TECHNICAL WHITE PAPER | e-508 SERIES | PART 01

Beyond the Remediation Backlog

A Smarter Path to Campus-Wide Digital Accessibility

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Community colleges, colleges, and universities publish digital content across campuses, academic departments, libraries, and learning platforms. Documents, recorded lectures, videos, and other media often have different owners and no shared accessibility inventory.

A campus-wide approach connects discovery, ownership, budgeting, remediation, verification, and monitoring. Coordinated decisions reduce avoidable rework and help accessible replacements reach their audiences.

THE PROBLEM IS BIGGER THAN A PDF

A remediation project may repair individual files without answering the larger questions: What content exists? Who owns it? What should be prioritized? What will it cost? And was the accessible replacement actually published? Higher education reporting shows that institutions often discover far more affiliated websites once they examine their digital footprint systematically [1].

> **CAMPUS PERSPECTIVE | INDIANA UNIVERSITY**
> Indiana University reported more than 2,500 websites across its digital ecosystem in 2025. Its updated website policy emphasizes accessibility, designated site ownership, annual accountability, and retiring outdated content, demonstrating why comprehensive discovery and institutional governance are essential to sustainable digital accessibility [2, 3].

THE e-508 OPPORTUNITY

Revelo Software's modernized e-508 coordinates assessment, budgeting, remediation, authorization, quality assurance, and delivery tracking. Complementary Revelo tools support discovery and monitoring across campus content.



Figure 1. Enterprise Accessibility Lifecycle: From Discovery to Monitoring

ONE INSTITUTION. MANY CONTENT OWNERS. ONE COORDINATED PROCESS.

01 Discover and classify. Revelo's ACE Asset Discovery identifies institution-controlled websites and digital assets. e-508 discovery workflows encompass documents and can be extended to audio and video, including embedded media, subject to configured integrations.

02 Assess and allocate. Automated document testing identifies detectable accessibility barriers; it does not establish full WCAG or PDF/UA conformance. Readiness classification and the Remediation Cost & Outlier Explorer help institutions examine complexity, compare costs, and develop upper-bound department budgets before work is authorized.

03 Remediate and track. Departments can evaluate AI-only, AI-assisted/hybrid, and human-only approaches. Customer-facing roles support quote review, financial authorization, order tracking, remediation, QA, and downloadable deliverables. Publication verification is an additional modernization capability.

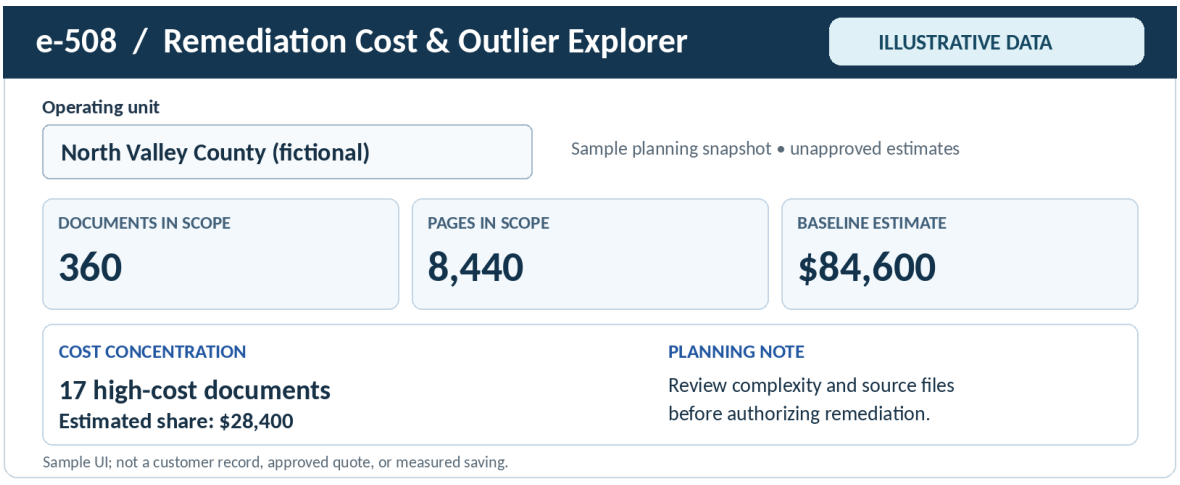


Figure 2. e-508 Cost & Outlier Explorer — Illustrative Planning View

Illustrative values only; not a customer result, an approved quotation, or a demonstrated cost saving.

CAMPUS PERSPECTIVE | TEXAS DIGITAL LIBRARY
Working groups across a 28-institution consortium developed shared tools and guidance for journals, theses, and institutional repositories, demonstrating the need for coordination without eliminating local ownership [4].

FROM A ONE-TIME PROJECT TO ONGOING ACCOUNTABILITY

Revelo can configure segment-specific executive briefs as remediation moves from planning to delivery. The first supports an upper-bound budget and decisions to remediate, prioritize, archive, or defer. Later briefs track:

- **Remediation progress.** Completed and remaining work; approved expenditures.
- **New content.** Newly published files and preliminary accessibility findings.
- **Verified publication.** Whether accessible files have replaced public-site originals.

CAMPUS PERSPECTIVE | CU ANSCHUTZ
The Strauss Health Sciences Library's roughly 7,000-item repository initiative combined inventory, prioritization, and staff education, demonstrating the value of an iterative roadmap [5].

WHAT CAMPUS LEADERS CAN DO NEXT

Start with one shared inventory and named content owners. Separate remediation readiness from accessibility conformance, authorize the appropriate method before assigning work, and retain validation and publication evidence with the approved document version. This turns isolated file repairs into a coordinated, repeatable accessibility program.

COMING NEXT IN THE SERIES

- Part 2: Discovery and ownership
- Part 3: AI, testing, and remediation economics
- Part 4: Publication verification and prevention

Learn more: e-508 | iAccessible | Revelo Accessibility Assistant

References and further reading

[1] Swaak, Taylor. 2024. "Colleges Must Revise Millions of Web Pages. It Will Be 'Painful.'" Chronicle of Higher Education, December 6.

[2] Indiana University. 2025. "Progress Continues as UITS Addresses Web Outages." IU Today, July 9, 2025.

[3] Indiana University. 2026. "New Web Policy Ensures IU Websites Are Accessible, on Brand and Strategically Focused." IU Today, January 28, 2026.

[4] Hight, Alexa, Susan Hoover, Shannon Kipphut-Smith, and Jeanne Hoover. 2026. "Consortial Collaboration for ADA Title II Compliance: Texas Digital Library's Accessibility Working Groups." International Journal of Librarianship 11 (2): 61–70. DOI: 10.23974/ijol.2026.vol11.2.600.

[5] Riley, Laura, and Lori Micho. 2025. "Clearing the Hurdles: Strategies for Accessibility Remediation in a Digital Repository." MIRL Symposium, November 20.

[6] Herrera, Jamie. 2026. "PDF Accessibility Trends in Higher Education: What to Plan for 2026 to 2027." UC Tech News, September 23. (Further reading.)