US Plain Writing Act of 2010 — Federal Plain-Language Mandate Tracked by a Decade of Independent Report Cards

Digital Inclusion · Good practice · United States of America

Quality score: 88/100

Evidence strength: Strong

Summary

Federal law requiring agencies to write public-facing documents in plain language, with annual compliance reporting. The Center for Plain Language has graded agencies yearly since 2012; the 2021 writing average was B-, with compliance far stronger than writing quality.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Innovation level	2/5
Sustainability (ongoing)	1/1
Evaluation evidence	1/1
Demonstrated reach	1/1
Documented learning	1/1

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-11-01

US Federal Government / Center for Plain Language (independent grader) — accessed 2026-11-01

Center for Plain Language — 2021 Federal Plain Language Report Card — accessed 2026-11-01

Nextgov — VA fails to communicate clearly; who gets a better grade? (2012) — accessed 2026-11-01

Cite this — Evidoria. *US Plain Writing Act of 2010 — Federal Plain-Language Mandate Tracked by a Decade of Independent Report Cards*. Persistent ID: e75e136d-3875-41c2-ae2d-06b4586424d4.