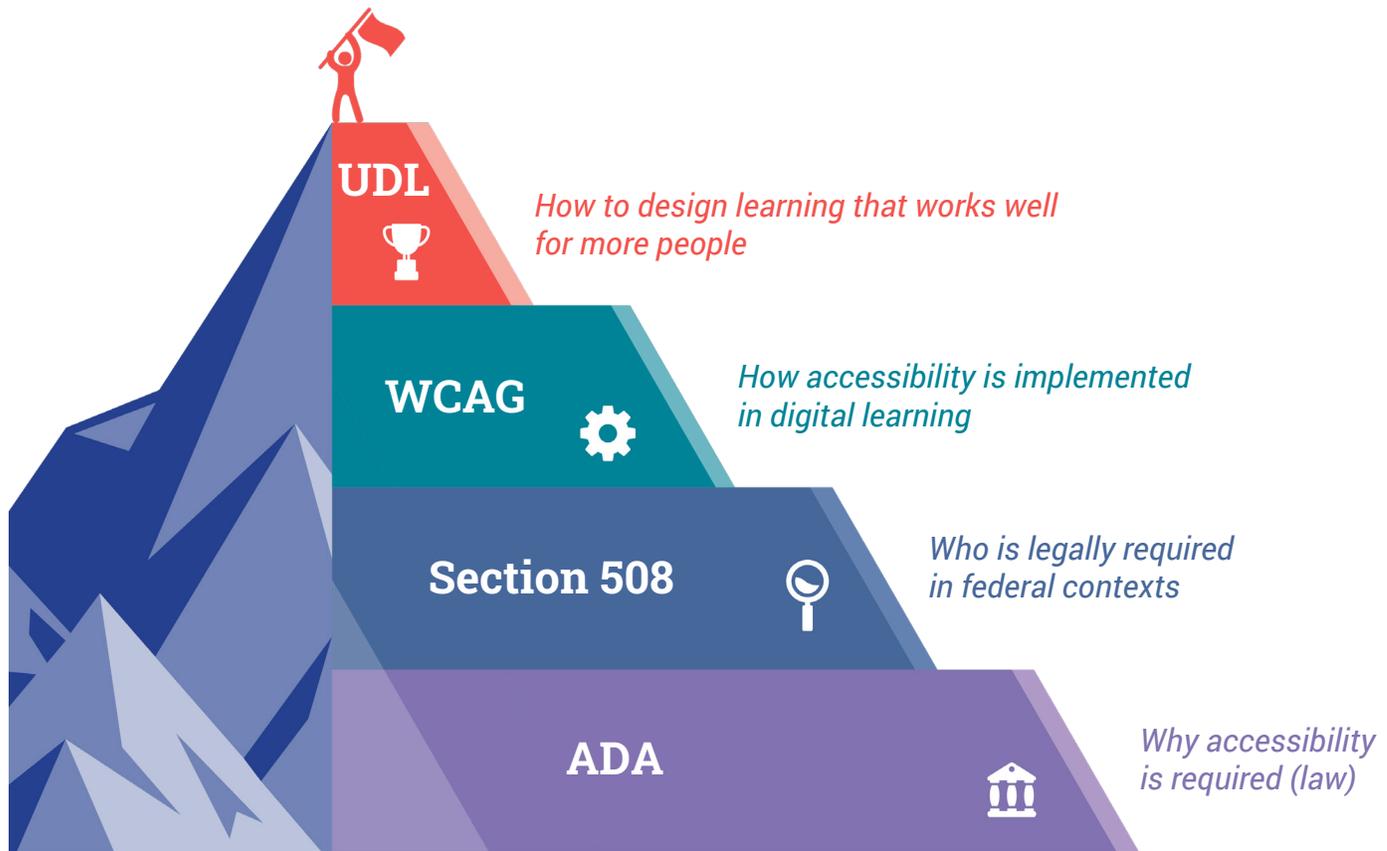


Accessibility Standards and Frameworks: Quick Reference Guide



Standard	What It Is	Primary Purpose	Who It's For	Who Must Follow It	How It's Used in Learning Design
ADA	U.S. civil rights law	Prevents discrimination and ensures equal access for people with disabilities	People with disabilities (in the U.S.)	Public-facing organizations, employers, and service providers	Establishes the legal requirement that learning products must be accessible
Section 508	U.S. federal accessibility law	Ensures federal electronic and information technology is accessible	Federal employees and the public (beneficiaries)	U.S. federal agencies and their contractors	Defines federal accessibility obligations and references WCAG for digital content
WCAG	Technical accessibility standard	Explains how to make digital content accessible	Designers, developers, content creators	Required when meeting 508; commonly used to demonstrate ADA compliance	Provides specific, testable criteria for accessible digital learning (e.g., captions, contrast, keyboard access)
UDL	Instructional design framework	Improves learning for diverse learners through flexibility	All learners	Voluntary	Enhances accessibility and learning quality but does not ensure legal compliance