

How does Lexia address accessibility standards?

Literacy can and should be for all.

Lexia is committed to improving literacy for all students through research-proven, technology-based programs. This commitment inspires us to work continuously toward enhancing the accessibility of our products to serve the needs of learners with disabilities.

Lexia is taking concrete steps toward the goal of achieving alignment of our products and services with accessibility standards, including Section 508 and WCAG 2.0 and 2.1 A and AA criteria. Technologies and requirements are continually evolving, and compliance with accessibility standards is an ongoing process—not a simple, static, one-and-done exercise. As with all educational technology services and providers, some criteria in some accessibility standards may not be applicable to or currently supported within all of our educational products and services.

Lexia's internal product design, development, and enhancement process incorporates considerations around accessibility throughout the product life cycle. Our current multi-year product roadmaps for Lexia® Core5® Reading, Lexia® PowerUp Literacy®, and Lexia® English Language Development™ include incremental enhancements to keyboard operability, alternative text for images and other screen reader supports, captioning, color contrast and usage, and more.

Some of our actions to enhance accessibility include:

- Establishment of a Lexia accessibility task force which is responsible for enhancing alignment with accessibility standards.
- Augmentations to existing product review and design roadmaps to amplify focus on accessibility.
- Engagement with respected industry partners to better understand and prioritize development needs.
- Ongoing testing and review of our curriculum products.

Examples of recent accessibility improvements include:

- Adding alternative text for images in Core5, PowerUp, and Lexia English on a rolling basis.
- Enhancing keyboard operability in Core5, PowerUp, and Lexia English on a rolling basis.
- Enhancing usage of color and improved color contrast in Core5, PowerUp, and Lexia English on a rolling basis.
- Removing time limits from Lexia Core5 Reading Passage Fluency activities to support students who need extra time to interact with content.
- Implementing closed captioning for all video content in Lexia PowerUp Literacy.
- Developing and supporting the availability of NIMAS versions of Lexia instructional resources via the NIMAC directory as a way to support schools producing Braille readers, digital audio, or other student-ready formats. These

include Lexia Lessons®, Lexia Skill Builders®, and other instructional materials in Lexia programs.

What improvements can users expect to see next? Lexia will continue to release incremental accessibility updates in Core5, PowerUp, and Lexia English, with the following important areas of active work upcoming:

- broader support for keyboard operability throughout the programs
- other expanded supports for screen readers, such as language of page and page titles
- audio descriptions for prerecorded video content in PowerUp
- improved screen reader support in PDF instructional resources

While we would like to be able to further quantify our goals toward meeting various WCAG 2.0 and 2.1 AA criteria, our products have been thoughtfully designed over many years and deliver research-proven instructional outcomes. So, we are careful in the approach we take as we implement changes and enhancements, to avoid unanticipated negative impacts to our products and functionality, which are used and relied on by our school and district customers nationwide.

We passionately support the ultimate goal of making all products as accessible as possible, and look forward to sharing more information as additional enhancements and/or new features are implemented.