Hein Scholar Accessibility Conformance Report

WCAG Edition

(Based on VPAT® Version 2.5Rev)

Name of Product/Version: Hein Scholar

Report Date: November 2026

Product Description: Law review submission and editorial platform

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Notes: This evaluation focuses on the core functionality of heinscholar.com, including its primary navigation, dashboard, notifications, account management functionality, and tools.

Evaluation Methods Used: Evaluation included manual accessibility testing and automated accessibility testing (JAWS, Siteimprove). Testing activities included keyboard accessibility, screen reader compatibility, content structure, form controls, color contrast, focus visibility, and other applicable WCAG success criteria.

Applicable Standards/Guidelines

This report covers the degree of conformance for the following accessibility standard/guidelines:

Standard/Guideline	Included In Report
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0	Level A (Yes) Level AA (Yes)

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Standard/Guideline	Included In Report
	Level AAA (No)
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1	Level A (Yes) Level AA (Yes) Level AAA (No)
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.2	Level A (Yes) Level AA (Yes) Level AAA (No)

Terms

The terms used in the Conformance Level information are defined as follows:

- **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.

WCAG 2.x Report

Note: 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.

Table 1: Success Criteria, Level A

Notes:

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.1.1 Non-text Content (Level A)	Supports	All images include text alternatives.
1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Not Applicable	Hein Scholar does not have audio-only or video-only media.
1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Not Applicable	Hein Scholar does not include synchronized media presentations.
1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Not Applicable	No prerecorded video content with synchronized audio is provided that requires audio description or a media alternative.
1.3.1 Info and Relationships (Level A)	Supports	Headings, lists, tables, form fields, and other page elements use appropriate HTML markup to identify their structure and relationships for users of assistive technologies.
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence (Level A)	Supports	Pages are organized so that content is presented in a logical order that makes sense visually and when using a screen reader or keyboard navigation. Testing shows that the reading order generally follows the intended layout and preserves the meaning of the content.
1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics (Level A)	Supports	Instructions and content do not depend on color, shape, sound, or other visual or sensory cues alone. Interactive elements, navigation controls, and document viewing features include text labels or other ways for users to identify and understand their purpose.
1.4.1 Use of Color (Level A)	Supports	Hein Scholar does not use color alone to communicate information or indicate actions and statuses. Additional text or visual cues are provided to help users understand the information.
1.4.2 Audio Control (Level A)	Not Applicable	Hein Scholar does not provide audio content or audio playback functionality.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.1.1 Keyboard (Level A)	Supports	All interactive functionality within Hein Scholar can be accessed and operated using a keyboard. Keyboard navigation was tested using Tab, Shift+Tab, Enter, Space, and arrow keys where applicable."
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap (Level A)	Supports	Users can access all interactive elements using only a keyboard. They can move between elements and exit menus, dialogs, and document viewer controls using standard keyboard commands such as Tab, Shift+Tab, and Escape. No elements prevent users from moving on to other parts of the page.
2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Not Applicable	Hein Scholar does not use single-character keyboard shortcuts to trigger functionality.
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable (Level A)	Not Applicable	Hein Scholar does not impose time limits on user activities or require tasks to be completed within a specified period.
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide (Level A)	Not Applicable	Hein Scholar does not contain content that moves, blinks, scrolls, or updates automatically. Content changes occur only when users take an action.
2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold (Level A)	Not Applicable	Hein Scholar does not contain any content that flashes more than three times per second. No page content exceeds the general flash or red flash thresholds.
2.4.1 Bypass Blocks (Level A)	Supports	Hein Scholar includes a 'Skip to Main Content' link at the top of pages so users can bypass repeated navigation and go directly to the main content.
2.4.2 Page Titled (Level A)	Supports	Each page has a descriptive title that accurately identifies its content and purpose.
2.4.3 Focus Order (Level A)	Supports	Keyboard focus follows a logical order when moving through menus, fields, and forms.
2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context) (Level A)	Supports	The purpose of each link can be determined from the link text alone.
2.5.1 Pointer Gestures (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	All site functionality can be operated using a single pointer, such as a mouse click or screen tap. No

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		multipoint or path-based gestures are required to navigate the site or complete tasks.
2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Users can operate pointer-based features without accidentally triggering actions. Where applicable, actions can be canceled or undone.
2.5.3 Label in Name (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Interactive elements use accessible names that include the text displayed on the screen.
2.5.4 Motion Actuation (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Not Applicable	Hein Scholar does not require motion for any functionality.
3.1.1 Language of Page (Level A)	Supports	The default language of each page is programmatically determined using the HTML lang attribute.
3.2.1 On Focus (Level A)	Supports	Receiving keyboard focus does not cause unexpected changes to the page or its content.
3.2.2 On Input (Level A)	Supports	Entering information or changing a form field does not automatically change the page or its context. Changes occur only when users take an action intended to do so.
3.2.6 Consistent Help (Level A 2.2 only)	Supports	Live chat is available in the bottom-right corner of the page. When users select the live chat option, they are prompted to enter their name followed by their email address. This order is consistent throughout the platform.
3.3.1 Error Identification (Level A)	Supports	Errors are identified clearly, with guidance provided to help users understand and correct them.
3.3.2 Labels or Instructions (Level A)	Supports	Forms, buttons, and other interactive elements have clear labels, with instructions provided where needed to help users understand what is expected and how to complete an action.
3.3.7 Redundant Entry (Level A 2.2 only)	Supports	Hein Scholar does not ask users to re-enter information they have already provided during the same process.
4.1.1 Parsing (Level A) WCAG 2.0 and 2.1 – Always answer 'Supports'	Supports	For WCAG 2.0 and 2.1, the September 2023 errata update indicates this criterion is always supported. See

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
WCAG 2.2 (obsolete and removed) - Does not apply		the WCAG 2.0 Editorial Errata and the WCAG 2.1 Editorial Errata.
4.1.2 Name, Role, Value (Level A)	Supports	Interactive elements have names, roles, and values that can be recognized by assistive technologies, allowing users to understand and interact with them.

Table 2: Success Criteria, Level AA

Notes:

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.2.4 Captions (Live) (Level AA)	Not Applicable	Hein Scholar does not host any live media content.
1.2.5 Audio Description (Prerecorded) (Level AA)	Not Applicable	Prerecorded videos are not available in Hein Scholar.
1.3.4 Orientation (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Hein Scholar supports both portrait and landscape orientations. While the interface may be difficult to use on smaller smartphones due to its complexity, functionality is not restricted by screen orientation.
1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Input fields include visible labels or descriptive text to help users understand what information should be entered.
1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum) (Level AA)	Supports	Text and interface elements meet minimum contract requirements.
1.4.4 Resize text (Level AA)	Supports	Pages remain fully usable when text is resized up to 200%.
1.4.5 Images of Text (Level AA)	Supports	Text is used instead of images of text whenever the same appearance can be achieved using regular text.
1.4.10 Reflow (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Content adjusts to different screen sizes and window dimensions, allowing users to view and interact with Hein Scholar without losing information or functionality.
1.4.11 Non-text Contrast (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Visual elements, including form fields, buttons, and other interactive controls, have sufficient contrast

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		against adjacent colors to make them easy to identify. Visual information needed to understand content and operate the interface is clearly distinguishable.
1.4.12 Text Spacing (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Content remains readable and functional when users adjust text spacing, including line height, paragraph spacing, letter spacing, and word spacing. No information or functionality is lost when these settings are changed.
1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Additional content displayed when an element is hovered over or receives keyboard focus can be dismissed and remains visible as long as needed, without disappearing unexpectedly.
2.4.5 Multiple Ways (Level AA)	Partially Supports	A persistent navigation menu (located on the left side of the page) is currently the only way to navigate between sections of the site.
2.4.6 Headings and Labels (Level AA)	Supports	Headings and labels are clear and descriptive, helping users understand the purpose of page sections, form fields, and interactive elements.
2.4.7 Focus Visible (Level AA)	Supports	Interactive elements display a visible keyboard focus indicator, making it clear which element is currently selected when navigating Hein Scholar using a keyboard.
2.4.11 Focus Not Obscured (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only)	Supports	Keyboard focus indicators remain visible when navigating Hein Scholar. Focused elements are not completely hidden behind other content, allowing users to identify which element is currently selected.
2.5.7 Dragging Movements (Level AA 2.2 only)	Not Applicable	Hein Scholar does not require users to perform dragging movements to access or operate any functionality. All features can be operated using simpler pointer interactions, such as clicking or tapping
2.5.8 Target Size (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only)	Supports	Interactive elements, including buttons and links, have sufficient size and spacing to make them easy to select using a mouse, touchscreen, or other pointing device.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
3.1.2 Language of Parts (Level AA)	Not Applicable	All content within Hein Scholar currently provided in English. No portions of the content require a different language designation.
3.2.3 Consistent Navigation (Level AA)	Supports	Navigation menus and other navigation elements appear in a consistent order throughout Hein Scholar, making it easier for users to move between pages and locate content.
3.2.4 Consistent Identification (Level AA)	Supports	Elements that perform the same function are identified consistently throughout Hein Scholar, helping users recognize and understand familiar buttons, links, and other interactive controls.
3.3.3 Error Suggestion (Level AA)	Supports	When users make an input error and a correction can be identified, Hein Scholar provides suggestions or guidance to help them correct the issue.
3.3.4 Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data) (Level AA)	Supports	Actions that involve submitting or modifying important information include safeguards to help users review, confirm, or correct their entries before finalizing the action.
3.3.8 Accessible Authentication (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only)	Supports	Hein Scholar does not require users to complete cognitive function tests, such as solving puzzles, memorizing information, or transcribing characters, as part of the authentication process. Authentication can be completed using standard username/password credentials or supported single sign-on methods.
4.1.3 Status Messages (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Status messages are presented in a way that allows assistive technologies to identify and announce them without requiring users to move focus.

Table 3: Success Criteria, Level AAA

Notes: Hein Scholar has not been evaluated for Level AAA conformance. This VPAT addresses only Level A and AA requirements.

Legal Disclaimer

This Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) provides an evaluation of the accessibility features of Hein Scholar as of the date of this report. It is intended to assist organizations in assessing the product's accessibility relative to WCAG, Section 508, and other applicable standards. The information in this VPAT is provided "as is" without warranty of any kind, express or implied. Accessibility conformance may vary depending on product configuration, updates, user agents, or assistive technologies used. Hein Scholar makes no guarantees regarding future accessibility or compliance and recommends that customers conduct their own testing in their environment to verify accessibility.