Creating Accessible Forms

Required fields

What to do
Labels for required fields should be marked as such.

Why it matters
Input errors can be avoided by providing clear labels on fields.

Examples

Better required fields

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Email *</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enter your email address (<a href="mailto:username@appstate.edu">username@appstate.edu</a>)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The email form field is marked as required with an asterisk that is part of the field label.

Poor required fields

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enter your email address (<a href="mailto:username@appstate.edu">username@appstate.edu</a>)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The email form field is required but is not marked as such.

Form instructions

What to do
Instructions about format restrictions should be provided.

Why it matters
Input errors can be avoided by providing clear instructions on forms and form fields.

Examples

Better form instructions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Email *</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enter your email address (<a href="mailto:username@appstate.edu">username@appstate.edu</a>)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The email form field includes instructions for what and how to enter information.
Poor form instructions

Email

The email form field has no instructions for what or how to enter information.

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