

Atlas Systems Accessibility Conformance Report

WCAG Edition

(Based on VPAT® Version 2.5Rev)

Name of Product/Version: Ares 5.0

Report Date: April 28, 2026

Product Description: The Ares system automates library reserve services, provides around-the-clock access to reserves collections, includes integrated copyright management services, and saves time for faculty members and library staff.

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Notes: This report is an update to the previous November 18, 2024 report for Ares 5.0. It was evaluated against v5.0.19 of the default and LMS default web pages. The report now includes conformance information for WCAG 2.1 AA and other criteria were also updated to reflect the state of Ares in v5.0.19.

Evaluation Methods Used: automated WCAG accessibility validators (WAVE browser plugin), screen readers (NVDA, VoiceOver), contrast ratio calculators from WebAIM, keyboard

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) 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 (No) Level AA (No) 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	Ares provides text alternatives for non-text content that is not purely decorative in nature.
1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Not Applicable	Ares does not make use of any multimedia presentations internally. Content provided by the licensee may not be supported.
1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Not Applicable	Ares does not make use of any multimedia presentations internally. Content provided by the licensee may not be supported.
1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Not Applicable	Ares does not make use of any multimedia presentations internally. Content provided by the licensee may not be supported.
1.3.1 Info and Relationships (Level A)	Supports	In Ares, information, structure, and relationships conveyed through presentation can also be programmatically determined or are available in text.
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence (Level A)	Supports	Ares provides logical reading sequences for content.
1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics (Level A)	Supports	In Ares, instructions for operating content do not solely rely on sensory characteristics.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.4.1 Use of Color (Level A)	Supports	Ares does not use color as the only visual means of conveying information.
1.4.2 Audio Control (Level A)	Not Applicable	Ares does not use audio for operation or information retrieval.
2.1.1 Keyboard (Level A)	Supports	Ares supports keyboard use for navigation and functionality.
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap (Level A)	Supports	Ares does not trap keyboard focus.
2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Ares does not implement single-character keyboard shortcuts. The application's only keyboard shortcuts are modifier-required combinations (e.g., Ctrl+B/I/U in the rich-text editor), which are explicitly outside this criterion's scope.
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable (Level A)	Supports	Ares automatically preserves and restores form submission data after session expiry and re-authentication.
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide (Level A)	Supports	Ares does not include moving, blinking, or scrolling content that runs longer than 5 seconds, and includes no auto-updating regions. Built-in animation durations (e.g., fade and pulse effects) are below the 5-second threshold.
2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold (Level A)	Supports	Ares user interfaces do not flicker.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.4.1 Bypass Blocks (Level A)	Supports	Ares has multiple mechanisms to skip blocks of content, including a skip to main content link and ARIA landmarks.
2.4.2 Page Titled (Level A)	Supports	Ares web pages use descriptive page titles to describe topic or purpose.
2.4.3 Focus Order (Level A)	Supports	Ares web pages provide a logical focus order.
2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context) (Level A)	Supports	In Ares, the purpose of all default links included in the web interface can be determined within the requirements of the criterion.
2.5.1 Pointer Gestures (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Not Applicable	Ares does not use multipoint or path-based gestures.
2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	In Ares, activation occurs on the up-event for all click and drag operations, allowing users to abort an action by releasing off-target.
2.5.3 Label in Name (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	In Ares, the accessible name includes the visible label text for labelled controls. Where aria-label is used, the visible text is contained within it.
2.5.4 Motion Actuation (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Not Applicable	Ares does not implement any functionality triggered by device motion or accelerometer input.
3.1.1 Language of Page (Level A)	Supports	Ares webpages specify a default value for the lang attribute on the html element.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
3.2.1 On Focus (Level A)	Supports	In Ares, changing or moving focus does not initiate a change in context.
3.2.2 On Input (Level A)	Supports	In Ares, changing the setting of user interface components does not automatically cause a change of context.
3.3.1 Error Identification (Level A)	Supports	Default error messages provided by the Ares server provide descriptive feedback which includes items in error and error description, but some message content is customizable by the organization.
3.3.2 Labels or Instructions (Level A)	Supports	In Ares, content that requires user input has corresponding labels or instructions.
4.1.1 Parsing (Level A) WCAG 2.0 and 2.1 – Always answer ‘Supports’ WCAG 2.2 (obsolete and removed) - Does not apply	Supports	For WCAG 2.0 and 2.1, the September 2023 errata update indicates this criterion is always supported. See the WCAG 2.0 Editorial Errata and the WCAG 2.1 Editorial Errata .
4.1.2 Name, Role, Value (Level A)	Supports	In Ares, user interface components have programmatically determinable names, roles, and values and notification of changes are available to user agents.

Table 2: Success Criteria, Level AA

Notes:

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.2.4 Captions (Live) (Level AA)	Not Applicable	Ares does not make use of any multimedia presentations internally. Content provided by the licensee may not be supported.
1.2.5 Audio Description (Prerecorded) (Level AA)	Not Applicable	Ares does not make use of any multimedia presentations internally. Content provided by the licensee may not be supported.
1.3.4 Orientation (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Ares content is not locked to a single display orientation. The viewport meta declaration permits user scaling and orientation changes.
1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Ares user information form fields use the autocomplete attribute with WCAG-recognized values.
1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum) (Level AA)	Supports	In Ares, text that is not part of the list of exceptions noted in the criterion have a contrast ratio of at least 4.5:1.
1.4.4 Resize text (Level AA)	Supports	Web content, including text elements, can be resized via user agent zoom functionality and Ares does not

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		inhibit this functionality. Page content is still complete and usable when resized.
1.4.5 Images of Text (Level AA)	Supports	Ares minimizes use of images of text except for instances where the intended presentation is considered essential or not feasible via CSS styling.
1.4.10 Reflow (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	General Ares content reflows at a 320 CSS pixel viewport width without requiring two-dimensional scrolling. Data tables use a responsive wrapper that allows horizontal scrolling to view content.
1.4.11 Non-text Contrast (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	In Ares, UI components meet or exceed the 3:1 contrast ratio against adjacent colors.
1.4.12 Text Spacing (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	User stylesheets that increase line, letter, word, and paragraph spacing per the WCAG 1.4.12 thresholds do not break Ares layouts or cause text loss.
1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Not Applicable	Ares does not present additional persistent content on hover or focus that would require dismissible/hoverable/persistent behaviors. Default-interface navigation menus are static; LMS-interface submenus are click/Enter-actuated, not hover-actuated.
2.4.5 Multiple Ways (Level AA)	Supports	Multiple mechanisms are available to locate a page within Ares: navigation menu, search, site map, and direct course/item listings. Both interfaces provide at least two mechanisms; the LMS interface omits the top

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
		search bar by design but still exceeds the two-mechanism threshold.
2.4.6 Headings and Labels (Level AA)	Supports	Headings and labels provided in Ares describe the topic or purpose of their associated content.
2.4.7 Focus Visible (Level AA)	Supports	Ares provides its own focus indicators for UI components.
3.1.2 Language of Parts (Level AA)	Supports	In Ares, default text content uses the default human language of the web page as specified in the lang attribute of the html element on each rendered web page.
3.2.3 Consistent Navigation (Level AA)	Supports	In Ares, the navigation bar links are present in their respective relative order throughout the web pages.
3.2.4 Consistent Identification (Level AA)	Supports	Ares uses specific labels and icons consistently throughout the web pages to identify functional components that appear repeatedly.
3.3.3 Error Suggestion (Level AA)	Partially Supports	<p>In Ares, default error messages generally have sufficient detail to identify the issue and enable correction, but the default error messaging in the email subscription flow for courses describes the fault without suggesting a specific correction.</p> <p>Some error message content is customizable by the organization to override defaults.</p>
3.3.4 Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data) (Level AA)	Supports	Ares satisfies error prevention constraints.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
4.1.3 Status Messages (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	In Ares, status messages for asynchronous results (for example, hot-list add/remove, item move, save, and batch tagging) are exposed through an ARIA live region and announced without stealing focus.

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