



DOCUMENT ACCESSIBILITY FOR COUNTIES

Counties play a crucial role in delivering essential government services, from public health to emergency response. However, if documents and digital content are not accessible to individuals with disabilities, counties risk non-compliance, public complaints, and legal issues. States like California, Colorado, and Florida are experiencing heightened OCR enforcement targeting counties that provide health, housing, or voter information online. Ensuring accessibility is vital, not only to avoid lawsuits but also to guarantee that all residents can access the services they support.

What is document accessibility?

Document accessibility ensures that your PDFs, Word docs, forms, notices, and public-facing content can be used by everyone—including people who use assistive technologies like screen readers, voice commands, or keyboard-only navigation.

That means:

- Files are properly tagged and structured
- Text can be selected, copied, and read aloud
- Images have alt text or context
- Tables, headings, and forms follow logical order
- Content is perceivable, operable, and understandable for all users

Key Risk Areas

With broad services comes broad exposure. Here's where counties often face accessibility issues:

- Scanned PDFs and Poorly Tagged Documents
- Especially budgets, policies, board agendas, and environmental reports—many are unreadable by assistive tech.
- Vaccine info, clinic hours, and guidance that isn't accessible puts medically vulnerable populations at risk.

What you Should Do Now

Counties can take proactive, scalable steps to improve compliance and community trust:

- Audit your website and document library for accessibility gaps
- Remediate high-impact documents first—public-facing, frequently used, or legally required content
- Create county-wide accessibility policies to guide staff in compliant document creation
- Offer regular training and central support for staff across departments

That is where DocAccess steps in...

DocAccess simplifies PDF accessibility by automating the process, eliminating unnecessary complexity:

- Converts PDFs into fully accessible formats that are friendly for screen readers
- Adds search, translation, and document navigation features
- Works with one simple code install — no tech background needed

SCAN HERE

