



April 21, 2023
Issue 5

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 COV web standards.

**"Website Modernization" web
hub**

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

Branding bar

**REMINDER: New branding bar
implementation due by Friday, June 30**

Reminder that the updated Commonwealth branding bar/banner has been finalized and is available for all

agencies to implement now.

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. Be sure to review the display sample for accuracy before proceeding. The branding bar should be implemented on all public-facing websites; including interior pages and application login screens by **Friday, June 30**.

After you install the branding bar, we'd love to know how your experience went by filling out the survey on the '[Get the Commonwealth Branding Bar](#)' page.

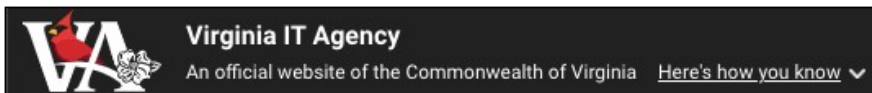


Web developers

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.



Implementation guidance for the branding bar

Please do not alter the branding bar in any way during implementation, other than customizing your agency name. The objective of the Commonwealth branding bar is to provide consistent branding across all agency websites, without requiring stricter adherence to website templates or color schemes.

Per the enterprise architecture (EA) web standards, the branding bar wording, logo, services menu, and search function must be displayed unaltered. Its enterprise use is an aid to citizens and must be the same on all sites. The branding bar must be at the top of your website before any other content begins.

The branding bar is available with either a black background with white logo, or a white background with dark blue logo. Agencies may use the option that works best with their existing website.

Accessibility office hours

The website modernization team will be holding accessibility office hours from 10-11 a.m. EST, every Tuesday and Thursday. These sessions are meant to provide guidance to specific accessibility issues identified by attendees, and to share tips and tricks about Siteimprove and accessibility, in general.

To best prepare for office hours, interested agencies should review their Siteimprove Report to identify outstanding issues. Designate a representative to attend office hours, where we will discuss your specific questions about your report and your

website. We will do our best to answer all questions from all attendees.
We will hold office hours starting this Tuesday, April 25 between 10-11 a.m. EST.

Feel free to join us on Teams here:

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in to the office hours here: 213-436-3432, Conference ID: 240 969 085#

FAQs

Can I update the Commonwealth branding bar to match the style, format, or alignment of my webpages?

No! Consistency is key. Any modifications to the bar on your site can impact the customer experience across all other sites.

In addition, the web mod program team is reporting progress and compliance up to the Governor's Office. Changes to the branding bar can impact how the Website Modernization program tracks implementation, potentially creating issues where it looks like you have not added the branding bar after doing so.

I added the Commonwealth branding bar during the pilot period. Do I need to update my JavaScript code for the new bar?

Yes! The code changed between our pilot phase and the final push to production. If you helped test out the bar, THANK YOU, but you will need to update your code to the final version.

Do I need to add the Commonwealth branding bar to interior application pages?

No. The branding bar should be on the landing/login page where practical. We support adding the bar to interior application pages, but recognize the technology or the use case for each application may prevent applying the branding bar internally.

Do I need to do anything when updates are made to the Commonwealth branding bar?

No! Developer.virginia.gov makes it easy for you to keep the Commonwealth branding bar up to date. Simply follow the installation instructions for the script provided on the page. If the code is updated and you've followed the installation procedure, your branding bar content will update automatically. Release Notes will also be posted to the developer site so you can track updates.

How do I gain assistance with or provide feedback on the Commonwealth branding bar?

Two options – you can either fill out the form [here](https://www.developer.virginia.gov/questions--comments/) (<https://www.developer.virginia.gov/questions--comments/>) or send an email directly to developer@vita.virginia.gov.

The team is here to help troubleshoot issues if any arise with the branding bar on your website.

Feedback is also greatly appreciated. This is the first version of the branding bar, not the last. Please be aware that any requests or recommendations to update the bar will be weighed against how they would impact all other agency sites.

More information

- FAQs are available on the VITA service portal at [KB0019243](https://vccc.vita.virginia.gov/kb_view.do?sysparm_article=KB0019243)
https://vccc.vita.virginia.gov/kb_view.do?sysparm_article=KB0019243
- These newsletters are archived on the [web hub](http://www.vita.virginia.gov/websitemodernization)
www.vita.virginia.gov/websitemodernization



Next Steps

Stay tuned for more information about:

- 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.



Website Modernization
An official program of the Commonwealth of Virginia



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