March 31, 2023
Issue 4

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.

"Website Modernization" web hub

Visit **www.vita.virginia.gov/websitemodernization**
for links, resources and general information about the program.

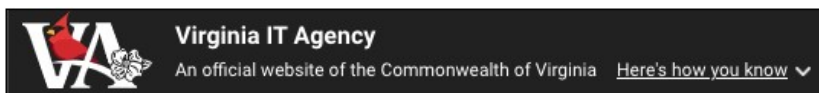## Branding bar

The clock has started!

The updated Commonwealth banner has been finalized and is now available for implementation. The banner should be implemented on all public-facing websites;

including interior pages and application login screens by **Friday, June 30.**

The objective of the Commonwealth banner is to provide consistent top-level branding across all agency websites. The banner is available with either a black background and white logo, and a white background with dark blue logo. Agencies may use the option that works best with their existing website.

The branding bar form uses free-form text for your agency name. This allows for flexibility in how you display your name and helps ensure the JavaScript will be compatible with web applications.

NOTE: Agencies that participated in the branding bar beta test will need to update their script.

Web developers

To download the new branding bar, navigate to **https://developer.virginia.gov**, click on the branding bar link, then follow the form prompts to generate the JavaScript code.

The code will need to be placed inside the <head></head> code on your template.

Be sure to review the display sample for accuracy before proceeding.

Web systems standard

The enterprise architecture web standards have been posted to the VITA website, effective Feb. 23: https://www.vita.virginia.gov/media/vitavirginiagov/it-governance/psgs/pdf/EA-Solutions-Web-Systems-Standard.pdf

The intent of this standard is to guide the management, development, purchase and use of web system resources in the Commonwealth of Virginia (COV). This standard encompasses and replaces the previous **Website Topic Report** and the **Accessibility Topic Report**.

The purpose of the new standard is to define a framework for COV web systems to meet the following objectives:
- To produce a consistent and homogenous appearance for COV web systems across all Commonwealth agency websites
- To produce web content that is accessible by all citizens of the Commonwealth
- To establish a sense of authenticity through consistency in domain naming, ensuring citizens that information being provided comes from a trusted source
- To ensure that COV web systems are secure from harm against cybersecurity attacks

Virginia.gov website solutions (VWS)

The Virginia.gov website solutions (VWS) service has gone live! It is available in the VITA service catalog here: https://vccc.vita.virginia.gov/vita?id=sc_cat_item&sys_id=bf4b0a6f1b84291411aacb37624bcbde.

VWS is a no-cost service provided by VITA to connect agencies with resources for website design, content management, and hosting.

VITA has state contracts with three eGov vendors – AISN, SiteVision, and Tyler Technologies/Virginia Interactive. These vendors provide turn-key solutions for agencies in search of full website content management and support or are just looking for a new host for their site.

VITA also has state contracts with three content management systems (CMS) – Adobe, Drupal, and TerminalFour. These are great options for agencies who would like to choose a specific CMS and have a web development staff that would benefit from having more development control, while still having access to vendor offered website design services and cloud hosting. Additionally, VITA is working to bring WordPress on contract. Please be on the lookout for updates.

It can be challenging to navigate these contracts and determine which solution is best for your agency. Let VITA help by reviewing your requirements, staffing, and budget to help find the right fit for you!

FAQs

Is there funding available to assist agencies in making updates to their websites?

VITA's website modernization funds are being utilized to provide enterprise-wide tools and resources to agencies, which will help agencies improve security and accessibility. Additionally, the website modernization program is helping to develop a budget for remediation as a planning tool.

Agencies should request any additional funds through their standing sources, and can connect with customer account managers with any questions.

The web standards require authenticated systems and online form submissions to employ accessible CAPTCHA, an acronym for "Completely Automated Public Turing test to tell Computers and Humans Apart." Is it acceptable to use two-factor authentication (2FA) instead of CAPTCHA for web systems with a login?

No. 2FA and CAPTCHA are mutually exclusive confirmations of a user's identity. 2FA is concerned with authentication while CAPTCHA is used to confirm the user is a human. The use of 2FA is encouraged, but it does not replace the need for CAPTCHA. VITA is working to procure an enterprise-level solution for CAPTCHA for agencies to use. Look for more details in the coming weeks.

More information

- FAQs are available on the VITA service portal at KB0019243
https://vccc.vita.virginia.gov/kb_view.do?sysparm_article=KB0019243

- These newsletters are archived on the [web hub](www.vita.virginia.gov/websitemodernization)
www.vita.virginia.gov/websitemodernization

Next Steps

Stay tuned for more information about:
- accessibility training
- CAPTCHA
- additional tools in the VITA toolbox

If you have questions or would like to be added to the distribution list for this newsletter, please contact **webmod@vita.virginia.gov**.

VA | **Website Modernization**
An official program of the Commonwealth of Virginia

VIRGINIA IT AGENCY