



2021 Annual Status Report

Georgian College's Commitment to Accessibility

As a College and public sector organization we are committed to creating an accessible organization by removing and preventing barriers for people with disabilities.

Georgian College makes every effort to demonstrate leadership for accessibility in the College sector and in Ontario. Our goal is to ensure accessibility for all of our employees, our students and our community members who access services, products or any of our facilities operated by the College.

Introduction

Georgian College has established a multi-year accessibility plan in accordance with our obligation under the AODA, Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation. The timelines within the plan adhere to the compliance timelines set out by the IASR and identifies how each section of the regulation will be addressed. The purpose of the Plan is to educate and assist Georgian College staff in the identification, removal and prevention of barriers, both physical and attitudinal, to facilities, programs, information resources, goods and services, and employment. Implementation of these initiatives will ensure universal accessibility to Georgian's facilities, programs, information resources, goods and services, and employment.

The Plan will be made available on the intranet, public website or upon request from Campus Safety and Security, and Student Services. The Plan will be made available in alternative formats, such as: CD, tapes, in large print, or in Braille, upon request.

Georgian will prepare an annual status report on the progress of measures taken to implement the Plan, post the status report on Georgian's website and will make the status report available in an accessible format upon request.

AODA Achievements for 2021

- Achieved information and communication standard S.14 ensuring websites and web content conform to World Wide Web Consortium Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 at a Level AA. Implemented software produces weekly status reports with accessibility issues with Web Team actioning issues as required.
- Implemented new ways to serve our students through digital innovation such as the new online booking software Penji, where students can connect directly with the tutor or technologist receive updates directly to their mobile device, and have appointment requests automatically sent to their student calendars.
- Implemented College-wide medical and religious accommodation protocol and review process for persons who are unable to be vaccinated against COVID19.
- Revised the AODA Multi-Year Accessibility Plan to include actions for 2021.
- Initiate process to review and revise the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan past 2021.
- The main entrance way of the Owen Sound Campus was replaced and updated to a modernized look with universal access, including wave to open touchless hardware.
- Six standard classrooms in K building were converted to Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) labs. In-floor electrical outlets removed site barriers and enable flexible furniture layouts.
- 836 A.O.D.A modules completed amongst all employee groups – (AODA 1, AODA 2, AODA 3)
- Updated mandatory AODA training with new learning management software .

Moving Forward

Georgian College is committed to continuing to meet the forthcoming AODA, IASR obligations.

Ongoing efforts will be made to ensure the College's websites and web content are accessible to all users, meeting the WCAG Level A requirements.

In addition to the goals outlined in the 2016-2021 Multi-Year accessibility Plan, Georgian College, alongside many other institutions, adapted, revised, and implemented new policies and processes to strive for universal access to our programs, services, and, where possible and permissible, our facilities. Universal design, access, and meaningful engagement for all community members has been a core component of our response to the COVID19 pandemic and we will continue to keep this focus as we move forward.

Georgian College strives to be recognized provincially, nationally and internationally as a leader in postsecondary education. Georgian will continue to be responsive to the needs of all students, staff, faculty, and community members.