ul>                | Supports           | The web interface does not include animations or videos that autoplay.  |
| <u><a href="#">2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold</a></u> (Level A)<br>Also applies to:<br>Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 501 (Web)</li> </ul> | Supports           | The web interface does not include flashing animations or content.  |
| <u><a href="#">2.4.1 Bypass Blocks</a></u> (Level A)<br>Also applies to:<br>Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 501 (Web)</li> </ul>                    | Supports           | A mechanism is provided to bypass repeated blocks of content.   |
| <u><a href="#">2.4.2 Page Titled</a></u> (Level A)<br>Also applies to:<br>Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 501 (Web)</li> </ul>                      | Supports           | Web pages include descriptive and meaningful titles.  |
| <u><a href="#">2.4.3 Focus Order</a></u> (Level A)<br>Also applies to:<br>Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 501 (Web)</li> </ul>                      | Partially Supports | Keyboard focus follows an intuitive and logical order on the website.<br><br>Exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Due to the nature of a Single Page Application (SPA), there are issues with focus not being properly updated when moving between pages or after modals are closed.</li> </ul> |

| Criteria  | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations  |
|---|-------------------|---|
| <p><b><u>2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context)</u></b> (Level A)<br/> Also applies to:<br/> Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul> | Supports          | Links are programmatically discernible and meaningful in context.   |
| <p><b><u>2.5.1 Pointer Gestures</u></b> (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)<br/> Revised Section 508 – Does not apply</p>   | Supports          | Multipoint or path-based gestures can be operated using a single-pointer input. Functionality that uses multipoint or path-based gestures can also be operated using a single-pointer input without requiring complex gestures. |
| <p><b><u>2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation</u></b> (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)<br/> Revised Section 508 – Does not apply</p>   | Supports          | Pointer-based actions do not rely solely on down-events for activation, and users are able to cancel or abort actions prior to completion.  |
| <p><b><u>2.5.3 Label in Name</u></b> (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)<br/> Revised Section 508 – Does not apply</p>  | Supports          | Visible labels for interactive elements match or are included in their accessible names.  |
| <p><b><u>2.5.4 Motion Actuation</u></b> (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)<br/> Revised Section 508 – Does not apply</p>   | Supports          | The web interface does not rely on motion-based input for functionality. Features are operable through standard user interface components.  |
| <p><b><u>3.1.1 Language of Page</u></b> (Level A)<br/> Also applies to:<br/> Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul>          | Supports          | The default language of each page is programmatically defined in the markup.  |
| <p><b><u>3.2.1 On Focus</u></b> (Level A)<br/> Also applies to:<br/> Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul>                  | Supports          | Interactive elements do not trigger unexpected changes of context when receiving focus.   |

| Criteria  | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations   |
|---|-------------------|--|
| <p><b><u>3.2.2 On Input</u></b> (Level A)<br/> Also applies to:<br/> Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul>  | Supports          | Changes of context do not occur automatically upon user input unless initiated by the user.  |
| <p><b><u>3.2.6 Consistent Help</u></b> (Level A 2.2 only)<br/> Revised Section 508 – Does not apply</p>   | Supports          | Where help mechanisms are provided, they appear in a consistent location and order across the interface.   |
| <p><b><u>3.3.1 Error Identification</u></b> (Level A)<br/> Also applies to:<br/> Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul>  | Supports          | Input errors are programmatically identified and described to the user in text.  |
| <p><b><u>3.3.2 Labels or Instructions</u></b> (Level A)<br/> Also applies to:<br/> Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul>  | Supports          | Form fields and interactive controls include clear labels or instructions where user input is required.  |
| <p><b><u>3.3.7 Redundant Entry</u></b> (Level A 2.2 only)<br/> Revised Section 508 – Does not apply</p>   | Supports          | Previously entered information is retained or can be selected for reuse, and users are not required to re-enter the same information within a process.   |
| <p><b><u>4.1.1 Parsing</u></b> (Level A)<br/> Applies to:<br/> WCAG 2.0 and 2.1 – Always answer ‘Supports’<br/> WCAG 2.2 (obsolete and removed) - Does not apply<br/> Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul> | Supports          | For WCAG 2.0 and 2.1, the September 2023 errata update indicates this criterion is always supported. See the <a href="#">WCAG 2.0 Editorial Errata</a> and the <a href="#">WCAG 2.1 Editorial Errata</a> . |

| Criteria   | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations   |
|--|-------------------|--|
| <p><a href="#">4.1.2 Name, Role, Value</a> (Level A)</p> <p>Also applies to:<br/>Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>501 (Web)</li> </ul> | Supports          | User interface components expose appropriate name, role, and value information programmatically. Conformance was verified through inspection of accessibility APIs and assistive technology testing. |

**Table 2: Success Criteria, Level AA**

Notes:

| Criteria  | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations  |
|---|-------------------|---|
| <p><a href="#">1.2.4 Captions (Live)</a> (Level AA)</p> <p>Also applies to:<br/>Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>501 (Web)</li> </ul>                 | Supports          | The web interface does not include live video content.  |
| <p><a href="#">1.2.5 Audio Description (Prerecorded)</a> (Level AA)</p> <p>Also applies to:<br/>Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>501 (Web)</li> </ul> | Supports          | For videos on the FAQ page, meaningful visual information is conveyed through the primary audio track. Audio description is provided where additional visual-only information is present. |
| <p><a href="#">1.3.4 Orientation</a> (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)</p> <p>Revised Section 508 – Does not apply</p>   | Supports          | Content and functionality are available in both portrait and landscape orientations without loss of information or functionality  |
| <p><a href="#">1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose</a> (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)</p> <p>Revised Section 508 – Does not apply</p>  | Supports          | The website does not request specific user information that would require appropriate programmatic identification.  |

| Criteria  | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations   |
|---|-------------------|--|
| <p><b><u>1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum)</u></b> (Level AA)<br/> Also applies to:<br/> Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul> | Supports          | Text and images of text meet minimum contrast requirements.  |
| <p><b><u>1.4.4 Resize text</u></b> (Level AA)<br/> Also applies to:<br/> Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul>        | Supports          | Text can be resized up to 200% without loss of content or functionality. Conformance was verified through manual browser zoom testing.                     |
| <p><b><u>1.4.5 Images of Text</u></b> (Level AA)<br/> Also applies to:<br/> Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul>     | Supports          | Text is presented using real text rather than images of text, except where permitted.  |
| <p><b><u>1.4.10 Reflow</u></b> (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)<br/> Revised Section 508 – Does not apply</p>   | Supports          | Content reflows at 320 CSS pixels width without loss of information or functionality and without requiring horizontal scrolling.                           |
| <p><b><u>1.4.11 Non-text Contrast</u></b> (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)<br/> Revised Section 508 – Does not apply</p>  | Supports          | Visual indicators and user interface components meet required contrast ratios. Conformance was verified using contrast analysis tools and manual review.   |
| <p><b><u>1.4.12 Text Spacing</u></b> (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)<br/> Revised Section 508 – Does not apply</p>   | Supports          | Content remains functional and readable when user-defined text spacing adjustments are applied. Conformance was verified using text spacing testing tools. |
| <p><b><u>1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus</u></b> (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)<br/> Revised Section 508 – Does not apply</p>  | Supports          | Additional content that appears on hover or focus is dismissible, hoverable, and persistent as required.   |

| Criteria   | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations  |
|--|-------------------|---|
| <p><b><u>2.4.5 Multiple Ways</u></b> (Level AA)<br/> Also applies to:<br/> Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul>       | Supports          | Users are provided with more than one method to locate pages within the site.                                   |
| <p><b><u>2.4.6 Headings and Labels</u></b> (Level AA)<br/> Also applies to:<br/> Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul> | Supports          | Headings and labels clearly describe topic or purpose.  |
| <p><b><u>2.4.7 Focus Visible</u></b> (Level AA)<br/> Also applies to:<br/> Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul>       | Supports          | A visible keyboard focus indicator is present for all interactive elements.                                     |
| <p><b><u>2.4.11 Focus Not Obscured (Minimum)</u></b> (Level AA 2.2 only)<br/> Revised Section 508 – Does not apply</p>   | Supports          | When receiving focus, interactive elements are not fully obscured by other content.                             |
| <p><b><u>2.5.7 Dragging Movements</u></b> (Level AA 2.2 only)<br/> Revised Section 508 – Does not apply</p>  | Supports          | Functionality that uses dragging gestures can also be operated through alternative single-pointer interactions. |
| <p><b><u>2.5.8 Target Size (Minimum)</u></b> (Level AA 2.2 only)<br/> Revised Section 508 – Does not apply</p>   | Supports          | Interactive targets meet minimum size requirements or provide sufficient spacing.                               |
| <p><b><u>3.1.2 Language of Parts</u></b> (Level AA)<br/> Also applies to:<br/> Revised Section 508</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul>   | Supports          | Language changes within content are programmatically identified where applicable.                               |
| <p><b><u>3.2.3 Consistent Navigation</u></b> (Level AA)<br/> Also applies to:</p>  | Supports          | Navigation mechanisms appear in a consistent order across pages.  |

| Criteria   | Conformance Level  | Remarks and Explanations  |
|--|--------------------|---|
| Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul>  |                    |   |
| <u><a href="#">3.2.4 Consistent Identification</a></u> (Level AA)<br>Also applies to:<br>Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul>                 | Supports           | Components with the same functionality are identified consistently throughout the interface.  |
| <u><a href="#">3.3.3 Error Suggestion</a></u> (Level AA)<br>Also applies to:<br>Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul>                          | Supports           | When input errors are detected, suggestions for correction are provided where applicable.   |
| <u><a href="#">3.3.4 Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data)</a></u> (Level AA)<br>Also applies to:<br>Revised Section 508 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 501 (Web)</li> </ul> | Supports           | The web interface does not include legal commitments, financial transactions, or irreversible data submissions.   |
| <u><a href="#">3.3.8 Accessible Authentication (Minimum)</a></u> (Level AA 2.2 only)<br>Revised Section 508 – Does not apply   | Supports           | Users are not required to authenticate while using the website.   |
| <u><a href="#">4.1.3 Status Messages</a></u> (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)<br>Revised Section 508 – Does not apply  | Partially Supports | Status messages are programmatically conveyed to assistive technologies without requiring focus changes.<br><br>Exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Due to the nature of a Single Page Application (SPA), there are issues when loading a new page and no status message indicates that new content has finished loading.</li> </ul> |

## Revised Section 508 Report

Notes:

### Chapter 3: [Functional Performance Criteria \(FPC\)](#)

Notes:

| Criteria                          | Conformance Level | Remarks and Explanations   |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| 302.1 Without Vision              | Supports          | The web interface supports operation by users without vision. Functionality is accessible through screen readers and keyboard navigation. Conformance was verified through testing with VoiceOver, NVDA, and JAWS.   |
| 302.2 With Limited Vision         | Supports          | The web interface supports users with limited vision. Text can be resized, content reflows without loss of functionality, and color contrast meets minimum requirements. Conformance was verified through zoom testing, contrast analysis, and assistive technology testing. |
| 302.3 Without Perception of Color | Supports          | The web interface does not rely on color alone to convey information. Textual labels and additional visual indicators are provided where color is used to communicate meaning.   |
| 302.4 Without Hearing             | Supports          | The web interface does not require hearing to access functionality. Prerecorded video content includes captions where applicable.  |
| 302.5 With Limited Hearing        | Supports          | The web interface supports users with limited hearing. Audio content is not required to operate functionality, and captions are available for prerecorded video content.   |

|  |          |  |
|--|----------|--|
| 302.6 Without Speech   | Supports | The web interface does not require speech input for operation. All functionality is accessible through standard input methods, including keyboard and pointer input.                 |
| 302.7 With Limited Manipulation                                | Supports | The web interface supports users with limited manual dexterity. All functionality is operable through a keyboard interface without requiring complex gestures or timed interactions. |
| 302.8 With Limited Reach and Strength                          | Supports | sustained physical effort or simultaneous actions is not required while using the website. Interactive controls can be operated using standard input devices.                        |
| 302.9 With Limited Language, Cognitive, and Learning Abilities | Supports | Content is presented using clear structure, consistent navigation, and descriptive labels. Forms provide error identification and suggestions where applicable.                      |

## Legal Disclaimer

The information above describes Transfer Explorer's ability to support the applicable Standards and Guidelines, subject to ITHAKA's interpretation of those standards and the remarks in this document. This document addresses Transfer Explorer only, as of the report date. For more information regarding the accessibility status of Transfer Explorer, please contact [transferexplorer@ithaka.org](mailto:transferexplorer@ithaka.org).

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