

AwardKit Accessibility Conformance Report

Revised Section 508 Edition, based on VPAT® Version 2.5Rev

Name of product	AwardKit (web application at awardkit.io)
Product version	AwardKit web application (continuously deployed), production release of 25 October 2026
Report date	25 October 2026
Product description	Web-based award management platform. Organizers build programs (categories, entry forms, entry fees), entrants submit entries through public program pages, judges score entries on token-linked judging pages, and organizers manage entries, judging rounds, and published results.
Contact information	support@awardkit.io . Vendor: AwardKit (Partage LLC), 2108 N Street, Ste N, Sacramento, California 95816.
Notes	This report covers the three audiences of the product: entrants (public program page, entry form with every question type, email verification code dialog, entrant entry page), judges (judging dashboard, entry scoring page, top picks, blind judging), and organizers (program dashboard, entries, categories, fees, entrant pages editor, judging setup, results, account and organization settings). The marketing site at awardkit.io is outside its scope.
Evaluation methods used	• Automated testing with axe-core 4 (WCAG 2.0 and 2.1, Levels A and AA rule sets) driven by Playwright in Chromium, across 28 page states, including form validation errors and open dialogs. The same checks run on every pull request in the product's continuous integration suite (<code>packages/e2e/tests/accessibility.spec.ts</code>), on pull requests that change the product's interface. • Scripted checks for criteria axe does not cover: reflow at 320 CSS pixels (1.4.10), clipping under the WCAG text spacing values (1.4.12), keyboard traversal of every focus stop with a check for a visible focus indicator and for controls that are invisible when focused (2.1.1, 2.4.3, 2.4.7), and layout at a 200% zoom equivalent (1.4.4). • Contrast calculation for every color token in the design system (1.4.3, 1.4.11), including organizer-chosen brand colors, which the product adjusts automatically to keep 4.5:1 text contrast (covered by unit tests). • Source code review of every entrant, judge, and organizer surface against each WCAG 2.1 Level A and AA success criterion, including input purpose (1.3.5), character key shortcuts (2.1.4), content on hover or focus (1.4.13), and status messages (4.1.3). • Screen reader testing on 4 October 2026 with VoiceOver (macOS 26, Safari's WebKit) and NVDA 2026.2 (Windows 11, Chromium 145), through the judge scoring flow and the entrant submission flow (both form steps, the validation error state, and the email verification dialog). The screen readers were driven by test automation (Guidepup) and every spoken phrase was recorded and reviewed; each issue found was fixed and re-tested with the same screen reader. The captions and audio description controls under each entry video,

added after that test, were checked with the keyboard and the automated tests above.

- Sample entry PDF exports were validated with veraPDF against PDF/UA-1 and read with VoiceOver.

Applicable standards and guidelines

Standard or 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	No
Revised Section 508 standards published January 18, 2017 and corrected January 22, 2018	Yes

Terms

- **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.

Summary. AwardKit supports WCAG 2.1 Level A and AA across its entrant, judge, and organizer interfaces, with no exceptions. AwardKit offers captions and an audio description on every video entrants upload. Captions come from a file the entrant or the organizer's team adds or, where AI features are on, from speech recognition; whether a given video has an audio description depends on the entrant. Entrants can describe every video in text and transcribe every audio file, entrants describe the images they upload, organizers describe their logo and hero images, and organizer questions carry an input purpose. Everything AwardKit itself authors meets the criteria.

WCAG 2.x Report

Tables 1 and 2 also document conformance with Revised Section 508: Chapter 5, 501.1 Scope and 504.2 Content Creation or Editing, and Chapter 6, 602.3 Electronic Support Documentation. When reporting on conformance with the WCAG 2.x success criteria, they are scoped for full pages, complete processes, and accessibility-supported ways of using technology as documented in the WCAG 2.0 Conformance Requirements. Criteria new in WCAG 2.1 are marked (2.1) and are not required by Revised Section 508.

Table 1: Success Criteria, Level A

Criteria	Conformance level	Remarks and explanations
1.1.1 Non-text Content	Supports	Product images, icons, logos, and avatars have text alternatives or are marked decorative; icon-only buttons have accessible names. Each image an entrant uploads has an <i>Alt text</i> box on the entry form; it is the image's alternative text on the judging page, the answer galleries, and the full-screen view, and an ALT badge on the image shows it to sighted viewers. An image left undescribed is announced as "Image <i>n</i> of <i>total</i> " with the entry name. The organization logo and each program's hero (header) image use the organizer's <i>Image description</i> as their alternative text, and the organization or program name where none is given.
1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded)	Supports	The product contains no prerecorded audio-only or video-only content of its own. Each audio file an entrant uploads has a <i>Transcript</i> box on the entry form, for a written version of the recording. The transcript is shown under the player, in a disclosure, wherever the file plays. Entrant-uploaded video is covered under 1.2.2 and 1.2.3.
1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded)	Supports	The product contains no prerecorded video of its own. Every video an entrant uploads can carry accurate captions from a file: under each video the entry form takes a captions file (WebVTT or SubRip) in a chosen language, marked when it also describes sounds, and the organizer's team can download a video's current captions from the entry and replace them with a corrected file. An uploaded file replaces any automatic captions and is shown in the player's captions control wherever the video plays. For an organization that keeps AI features on, a video without a file also gets captions generated by speech recognition (Mux), in the language spoken, which the team can review and correct the same way. An organization can turn AI features off, for example where its agreement rules out speech recognition on its content; its videos then get no automatic captions, and captions files work as above. The entry form also asks for a video description under each video (see 1.2.3).
1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded)	Supports	Each video an entrant uploads has a <i>Video description</i> box on the entry form, for what happens and what is said. The text is shown under the player, in a disclosure, wherever the video plays.
1.3.1 Info and Relationships	Supports	Pages use landmarks (one <code>main</code> per page), a heading hierarchy with one level 1 heading, labeled form controls, grouped radio and checkbox questions, and data tables with header cells. Question errors and help text are programmatically tied to their fields.

Criteria	Conformance level	Remarks and explanations
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence	Supports	Reading order follows the visual order; layouts are built with CSS grid and flex without reordering content.
1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics	Supports	Instructions refer to labels and names, not to shape, color, or position alone.
1.4.1 Use of Color	Supports	Status (eligibility, payment, judging progress, required fields) is always given in text or with an icon as well as color. Links in running text are underlined.
1.4.2 Audio Control	Supports	No audio plays automatically. Entrant video and audio start only on user action and have standard pause and volume controls.
2.1.1 Keyboard	Supports	All functionality is operable by keyboard, including the entry form, file upload, scoring sliders (arrow keys), top picks, dialogs, menus, and reordering categories (Move up and Move down actions besides drag and drop).
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap	Supports	Dialogs and sheets keep focus inside while open and release it on Escape or close, returning focus to the control that opened them.
2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts (2.1)	Supports	The one single-key shortcut set (E, F, X to mark an entry Eligible, Needs follow-up, or Ineligible in the organizer's entry panel) only acts while focus is inside that panel, and never while typing in a field.
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable	Supports	No time limit ends a user's work. Entry drafts save to the server automatically; the email verification code is valid for 10 minutes and can be resent; sessions last 30 days and renew with use. Error notifications stay until dismissed. Entry deadlines set by the organizer are a real-time event and are exempt.
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide	Supports	There is no auto-updating, moving, or blinking content in the product interfaces. Motion honors the operating system's reduce motion setting.
2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold	Supports	No content flashes.
2.4.1 Bypass Blocks	Supports	A "Skip to main content" link is the first focus stop on every page and takes the user to the main landmark, where the next Tab lands on its first control.
2.4.2 Page Titled	Supports	Every page has a unique title naming the page and the program, for example "Submit Entry <i>Program</i> AwardKit".
2.4.3 Focus Order	Supports	Focus follows the reading order; no positive tabindex values are used. Opening a dialog moves focus into it.
2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context)	Supports	Link text, alone or with its surrounding sentence or list item, states its destination.
2.5.1 Pointer Gestures (2.1)	Supports	No multipoint or path-based gestures are required. Drag and drop (category order, file upload) has single-pointer and keyboard alternatives.
2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation (2.1)	Supports	Actions fire on pointer up (native buttons and links); drag operations can be abandoned by releasing outside the target.

Criteria	Conformance level	Remarks and explanations
2.5.3 Label in Name (2.1)	Supports	Accessible names begin with or contain the visible label, including the file upload area, which is named after its question.
2.5.4 Motion Actuation (2.1)	Not Applicable	No functionality is operated by device motion.
3.1.1 Language of Page	Supports	Every page declares <code>lang="en"</code> .
3.2.1 On Focus	Supports	Focus never triggers a change of context.
3.2.2 On Input	Supports	Changing a field never submits a form or navigates. Choosing categories updates the displayed price in place; moving to the next step of the entry form requires pressing Continue.
3.3.1 Error Identification	Supports	Errors are described in text next to the field, the field is marked invalid (<code>aria-invalid</code>) with the message attached (<code>aria-describedby</code>), and focus moves to the first field in error. Form-level errors are announced as alerts.
3.3.2 Labels or Instructions	Supports	Every field has a visible label; required fields are marked with an asterisk and set as required programmatically; length limits and accepted file types are stated before input.
4.1.1 Parsing	Supports	For WCAG 2.0 and 2.1, the September 2023 errata and ITI guidance treat this criterion as always supported for HTML. The product renders through React, which produces well-formed markup.
4.1.2 Name, Role, Value	Supports	Custom controls (sliders, selects, tabs, switches, comboboxes, dialogs) are built on Radix UI primitives that expose correct roles, states, and values; icon-only buttons have accessible names; the file upload area is exposed as a button.

Table 2: Success Criteria, Level AA

Criteria	Conformance level	Remarks and explanations
1.2.4 Captions (Live)	Not Applicable	The product has no live audio or video.
1.2.5 Audio Description (Prerecorded)	Supports	The product contains no prerecorded video of its own. Every video an entrant uploads can carry an audio description. Under each video the entry form takes an audio file (MP3, M4A or WAV) of the video's sound with spoken descriptions of what is shown, in a chosen language, and the organizer's team can download it from the entry and replace it. It is added to the video as an alternate audio track, which viewers choose in the player's audio menu next to the original sound wherever the video plays (see 503.4.2). The written video description is shown with the video as well (see 1.2.3). AwardKit offers an audio description on every entrant video; whether a given video has one depends on the entrant.
1.3.4 Orientation (2.1)	Supports	Content is not locked to an orientation and works in portrait and landscape.

Criteria	Conformance level	Remarks and explanations
1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose (2.1)	Supports	Fields that collect the user's own information carry the matching autocomplete token (name, email, username, current-password, new-password, one-time-code, organization). Questions an organizer adds get one too: an <i>Autofill</i> as setting on short answer, email, and URL questions (full name, first and last name, email, phone, organization, job title, address parts, country, website), and, left on Automatic, a question whose label plainly asks for one of these ("Email", "Phone number", "Company") gets it without a setting.
1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum)	Supports	All text meets 4.5:1 (large text 3:1). Examples: body text 16.5:1, secondary text 6.1:1, white on the primary button color 5.4:1, error text 5.4:1 on white. An organizer's brand color is adjusted automatically until text and buttons in that color reach 4.5:1 on the page and on its tinted backgrounds, and the brand color setting shows the organizer the measured ratios and the color actually used.
1.4.4 Resize Text	Supports	Text resizes to 200% with browser zoom without loss of content or function; pinch zoom is not disabled.
1.4.5 Images of Text	Supports	The product uses no images of text. Organization logos are exempt.
1.4.10 Reflow (2.1)	Supports	At 320 CSS pixels wide, all pages reflow to one column without horizontal scrolling or clipped content; long file names and email addresses wrap rather than overflow. Organizer data tables scroll horizontally inside their own region, as the criterion allows for content that requires two-dimensional layout.
1.4.11 Non-text Contrast (2.1)	Supports	Outlines of text fields, selects, checkboxes, and radio buttons are 3.1:1 against the page; focus rings and the primary color are 5.4:1; icons that carry meaning meet 3:1.
1.4.12 Text Spacing (2.1)	Supports	With line height 1.5, paragraph spacing 2, letter spacing 0.12, and word spacing 0.16 applied, no text is clipped or overlapped. Long entry titles in the organizer results table wrap to two lines and truncate there by design, with or without the spacing change; the full title is on the entry page.
1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus (2.1)	Supports	Tooltips, popovers, and the collapsed sidebar preview can be dismissed with Escape, can be hovered without disappearing, and stay until dismissed or focus moves. Tooltip triggers are keyboard focusable. Controls revealed on hover are also revealed on focus.
2.4.5 Multiple Ways	Supports	Organizers reach pages through the sidebar, the program switcher, and search; entrants through the program page, the organization page, and "My entries"; judges through the dashboard list, search, and next and previous entry links.
2.4.6 Headings and Labels	Supports	Headings and labels describe their topic or purpose.
2.4.7 Focus Visible	Supports	Every focusable element shows a visible focus ring. Content revealed by scroll animations is shown at once when it receives focus.
3.1.2 Language of Parts	Supports	Product content is in English. Text that organizers and entrants enter is their own content.

Criteria	Conformance level	Remarks and explanations
3.2.3 Consistent Navigation	Supports	Navigation is in the same place and order on every page of each interface.
3.2.4 Consistent Identification	Supports	Components with the same function have the same names and icons throughout.
3.3.3 Error Suggestion	Supports	Error messages say how to fix the input (for example, the expected email format, the word or character limit, the accepted file types and size).
3.3.4 Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data)	Supports	Entry fees are paid on a review step (Stripe Checkout) before any charge; a submitted entry can be reviewed and edited until the deadline; destructive organizer actions ask for confirmation.
4.1.3 Status Messages (2.1)	Supports	Status messages are exposed through live regions without moving focus: draft autosave, upload progress and completion, judge score saving, verification code sending and checking, filter result counts, and notifications.

Revised Section 508 Report

Chapter 3: Functional Performance Criteria (FPC)

Criteria	Conformance level	Remarks and explanations
302.1 Without Vision	Supports	All functionality is available to screen reader users (see 1.3.1, 4.1.2, 4.1.3). Entrants can describe uploaded images, give a written description and an audio description for video, and give a transcript for audio (see 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.2.3, 1.2.5).
302.2 With Limited Vision	Supports	Contrast, 200% zoom, 320 pixel reflow, and text spacing are supported (see 1.4.3, 1.4.4, 1.4.10, 1.4.12).
302.3 Without Perception of Color	Supports	See 1.4.1.
302.4 Without Hearing	Supports	No product function depends on sound. Entrant-uploaded video carries captions from a captions file the entrant or the organizer's team uploads, or machine-generated captions where the organization keeps AI features on, and, where the entrant gives one, a written description (see 1.2.2, 1.2.3). Entrant-uploaded audio carries the entrant's transcript where they give one, shown under the player (see 1.2.1).
302.5 With Limited Hearing	Supports	As 302.4.
302.6 Without Speech	Supports	No speech input is required.
302.7 With Limited Manipulation	Supports	Fully operable by keyboard and single pointer actions; no fine motor gestures are required (see 2.1.1, 2.5.1).
302.8 With Limited Reach and Strength	Supports	A web application with no physical controls; operable by keyboard and alternative input devices.
302.9 With Limited Language, Cognitive, and Learning Abilities	Supports	Plain language, consistent layout, one task per step in the entry form, automatic draft saving, and errors that say how to fix them.

Chapter 4: Hardware

Not Applicable. AwardKit is a web application with no hardware.

Chapter 5: Software

Criteria	Conformance level	Remarks and explanations
501.1 Scope, Incorporation of WCAG 2.0 AA	See WCAG 2.x section	See the WCAG 2.x tables.
502.2.1 User Control of Accessibility Features	Not Applicable	Applies to platform software only. AwardKit is a web application run in the user's browser, not platform software, and provides no platform accessibility features to control.
502.2.2 No Disruption of Accessibility Features	Supports	AwardKit does not disable or override the platform's or the browser's accessibility features. Pages allow pinch zoom up to 500% and browser zoom (see 1.4.4); text sizes follow the browser's text size setting; the light or dark appearance follows the operating system setting; and screen readers work through the browser's accessibility API with standard HTML and WAI-ARIA (see 4.1.2).
502.3 Accessibility Services (502.3.1 to 502.3.14)	Not Applicable	Applies to platform software and to software that provides an accessibility API. AwardKit is web content and exposes its objects, roles, states and values to assistive technology through the browser's accessibility API (see 1.3.1, 4.1.2).
502.4 Platform Accessibility Features	Not Applicable	Applies to platform software only (operating system features such as sticky keys and slow keys). AwardKit is not platform software.
503.2 User Preferences	Not Applicable	Section 508 exempts web applications from 503.2, as applications designed to be isolated from their underlying platform software. AwardKit nonetheless follows the browser's text size and the system's light or dark appearance (see 502.2.2).
503.3 Alternative User Interfaces	Not Applicable	AwardKit provides no alternative user interface that functions as assistive technology.
503.4.1 Caption Controls	Supports	Where a video with captions plays, the player's control bar, the same bar as the volume control, has a captions (CC) button to turn captions on and off and choose their language (see 1.2.2).
503.4.2 Audio Description Controls	Supports	Where a video with an audio description plays, the player's control bar, the same bar as the volume and captions controls, has an audio menu button that switches between the video's original sound and the audio description (see 1.2.5).

Criteria	Conformance level	Remarks and explanations
504.2 Content Creation or Editing	Supports	Organizers author program pages, categories, form questions, and announcements with editors that produce semantic headings, lists, links, and labels, and brand colors are adjusted for contrast. Entrants can describe uploaded images, give a written description, a captions file and an audio description for video, and give a transcript for audio (see 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.2.5). Organizers can describe the images they add: the organization logo and each program's hero (header) image have an <i>Image description</i> that becomes their alternative text wherever they appear on public pages, with the organization or program name used when it is left empty.
504.2.1 Preservation of Information Provided for Accessibility in Format Conversion	Supports	Exports (CSV, files archive, entry PDF) keep field labels with their answers and keep uploaded files unchanged.
504.2.2 PDF Export	Supports	Entry PDFs are tagged PDF 1.7 files that conform to PDF/UA-1 (ISO 14289-1). Each file carries a displayed document title, the document language, heading structure, alternative text from the descriptions entrants supply, and page headers and footers marked as artifacts. All fonts are embedded with complete Unicode mappings. Where an entry contains characters in a script the export does not draw, a replacement mark appears on the page and the original text is kept in the file's text layer, so assistive technology, search and copy receive the original characters. Verified with veraPDF (PDF/UA-1 profile) and read with VoiceOver. Sample exports are available on request.
504.3 Prompts	Supports	The brand color setting reports WCAG contrast for the chosen color and, when the product darkens it, shows the entered and the used color with their ratios. The entry form prompts for alt text under every uploaded image and a description under every video, and offers a captions file and an audio description under every video, and the question editor offers an input purpose for short answers. The organization logo setting and the program hero image settings show an optional <i>Image description</i> field beside the uploaded image, with a hint that it describes the image for people who use screen readers (see 504.2).
504.4 Templates	Supports	Program templates produce forms whose every question is labeled and whose pages pass the WCAG 2.1 AA checks in this report.

Chapter 6: Support Documentation and Services

Criteria	Conformance level	Remarks and explanations
602.2 Accessibility and Compatibility Features	Supports	This report and the help documentation describe the accessibility features.
602.3 Electronic Support Documentation	Supports	Help documentation at awardkit.io/docs is HTML built on the same accessible component set; see the WCAG 2.x tables.

Criteria	Conformance level	Remarks and explanations
602.4 Alternate Formats for Non-Electronic Support Documentation	Not Applicable	All documentation is electronic.
603.2 Information on Accessibility and Compatibility Features	Supports	Support answers accessibility questions by email at support@awardkit.io and through the in-product help button.
603.3 Accommodation of Communication Needs	Supports	Support is provided in writing (email and in-product messages), which works with assistive technology and relay services.

Third-party components

Three services render inside AwardKit flows and are covered by their own vendors' conformance reports: Stripe Checkout (entry fee payment), Cloudflare Turnstile (bot check on sign-in and entry submission, invisible for most users; when Cloudflare asks for a visible check, the email verification dialog says the check comes before the code is sent), and the Mux video player (entrant video playback). Where an entrant answers a question with a YouTube or Loom link, that provider's embedded player is shown, covered by its vendor's report; an organization that turns off tracking on its public pages shows these answers as plain links there instead.

Test results

The detailed audit, with every page state tested, each defect found, and its fix, is in *AwardKit Accessibility Audit, October 2026*, available on request. The automated suite's latest run, on 25 October 2026 against this release, reports zero WCAG 2.1 A or AA violations and zero reflow failures across the tested states.

Legal disclaimer

This document describes AwardKit as of the report date and is provided for information. AwardKit tests each release against the criteria above and will correct reported accessibility defects promptly; accessibility issues can be reported to support@awardkit.io.

VPAT® is a registered trademark of the Information Technology Industry Council (ITI). This report follows the ITI VPAT® 2.5Rev Revised Section 508 Edition template.