

THE THIRD TORCH

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Embark on the New Title II Digital Accessibility Quest!

Every compliance quest reaches a moment when the path forward is clear but action is required. For public entities across the country, that moment has arrived in the form of the U.S. Department of Justice's new rule on digital accessibility under Title II of the ADA.

This rule charts a course for ensuring that websites, documents, systems, and mobile apps are accessible to people with disabilities. [[ada.gov](https://www.ada.gov)]

But have no fear! This quest isn't designed to trap you in unreadable, scanned PDFs or strand you in a labyrinth of broken hyperlinks.

Instead, think of it as a guided expedition: one with a clear map, a timeline, and reward at the end in the form of a better, more inclusive digital experience for everyone at FSU.

Let's begin!



This epic undertaking begins with a single step. Here's your anticipated route:

1. Assemble your cross-functional departmental fellowship (compliance, communications/marketing, ITS)
2. Inventory your digital content: identify what you have and what's most used
3. Develop an process and transition plan within your team/department
4. Support your content creators and leverage FSU resources.
5. Prioritize key content and begin remediation aligned with WCAG 2.1 AA.
 - a. start with the "Big Four" Basics: headings, alt text, contrast, links.

[Click here to access FSU's dedicated support website, digitalaccessibility.fsu.edu!](https://digitalaccessibility.fsu.edu)

The Title II Digital Accessibility Rule may seem like an insurmountable journey, but it's one that comes with an plotted path and achievable milestones. And when you reach the end, you'll have a digital environment that's more usable, equitable, and welcoming to everyone.

Your compliance quest awaits!



Door Prizes vs. Raffles How a Ticket can Negate a Gift



Generally, Florida public employees may not solicit or accept anything of value intended to influence their official actions. Employees who file Form 1 financial disclosures have additional restrictions for accepting gifts, and are required to report many gifts that are not otherwise prohibited. These gift rules promote impartial decision-making and ethical conduct to help maintain public trust!

A recent opinion by the Florida Commission on Ethics clarified the distinction between door prizes and raffle tickets for purposes of these gift restrictions. It explains that, by paying for the chance to win a raffle, the prize is not considered a “gift” so long as the raffle is open to the public and not rigged.

Free or complimentary door prizes/tickets are considered gifts and are subject to restrictions and reporting requirements.

Let’s consider the following scenario:

Alex (a public employee and Form 1 Filer) buys four \$12.50 raffle tickets (\$50 in total) from a local Humane Society. He then wins a seven-night Cape Cod stay valued at \$2,850 in the raffle!

Is it a gift or not? Check your answer below!

Answer: The prize isn’t a gift and doesn’t require reporting (see [CEO 26-2](#)).

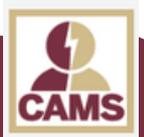
Why? By purchasing a raffle ticket, Alex paid equal or greater consideration for the prize he won. Essentially, he prepaid for it. As long as a raffle is open to the public (and isn’t rigged) the prize will not be considered a gift!

Remember: If no ticket or bid is collected, similar prizes are considered gifts. If given by vendors or lobbyists, public employees may be prohibited from accepting them (see [CEO 91-69](#)).

Key takeaway: Charities and business partners planning giveaways should consider holding a raffle instead!

The purchase of a raffle ticket will eliminate many gifts concerns for public employees under Florida law!

CAMS Reminder



Don't forget to re-certify your training and complete your annual Disclosure Profile update in CAMS via myFSU links!

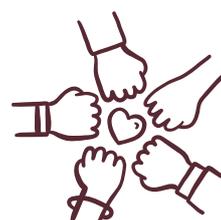
If you have any questions about the disclosure process, please reach out to CAMS@fsu.edu

OCE Resources

[OCE's Quick Reference Guide For Attending Conferences](#)

[FSU Form 1 E-Filing Toolkit](#)

[OCE Gift Guidelines & Best Practices resource!](#)



Have questions?
Need support?

The OCE Team is here to help you navigate the regulatory labyrinth!

