Jan. 25, 2023
Issue 1

Website Modernization Program

The Commonwealth of Virginia (COV) website modernization program was created to ensure all state websites provide an accessible, trusted and secure experience for all Virginians. Specifically, the program looks to aid agencies in meeting the COV web standards.

VITA is developing and testing an updated banner, similar to what can currently be found

at **https://www.developer.virginia.gov/downloads/commonwealth-banner/**. *Implementation of the banner is required for all main and sub-web pages.*

VITA is also developing a design system that includes style guides, templates and a consistent color palette. *Use of the design system is optional but recommended*, especially for agencies that have not updated their websites recently.

The Website Modernization Project Management Office (Web Mod PMO) team will coordinate deep dives with agencies through their customer account managers (CAMs) or directly for agencies without an assigned VITA CAM. The team will ensure remediation progress is tracked and reported.

Next Steps

- We will share an update at a **virtual meeting on Thursday, Feb. 2 at 10 a.m.**
- Our team will be reaching out to gather additional information about your agency's current web landscape and resources (e.g., staff involved in maintaining your agency's sites).
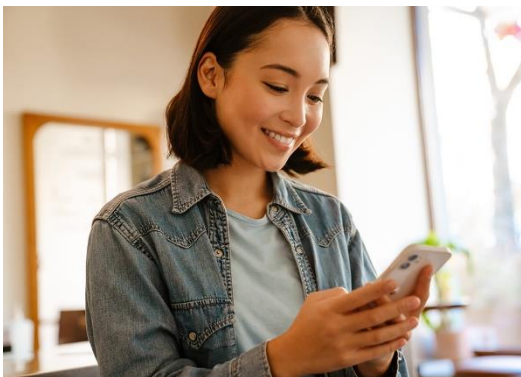- Stay tuned for the launch of an information hub on the VITA website soon.

Web Systems Standards

Commenting on the **Enterprise Solutions Architecture Web Systems Standard (EA-225)** closed on Jan. 16. Common themes in the comments were:

- Will there be services in the catalog to support the requirements?
- What tools will be used?
- What is the design system?
- Who does what?
- Will there be funding to support?

Below are a few more facts and figures about the comments. Many thanks to all who provided feedback!

Comment period on ORCA:
Nov. 15, 2022 to Jan. 16, 2023

Comments from 14 agencies

209 total comments

Design Standards

A new branding bar expands upon the previous design and now includes the agency's name and

Information Hub

The Web Mod team is building a resource page on the VITA website that will be launched

the "VA" mark to provide a unifying introduction to each website. It will also include a link to services and a search drop-down.

soon. You'll find the style guide, FAQs and links to tools and resources. Stay tuned!

FAQs

Who is providing governance and oversight for the program?
The Website Modernization Program Management Office (Web Mod PMO team), situated within VITA, will provide governance and oversight support for this effort. The team works closely with the VITA Web Technologists team for accessibility and design standards.

Does every agency have to comply?
Executive branch and independent authorities that report to the governor are in scope for this project. All Commonwealth of Virginia agencies should be striving towards accessible, trusted and secure websites.

What websites are considered in-scope?
All public-facing websites and web applications are in scope. The Web Mod PMO team will work with agencies to evaluate non-government websites (.COM, .EDU, etc.) on a case-by-case basis.
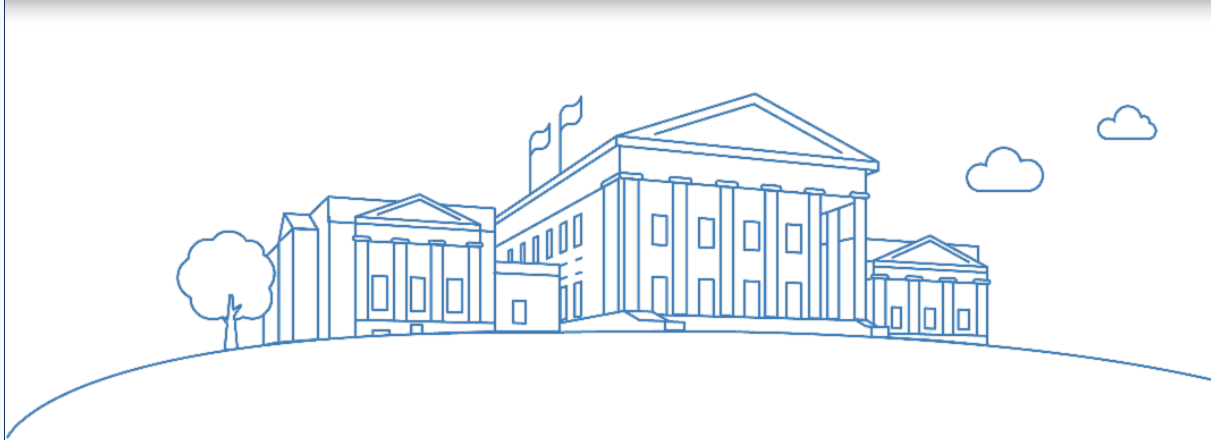
Is VITA going to assist agencies?
VITA will provide a design system that will offer branded templates, a website compliance checklist and a process for approval before going into production of any new websites that do not leverage the Virginia.gov website solutions service. VITA is contracting with Accenture for nine months to develop the governance framework and provide accessibility training to agencies.

Note: Accenture will not be performing the remediation work. VITA has existing contracts with three eGov vendors who provide full hosting and web maintenance support and three content management system (CMS) providers for agencies that just need the tools. VITA, through a new service manager (Virginia.gov website solutions), will act as a liaison between agencies and the service providers to find the best fit, depending on an agency's needs.

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More FAQs will be posted to the VITA service portal soon.

If you have questions, please contact **webmod@vita.virginia.gov**.