

10 Tips for Accessible and Inclusive Learning

- 1 : Think About Accessibility and Inclusion as a Journey, Not a Destination.** Build a roadmap for success over time. Consider onboarding, skills development, and re-skilling to meet institution needs. Leverage people, process and tools to continuously improve.
- 2 : Identify the Accessibility Challenges.** Every institution has different challenges in terms of accessibility and inclusion. Challenges should be defined as they help to prioritize workplans, decisions, and goals on this ongoing path.
- 3 : Equity Isn't About Disability or Ability.** Think of the full audience. You don't know who will benefit from better accessibility... but those incremental benefits will positively impact all learners and your institution mission.
- 4 : Think and Plan Ahead.** Accessibility works better if you think ahead and plan for it. By asking an audience ahead of time, or making materials available ahead of time, you can become aware of and make accommodations for more individuals. Leverage presentation best practices too.
- 5 : Be Aware of Unforeseen Situations.** Even if you plan for your materials and presentation to be accessible, the environment can make it hard for some learners and even the room layout can have an impact.
- 6 : Build Fully Inclusive Learning Environments.** Digital tools, materials, and content should be accessible to everyone: instructors, learners, and staff. Having a full view of the readiness of your tools and total library, including within the development process for new materials, can enable you and your institution to focus on the areas of highest need for improvement.
- 7 : Empower Learners with Choice.** Each learner has their optimal way of learning. Enabling a wide range of ways to interact with digital content and learning materials (alternate formats like ePub and audio) will bring increased learner engagement and improve learning outcomes.
- 8 : Save Time for Instructors.** Provide instructors with tools and proactive suggestions to make their courses more inclusive. From properly tagging a visual to translating course materials to another language, tools can aid instructors on this journey.
- 9 : If You Can Measure It, You Can Improve It.** Consider the long-term view and leverage management systems including data and reporting tools to track progress and ensure continuous improvement in the most important areas. Focus on progress – not perfection.
- 10 : You Are Not in this Alone.** Whether tools, internal resources or outside experts – engage help as force multipliers that will drive more rapid success.

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