State and local dental societies may wish to evaluate whether individuals with disabilities might have difficulties accessing their websites. Although it could be argued that state and local dental societies are not “public accommodations,” a claimant might assert that the Americans with Disabilities Act (“AwDA”) should apply, as well as state and local disabilities laws.

If your state or local dental society does not participate in the ADA Branded Web Templates for State and Local Societies program, ADA suggests contacting your website developer to discuss the accessibility of your website. Your dental society may wish to consider using a website accessibility evaluation tool or engaging a consultant to help evaluate the accessibility of your website.

The World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) provides a Web Accessibility Evaluation Tools List at http://www.w3.org/WAI/ER/tools/. Attached is a list of website accessibility consultants that the National Association of Realtors shared with the ADA.

If your state or local dental society participates in the ADA Branded Web Templates for State and Local Societies program, the web developer has assured us that the website template provided is WCAG compliant. However, content you add to the template may not be accessible unless you take certain additional steps. ADA is developing guidelines for participating dental societies on improving the accessibility of content added to the Branded Web Templates. Much of the ADA-supplied content is accessible, and ADA is working to enhance the accessibility of additional content.

The ADA will also host a Two-Part 90 Minute Website Accessibility Webinar for state and local dental societies on Monday, March 20th to provide an overview of the American with Disabilities Act (AwDA) and website accessibility, as well as answer any questions. The first part of the webinar will include a general overview of the current accessibility environment, legal best practices (imagery, video, page titles, tables, content, color contrast) and resources. The second part of the webinar will provide a detailed tutorial session for those dental societies who are a part of the ADA Branded Web Template community. If your dental society is not currently using an ADA Branded Web Template you will not need to remain on the webinar for the second half.

In the interim, if you have a site on the Branded Web Templates and you have questions about AwDA or you would like more information regarding the Branded Web Templates, please feel free to contact Kamilah Paden – 312.440.2821, padenk@ada.org or Mike Maddaloni – 312.440.4628, maddalonim@ada.org.

If you have questions about Americans with Disabilities Act, feel free to contact the ADA Legal Division at 800-621-8099 extension 2499.
Technology Consultants

Courtesy National Association of Realtors. Inclusion on this list does not imply endorsement by or affiliation with the American Dental Association or the National Association of Realtors. The ADA did not confirm nor verify any of the below listing nor data, and thus the ADA makes no (and expressly disclaims any) warranty, representation, or guaranty as to the content, accuracy, timeliness, or completeness of any of the below listing or data, or as to any services such listed entities may provide. The ADA urges any user of this list to use care and caution as when selecting any service provider.

SSB Bart Group
http://www.ssbbartgroup.com
Since 1997, SSB BART Group (SSB) has supported the accessibility initiatives of more than 1,000 organizations by developing software, training and consulting solutions to address the specific business and technical needs of the organizations most affected by accessibility requirements.
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Deque
http://www.deque.com/
For over fifteen years we have been helping major corporations, government agencies, and other organizations ensure that their websites and mobile apps are accessible to everyone.

The Paciello Group
https://www.paciellogroup.com/
We help achieve end-to-end accessibility in your organization’s websites, applications and processes. Our consulting services include accessibility testing and evaluation, WCAG/Section 508 compliance audits, VPAT analysis and production, training, user testing and research, design reviews and strategic planning to embed accessible user experience into all aspects of your product development lifecycle.

AudioEye
https://www.audioeye.com/company/
AudioEye’s patented and flexible technology is used by clients to reach the broadest audience possible, including the 5%-10% of the population with a disability or physical limitation otherwise denied full access to their websites and digital content.

Siteimprove
http://siteimprove.com/
As a Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) company, we have the ability to make a significant difference in the world of digital accessibility. We believe accessing the internet is a human right, and we continue to work toward making the internet accessible for all.

Bender Consulting Services
Joyce A. Bender is the founder and CEO of Bender Consulting Services, Inc., a firm that recruits and hires people with disabilities in the public and private sectors, who are trained in the information technology, engineering, finance/accounting, human resources, and general business areas. Bender partners with corporations and federal agencies in order to assist them with achieving their diversity and workforce inclusion initiatives across the U. S. and Canada.