

U.S. Access Board Fiscal Year 2025 Agency National Technology Transfer and Advance Act (NTTAA) Report

1. Please provide a summary of your agency's activities undertaken to carry out the provisions of OMB Circular A-119, "Federal Participation in the Development and Use of Voluntary Consensus Standards and in Conformity Assessment Activities." The summary should contain a link to the agency's standards-specific website(s) where information about your agency's standards and conformity assessment related activities are available.

The Access Board is an independent federal agency that advances accessibility through leadership in accessible design and the development of accessibility guidelines and standards. Created in 1973 to ensure access to federally funded facilities, the Access Board is a leading source of information on accessible design.

We are responsible for developing, or assisting in the development of, accessibility standards and guidelines under several federal statutes, including: the Americans with Disabilities Act (buildings and facilities, and transportation vehicles), Architectural Barriers Act (federal buildings and facilities); Communications Act (telecommunications equipment); Rehabilitation Act (information and communication technology used or procured by federal agencies); Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (medical diagnostic equipment); Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act (prescription drug labels); and Help America Vote Act (voluntary voting system guidelines).

In FY 2025, as in previous reporting years, the Access Board relied heavily on voluntary consensus standards to fulfill its regulatory mission.

Our existing guidelines and standards continue to incorporate by reference about 25 voluntary consensus standards, ranging from web content accessibility guidelines to specifications that relate to the determination of playground surface accessibility.

The Access Board also has a long history of working with standards development organizations (SDOs) on the development of consensus standards relating to accessible design. In FY 2024, Access Board staff served on numerous SDO committees, technical working groups, and cooperative research panels to ensure that the agency's technical expertise and perspective were brought to bear on the development (or revision) of model codes and standards that affect accessibility in a wide range of settings.

For example, agency staff served on, or provided technical assistance to, the following model code groups, SDOs, and research cooperatives:

- American National Standards Institute
- American Society of Mechanical Engineers, A18 Platform Lift and Stairway Chair Lift Committee.

- American Society of Testing and Materials, Committee on Sports Equipment, Playing Surfaces, and Facilities.
- Federal Communications Commission
- International Code Council, Consensus Committee on Accessible and Usable Buildings and Facilities (ASC A117);
- National Fire Protection Association
- National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices
- National Cooperative Highway Research Panel (sponsored by the Transportation Research Board (TRB);
- International Organization for Standardization/International Electrotechnical Com
- Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Tech. Society of North America (RESNA), Standards Comm. on Cognitive Accessibility;
- RESNA Standards Committee for Assistive Technology for Air Travel; and
- Telecommunications Industry Association
- TRB Standing Committee on Innovative Public Transportation Services and Technologies;
- Transportation Cooperative Research Panel (sponsored by TRB);
- World Wide Web Consortium Web Accessibility Initiative - Accessibility Guidelines Working Group,

Two Access Board members serve as statutory representatives on the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) Board of Advisors and Technical Guidelines Development Committee (TGDC). The TGDC, chaired by the NIST Director, is responsible for drafting and recommending versions of the Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (VVSG). The Board of Advisors reviews the VVSG, best practice recommendations, and follows other EAC activities. In FY 2024, EAC Board of Advisors and the Technical Guidelines Development Committee (TGDC) provided feedback on the EAC's voting system testing and certification program, as well as the development of Election Supporting Technology Evaluation Program (ESTEP) and Field Services. In addition to the annual Board of Advisors and TGDC meetings, Access Board members and staff also attend or participate in some other EAC public-facing activities.

Additional information about [how the Access Board works with SDO and others to develop accessibility standards and guidelines](#) is available on the Access Board website.

2. Please list the government-unique standards your agency used in lieu of voluntary consensus standards during FY 2025:

- **Government Unique Standard: (name)**
- **Voluntary Standard (that was not used): (name)**
- **Rationale (for not using): (brief description)**

Current total of GUS = 0