

Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT®)

WCAG 2.1 Level AA – Accessibility Conformance Report

Product Name

Runestone Academy Website

Vendor Name

Runestone Academy

Report Date

January 2026

Conformance Target

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 – Level AA

1. Scope of Evaluation

This VPAT-style report covers a representative sample of publicly accessible pages on the Runestone Academy website, including:

- <https://runestone.academy>
- <https://runestone.academy/default/user/login>
- <https://runestone.academy/ns/books/published/PTXSB/coding-exercises.html>
- <https://runestone.academy/ns/books/published/PTXSB/exercises-groupwork.html>

These pages include marketing content, authentication workflows, and interactive textbook content rendered via JavaScript.

2. Evaluation Methodology

The evaluation was performed using:

- Manual inspection of rendered HTML and visible page structure
- Review of headings, landmarks, form labels, and navigation
- Keyboard-only navigation checks for primary workflows

- Visual inspection for contrast and layout clarity

This assessment **did not include**: - Automated accessibility scanning tools - Formal screen reader testing (JAWS, NVDA, VoiceOver) - Authenticated or instructor-only workflows - Full interaction testing of all dynamic textbook components

As such, this report represents a **best-effort conformance assessment**, not a formal certification.

3. Conformance Levels

- **Supports**: The criterion is met with no known issues.
- **Partially Supports**: Some aspects meet the criterion; others may require improvement or verification.
- **Does Not Support**: The criterion is not met.
- **Not Applicable**: The criterion does not apply to this product.

4. WCAG 2.1 Conformance Table

WCAG Criterion	Conformance	Remarks
1.1.1 Non-text Content	Partially Supports	Images and icons include visible text alternatives where applicable. Some dynamically rendered interactive content (e.g., exercises, math) may require additional ARIA labeling or verification with assistive technologies.

WCAG Criterion	Conformance	Remarks
1.3.1 Info and Relationships	Partially Supports	Pages use headings, lists, and semantic HTML. Consistency of heading hierarchy within interactive book pages should be verified.
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence	Supports	Reading order appears logical in linearized views.
1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum)	Partially Supports	Text is generally readable; formal contrast ratio verification is recommended to confirm AA compliance in all areas.
1.4.5 Images of Text	Supports	Text content is rendered as text rather than images, except where mathematical notation is rendered programmatically.
2.1.1 Keyboard	Partially Supports	Core navigation and forms are keyboard accessible. Interactive textbook components require further keyboard-only testing.
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap	Supports	No keyboard traps observed in primary navigation and forms.

WCAG Criterion	Conformance	Remarks
2.4.1 Bypass Blocks	Supports	“Skip to main content” links are present on authentication pages; consistent use across all pages is recommended.
2.4.2 Page Titled	Supports	Pages have descriptive and unique titles.
2.4.6 Headings and Labels	Supports	Headings and labels are generally descriptive and informative.
3.1.1 Language of Page	Supports	Page language is programmatically declared.
3.3.2 Labels or Instructions	Supports	Form fields include visible labels and instructions.
4.1.1 Parsing	Supports	Markup appears well-formed in tested pages.
4.1.2 Name, Role, Value	Partially Supports	Standard UI elements expose appropriate accessibility semantics; custom interactive elements may require additional ARIA roles and states.

5. Known Strengths

- Clear page titles and navigation structure
- Labeled form fields on login and user workflows
- Semantic HTML used for core layout and navigation

- Consistent navigation across pages
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6. Known Limitations and Areas for Improvement

- **Interactive Content:** Coding exercises, quizzes, and mathematical content rendered via JavaScript should be verified with screen readers and keyboard-only navigation.
 - **ARIA Enhancements:** Some custom widgets may benefit from additional ARIA roles, states, or descriptions.
 - **Contrast Verification:** Automated contrast testing is recommended to confirm full WCAG 2.1 AA compliance.
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7. Assumptions and Disclaimers

This VPAT is based on a limited manual review of representative public pages and does not constitute a legal guarantee of accessibility compliance. Accessibility is an ongoing process, and Runestone Academy continues to improve support for users with disabilities.

8. Contact Information

For accessibility questions, feedback, or accommodation requests, please contact:

Runestone Academy
<https://runestone.academy>

Accessibility Testing Statement

Product

Runestone Academy Website and Interactive Textbook Platform

Accessibility Standard

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 Level AA

Overview

Runestone Academy is committed to providing an accessible learning platform for students and instructors, including users with disabilities. Accessibility is

addressed as an ongoing process that includes design, development, testing, and remediation activities.

This statement describes the accessibility testing methods used to evaluate and improve conformance with WCAG 2.1 Level AA.

Testing Methods

Accessibility testing is performed using a combination of **manual review, automated tooling, and functional testing**, including the following methods:

1. Manual Structural Review

- Inspection of page structure, headings, landmarks, and semantic HTML
- Verification of form labels, instructions, and error messaging
- Review of navigation consistency and page titles

2. Keyboard Navigation Testing

- Manual keyboard-only testing of core workflows
- Verification that navigation, forms, and interactive controls are operable without a mouse
- Checks for keyboard traps and logical focus order

3. Automated and Assisted Tooling

- Use of the **WAVE Accessibility Evaluation Tool** browser extension to identify:
 - Missing or improper form labels
 - Contrast issues
 - Missing alternative text
 - ARIA usage and structural alerts
- Tool results are reviewed manually to distinguish actionable issues from false positives.

4. Authenticated Page Evaluation

Pages requiring authentication are evaluated using the WAVE browser extension after logging in as a standard user. This allows assessment of: - User dashboards - Interactive exercises and activities - Group work and submission workflows - Instructor-facing interfaces

Scope of Testing

Accessibility testing is performed on a representative set of pages and interactions, including: - Public landing pages - Authentication and account management pages - Interactive textbook content - Exercise, assessment, and group-work components

Due to the dynamic nature of interactive educational content, not all possible user paths are evaluated during each review cycle.

Known Limitations

Some interactive components are rendered dynamically using JavaScript. While these components are designed to follow accessibility best practices, full verification with assistive technologies such as screen readers may require additional task-based testing.

Accessibility issues identified through testing are prioritized and addressed as part of ongoing development and maintenance.

Continuous Improvement

Runestone Academy regularly reviews accessibility feedback and incorporates improvements into the platform. Accessibility testing is repeated as features evolve, and this statement is updated as testing practices mature.

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