

California Website Compliance Checklist

Use this checklist to keep your district's website compliant with State and Federal requirements.

Public Records Act

SB 929

Our district has created and maintains a website

Passed in 2018, all independent special districts must have a website that includes contact information (and all other requirements) by Jan. 2020

SB 272

Our Enterprise System Catalog is posted on our website

All local agencies must publish a catalog listing all software that meets specific requirements—free tool at getstreamline.com/sb272

AB 2853 (optional):

We post public records to our website

This bill allows you to refer PRA requests to your site, if the content is displayed there, potentially saving time, money, and trees

The Brown Act

AB 392:

Agendas are posted to our website at least 72 hours in advance of regular meetings, 24 hours in advance of special meetings

This 2011 update to the Act, originally created in 1953, added the online posting requirement

AB 2257:

A link to the most recent agenda is on our home page, and agendas are searchable, machine-readable and platform independent

Required by Jan. 2019—text-based PDFs meet this requirement, Microsoft Word docs do not

State Controller Reports

Financial Transaction Report:

A link to the Controller's "By the Numbers" website is posted on our website

Report must be submitted within seven months after the close of the fiscal year—you can add the report to your site annually, but posting a link is easier

Compensation Report:

A link to the Controller's PublicPay website is posted in a conspicuous location on our website

Report must be submitted by April 30 of each year—you can also add the report to your site annually, but posting a link is easier

Healthcare District Websites

AB 2019:

If we're a healthcare district, we maintain a website that includes all items above, plus additional requirements

Including budget, board members, Municipal Service Review, grant policy and recipients, and audits

Open Data

AB 169:

Anything posted on our website that we call "open data" meets the requirements for open data

Defined as "retrievable, downloadable, indexable, and electronically searchable; platform independent and machine readable" among other things

Section 508 ADA Compliance

CA gov code 7405:

State governmental entities shall comply with the accessibility requirements of Section 508 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Requirements were updated in 2018—if you aren't sure, you can test your site for accessibility at achecker.ca



California Special Districts Association
Districts Stronger Together

csda.net



getstreamline.com

The Brown Act: new agenda requirements

Tips for complying with AB 2257 by January, 2019

Placement:

What it says: An online posting of an agenda shall be posted on the primary Internet Web site homepage of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state that is accessible through a prominent, direct link to the current agenda.

What that means: Add a link to the **current agenda directly to your homepage**. It cannot be in a menu item or otherwise require more than a single click to open the agenda.

Exception:

What it says: A link to the agenda management platform may be added to the home page instead of a link directly to the current agenda, if the agency uses an integrated agenda management platform that meets specified requirements, including, among others, that the current agenda is the first agenda available at the top of the integrated agenda management platform.

What that means: If you use an agenda management system, you may add a link to that system directly to your homepage (again, not in a menu item), if the format of the agenda meets the requirements below, and if the current agenda is the first at the top of the list.

Format:

What it says: [agenda must be] Retrievable, downloadable, indexable, and electronically searchable by commonly used Internet search applications. Platform independent and machine readable. Available to the public free of charge and without any restriction that would impede the reuse or redistribution of the agenda.

What that means: You cannot add Word Docs or scanned (image-based) PDFs of your agenda to your website—Word Docs are not platform independent (the visitor must have Word to read the file), and scanned PDFs are not searchable. Instead, **keep your agenda separate from the packet** and follow these steps:

1. From Word or other document system: Export agenda to PDF
2. Add that agenda to your website (or to your agenda management system), and include a link to that agenda on your homepage
3. Then, you can print the agenda, add it to your pile of documents for the packet, and scan that to PDF - just keep the packet separate from the agenda (only the agenda must meet AB 2257)
4. Keep the link on the homepage until the next agenda is available, then update the link

Questions? Contact sloane@getstreamline.com or dillong@csga.net