

Discovery Pro Accessibility Conformance Report (ACR) – VPAT® Version 2.5

Product: Discovery Pro – Cosmetology Program Software

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Date: July 27, 2026

Edition: VPAT 2.5

Evaluation Methods Used: Accessibility testing was conducted using a representative sample of five core user paths within the current beta release of Discovery Pro *Next Generation*. These user paths were selected because they represent the application's primary functionality, interface layouts, navigation patterns, forms, data tables, dialogs, and interactive workflows. Testing included manual keyboard evaluation, screen reader testing of key workflows, automated accessibility scanning using WAVE, color contrast analysis, responsive testing, and inspection against the applicable WCAG 2.2 Success Criteria. Findings were used to determine conformance ratings for this VPAT® 2.5 Accessibility Conformance Report.

Product Scope and Use Case Note:

Discovery Pro is designed exclusively for use by a limited user population within Cosmetology education programs. Discovery Pro supports the documentation, review, and reporting of instructor evaluations of student clinical competencies and attendance documentation. The clinical evaluations are based on direct observation of clinical procedures and competency demonstrations. Students are required by their educational institution and applicable accreditation standards to possess the essential clinical skills and abilities necessary to perform required procedures.

Recent Improvements

Discovery Pro has undergone a full application rewrite in 2026 and is currently in beta testing. General availability is planned following winter break 2026.

Accessibility review and remediation efforts have been integrated throughout the development process with a focus on meeting applicable WCAG 2.2 Success Criteria and Revised Section 508 requirements. Recent improvements include:

- Improved color contrast for text, controls, and status messages.
- Added accessible labels and instructions for form controls.
- Enhanced semantic HTML structure to improve compatibility with screen readers and other assistive technologies.
- Improved keyboard navigation and visible keyboard focus indicators throughout the application.
- Reduced reliance on color alone to communicate status or required information.
- Improved error identification and user feedback for forms.
- Enhanced responsive layouts to better support reflow and mobile devices.
- Corrected duplicate and missing control labels to improve accessibility for assistive technology users.

- Improved accessibility of dialogs, buttons, icons, and interactive controls through the use of accessible names and appropriate ARIA attributes where needed.
- Ongoing accessibility testing includes automated scanning, manual keyboard testing, screen reader verification of representative workflows, and remediation of identified issues before production release.

Key Strengths

Semantic Structure: Implemented HTML5 landmark elements (such as `<main>`) and improved semantic markup throughout the application, where appropriate, to enhance page navigation and compatibility with assistive technologies.

Keyboard Navigation: Improved keyboard accessibility by replacing generic interactive elements with appropriate semantic HTML controls, adding accessible names and ARIA attributes where appropriate, improving visible keyboard focus indicators, and enhancing keyboard navigation within dialogs and modal alerts. Additional legacy components continue to be reviewed and remediated.

Forms & User Input: Improved form accessibility by adding associated labels, accessible instructions, and enhanced error identification for form controls throughout the application.

Visual Accessibility: Improved support for Reflow and Resize Text by reviewing key application pages at increased zoom levels and on smaller viewports. Remediated multiple color contrast issues by updating text, buttons, status messages, and interface element colors to improve readability and conformance with WCAG requirements.

Assistive Technology Support: Improved compatibility with screen readers by adding `aria-hidden` attributes to decorative icons, improving alternative text for informative images, logos, and security seals, and refining accessible names for interactive controls where appropriate.

Accessibility Testing: Accessibility evaluation includes automated scanning, manual keyboard testing, screen reader verification of representative workflows, responsive testing, and ongoing remediation of identified issues throughout the beta testing process.

Applicable Standards/Guidelines

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

Standard/Guideline	Included In Report
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0	Level A (Yes) Level AA (Yes) Level AAA (No)
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1	Level A (Yes) Level AA (Yes) Level AAA (No)
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.2	Level A (Yes) Level AA (Yes) Level AAA (No)

Standard/Guideline	Included In Report
Section 508 Functional Performance Criteria (302.x)	Yes
Section 508 Support Documentation & Services 602.x	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.

This report reflects the accessibility status of Discovery Pro as of the evaluation date listed above. Accessibility improvements are an ongoing effort, and future releases may further enhance conformance with WCAG 2.2 and Revised Section 508 requirements.

Table 1: WCAG Success Criteria – Level A

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks/Explanations
1.1.1 Non-text Content (Level A)	Supports	Appropriate alternative text is provided for non-text content where applicable.
1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded)	Not Applicable	The application does not contain any prerecorded audio or video.
1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Not Applicable	The application does not contain any prerecorded audio or video.
1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Not Applicable	The application does not contain any prerecorded audio or video.
1.3.1 Info and Relationships (Level A)	Supports	The application uses semantic HTML structure, including headings, labels, tables, and form controls where appropriate.
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence (Level A)	Supports	Content is presented in a logical reading and navigation order.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks/Explanations
1.4.1 Use of Color (Level A)	Supports	Color is not used as the sole visual means of conveying information, indicating an action, prompting a response, or distinguishing a visual element.
1.4.2 Audio Control	Supports	The application does not contain automatically playing audio.
2.1.1 Keyboard (Level A)	Supports	Standard navigation, administrative forms, data entry screens, buttons, dialogs, and interactive controls are keyboard accessible. Keyboard focus indicators have been enhanced throughout the new platform application.
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap (Level A)	Supports	Users may navigate through application controls using the keyboard without becoming trapped in any interface element.
2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	The application does not rely on single-character keyboard shortcuts.
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable (Level A)	Supports	Session timeout values are configurable by the institution and are intended for security purposes. Users may continue working by re-authenticating when a session expires.
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide (Level A)	Supports	The application does not contain moving, blinking, auto-scrolling, or automatically updating content that requires pause, stop, or hide controls.
2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold (Level A)	Not Applicable	The application does not contain flashing content or visual effects that could exceed the three-flash threshold.
2.4.1 Bypass Blocks (Level A)	Supports	HTML5 landmark regions and structured headings are used to support navigation and facilitate bypassing repetitive content
2.4.2 Page Titled (Level A)	Supports	Pages provide descriptive titles that identify the page purpose and assist users in understanding their current location within the application.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks/Explanations
2.4.3 Focus Order Level A	Supports	Keyboard navigation follows a logical and meaningful focus order consistent with the visual layout of the page.
2.4.4 Link Purpose Context	Supports	Links and interactive elements use descriptive labels that communicate their purpose in context.
2.5.1 Pointer Gesture (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Product functionality does not require multipoint or path-based gestures. All functionality is available through standard mouse, keyboard, and touch interactions.
2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Standard web controls utilize browser-supported pointer events that allow users to cancel an action prior to completion
2.54 Motion Actuation Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Not Applicable	No functionality is operated through motion actions.
3.1.1 Language of Page (Level A)	Supports	The default language of each page is programmatically identified using the HTML lang attribute.
3.21 On Focus(Level A)	Supports	Receiving focus does not initiate unexpected changes of context.
3.2.2 On Input (Level A)	Supports	User input does not automatically cause unexpected context changes. Changes occur only through user-initiated actions.
3.2.6 Consistent Help (Level A 2.2 Only)	Not Applicable	The product does not provide integrated help mechanisms.
3.3.1 Error Identification (Level A)	Supports	Forms provide labels/instructions & validation-required fields.
3.3.2 Labels/Instructions (Level A)	Supports	Forms provide labels/instructions & validation-required fields.
3.3.7 Redundant Entry (Level A 2.2 Only)	Supports	Information previously entered by the user during a process is either retained, automatically populated, or available for selection, reducing the need for redundant data entry.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks/Explanations
4.1.1 Parsing 2.0 and 2.1 supports,	Not Applicable	Success Criterion 4.1.1 was removed from WCAG 2.2 and therefore is not applicable to this evaluation.
4.12 Name/Role/Value (Level A)	Supports	Interactive controls expose determinable names, roles, and values.

Table 2: WCAG Success Criteria – Level AA

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks/Explanations
1.2.4 Captions (Live) (Level AA)	Not applicable	No embedded video/audio in Discovery Pro.
1.2.5 Audio Description (Prerecorded) (Level AA)	Not Applicable	No embedded video used in Discovery Pro.
1.3.4 Orientation (Level AA)	Supports	The application does not restrict users to a specific screen orientation.
1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose (Level AA)	Supports	Standard HTML5 input types and attributes used. Tool Tips used as well.
1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum) (Level AA)	Supports	Text, controls, and interface components are designed to meet or exceed WCAG 2.2 AA contrast requirements.
1.4.4 Resize Text (Level AA)	Supports	Content remains readable and functional when text is resized or browser zoom is increased up to 200% without loss of information or functionality.
1.4.5 Images of Text (Level AA)	Supports	Text is presented as actual text rather than images except where essential.
1.4.10 Reflow (Level AA)	Supports	Content reflows and remains usable at 320 CSS pixels wide without requiring horizontal scrolling for most content and functionality.
1.4.11 Non-text Contrast (Level AA)	Supports	User interface components, focus indicators, and graphical objects provide sufficient contrast consistent with WCAG 2.2 AA requirements.
1.4.12 Text Spacing (AA)	Supports	Standard web fonts used throughout.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks/Explanations
1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus (Level AA)	Supports	Certain navigation components rely on hover behavior and continue to be evaluated and enhanced for accessibility.
2.4.5 Multiple Ways (Level AA)	Supports	Multiple navigation paths are provided through application menus and structured page navigation.
2.4.6 Headings and Labels	Supports	Headings and labels clearly describe page content, functions, and data entry fields.
2.4.7 Focus Visible	Supports	Discovery Pro provides a highly visible focus indicator for all interactive elements. A distinct dark blue border is programmatically applied via CSS whenever a form field or interactive component receives keyboard focus, ensuring clear visual tracking.
2.4.11 Focus not obscured Minimum AA 2.2	Supports	Discovery Pro is designed so that when interface elements receive keyboard focus, they remain fully visible and are not obscured by other user interface components. Persistent elements, such as headers and footers, are configured to ensure they do not overlap or block active focus indicators during standard keyboard navigation and scrolling.
2.5.7 Dragging Movements (Level AA 2.2 only)	Supports	Discovery Pro workflows do not require dragging.
2.5.8 Target Size (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2)	Supports	Targets meet minimum size requirements.
3.1.2 Language of Parts (Level AA)	Supports	The application content is presented in English and does not contain multilingual content requiring language changes to be identified.
3.2.3 Consistent Navigation (Level AA)	Supports	Navigation menus and page structure remain consistent throughout the application.
3.2.4 Consistent Identification (Level AA)	Supports	Common interface elements and form fields are identified consistently throughout the application.
3.3.3 Error Suggestion (Level AA)	Supports	Error messages and field guidance assist users in correcting invalid or incomplete input.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks/Explanations
3.3.4 Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data) (Level AA)	Supports	Confirmation prompts and validation checks help prevent unintended deletion, modification, or submission of important data.
3.3.8 Accessible Authentication (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only)	Supports	The authentication process supports standard browser functionality, including copy and paste of credentials where applicable.
4.1.3 Status Messages (Level AA)	Supports	Status messages are displayed to inform users of successful actions, validation errors, and system notifications.

Table 4: Section 508 – Functional Performance Criteria (FPC)

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks/Explanations
302.1 Without Vision	Partially Supports	Discovery Pro supports screen readers and other assistive technologies for most application navigation, data entry, reporting, and administrative workflows. Accessibility improvements have been incorporated throughout the application, including semantic HTML, accessible form labels, keyboard navigation, and improved support for assistive technologies. Some areas continue to undergo accessibility review and remediation as part of the ongoing beta testing process.
302.2 With Limited Vision	Supports	Discovery Pro supports users with limited vision through improved color contrast, support for browser zoom and text resizing, responsive reflow, visible keyboard focus indicators, and compatibility with browser and operating system magnification tools. Representative application pages were evaluated at increased zoom levels to verify usability without loss of essential functionality.
302.3 Without Hearing	Not Applicable	Discovery Pro application does not rely on audio for any functions.
302.4 With Limited Hearing	Not Applicable	Discovery Pro application does not rely on audio for any functions.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks/Explanations
302.5 Without Speech	Not Applicable	Speech is not required to use application.
302.6 With Limited Manipulation	Supports	Standard text entry, data saving, and core page navigation support keyboard-only operation.
302.7 With Limited Reach and Strength	Supports	Discovery Pro is accessed through standard web browsers and does not require significant physical strength, reach, or sustained physical exertion. Standard keyboard, mouse, touchpad, and compatible assistive input devices may be used.
302.8 With Limited Language, Cognitive, and Learning Abilities	Supports	Discovery Pro provides consistent navigation, clear form labels, descriptive error messages, keyboard accessibility, and predictable workflows that support users with cognitive and learning disabilities.

Table 5: Section 508 – Support Documentation & Services

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks/Explanations
601.1 Scope	Supports	Accessibility information for Discovery Pro is provided through this Conformance Report and supporting product documentation.
602.2 Accessibility and Compatibility Features	Supports	Electronic documentation provided online and printable formats.
602.3 Electronic Support Documentation	Supports	Help materials and tutorials available electronically at no additional charge.
602.4 Alternate Formats for Documentation	Not Applicable	Support documentation available is not available alternate formats.
603.2 Information on Accessibility and Compatibility Features	Supports	Information regarding support services is available through customer documentation, Terms and Conditions, and direct customer support channels.
603.3 Accommodation of Communication Needs	Supports	Customer support is provided directly via email and telephone. This allows users to communicate using their own preferred assistive technologies and local device configurations.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks/Explanations
603.4 Alternate Methods of Support Communication	Supports	Telephone and through email.
604.1 General Policy	Supports	Accessibility-related support requests receive the same level of service and priority as other customer support requests.
604.2 Information on Support Services	Supports	Accessibility and compatibility information is provided through this Accessibility Conformance Report (ACR), product documentation, and customer communications
604.3 Accessible Support Documentation	Supports	Support documentation is provided electronically through the company website and customer documentation resources.
604.4 Alternate Support Channels	Supports	Support is available through multiple communication methods, including email and telephone.
605.1 Accessibility of Support Communication	Supports	Customer support communication is conducted directly through email and telephone. Email serves as an accessible channel for individuals with hearing or speech impairments, while both channels allow users to interact using their own assistive technologies and device configurations.
605.2 Compatibility with Assistive Technology	Partially Supports	Documentation is provided in standard PDF, Microsoft Word, and Microsoft PowerPoint formats. While these documents are intended to support general accessibility and readability, not all documentation has been formally evaluated for accessibility conformance. Users who require assistance or an alternate format may contact America's Software Corporation for prompt support by email or telephone.
605.3 Timeliness of Support	Supports	Receive the same priority and response time as all other support requests.
606.1 General Service Accessibility	Supports	Receive the same priority and response time as all other support requests.
606.2 Alternate Service	Supports	Discovery Pro support services are provided directly via email and telephone, which

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks/Explanations
		accommodate the communication needs of users with disabilities and support the use of assistive technologies. No alternate service is required.
606.3 Accessibility of Automated Support Tools	Supports	Customer support is provided directly via email and telephone. This allows users to communicate using their own preferred assistive technologies and local device configurations.
607.1 Reporting Accessibility Issues	Supports	Users may report accessibility concerns through the company's standard email and telephone support channels.
607.2 Resolution of Accessibility Issues	Supports	Accessibility-related issues are reviewed and addressed in a timely manner consistent with standard customer support practices.