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## INTENTIONAL PURCHASING: Accessible Procurement in Higher Education

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# INTENTIONAL PURCHASING: Accessible Procurement in Higher Education



Gwen A. Bostic, CPACC  
 Academic Leadership Academy 2018-2019  
 Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI

## WHAT IS INTENTIONAL PURCHASING

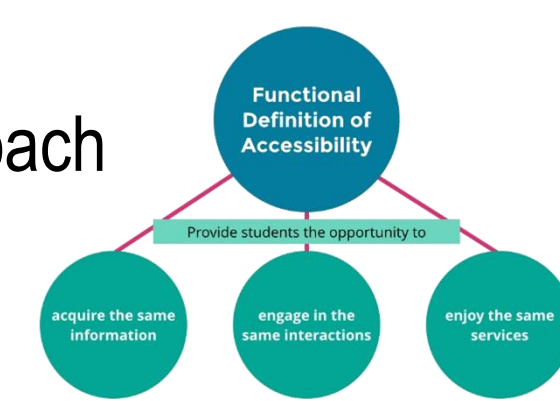
Intentional Purchasing is examining products with the intention of purchasing those that are accessible, work well with accessible technology or can be updated to become accessible.

## WHY IS IT IMPORTANT



Social Justice

Right Approach



Economics

## IMPLICATIONS FOR UNIVERSITY



## INTENTIONAL PURCHASING FOCUS AREAS



## DESCRIPTION

- Raise Awareness**  
Initiate discussion on accessibility and how being inclusive is good for the entire WMU community. Assume a proactive approach toward accessibility when making purchases
- Establish Guidelines**  
Establish the use of and review the WCAG 2.0 and 2.1 (Web Content Accessibility Guidelines) when making purchasing decisions
- Market Research**  
Research companies on their familiarity with accessibility and their willingness to adapt changes which will make their product more accessible
- Interview Vendors**  
Ask vendors questions about their products such as
  - What experience does the company have in developing an accessible product?
  - How do they meet WCAG guidelines with this product?
  - How does your company test for accessibility?
- Request VPATs or Conformance Reports**  
Request company submit a VPAT (provide a timeframe)
- Review VPATs or Conformance Reports**  
Review submitted VPAT
  - Current date (not over 12 months)
  - Manual and automated testing
  - No information documented
- Product Review Committee**  
Accessibility Compliance Specialist reviews technology as part of Product Review Process
- Perform Manual and Automated testing**  
Specialized Technology Lab consultant performs manual and automated testing on technology purchases and submits a report
- EEAAP (if necessary)**  
Equally Effective Alternative Access Plan created for those technologies which are purchased but may not currently meet accessibility requirements
- Purchase**  
Make purchase decision after completion of the process

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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