Blackboard Ally
Assistive technologies

SI HO STEUNPUNT INCLUSIEF HOGER ONDERWIJS

1. Description?

☐ **Blackboard Ally** is a **tool** that focuses on making digital content **accessible** within your LMS. This tool can be integrated into your **Learning Management System (LMS)**.

2. For whom and why?

☐ **Students:**
  ☐ Ally can generate alternative formats of teaching materials within the LMS, so students can consume this content in a way they prefer.
☐ **Lecturers:**
  ☐ Lecturers are provided with tools to improve the accessibility of the teaching materials.
  ☐ The reports from Blackboard Ally provide insight into the accessibility of the teaching materials within the LMS.

3. How does it work?

☐ **Alternative formats** | Blackboard Ally creates alternative formats (for the original documents in a course) that are easier for all students to use. The following formats are currently available:
  ☐ For example: Lecturer is notified that there is too little contrast in his document, which can cause problems for students with a visual impairment. Then it also states how they can solve this problem.
  ☐ Mobile compatible HTML
  ☐ OCR PDF

☐ EPub

☐ Audio

☐ Electronic Braille

☐ Translated versions

☐ **Institutional reports** | The institutional reports from Blackboard Ally provide a complete overview of the accessibility of all teaching materials within the LMS. These reports help identify certain parts of the system to optimize the accessibility of teaching materials.

☐ For example: Insight is gained into the evolution of the accessibility of documents.

☐ **Feedback and advice** | Lecturers receive feedback and advice so that they can improve the accessibility of their teaching materials.

☐ For example: Lecturer is notified that there is too little contrast in his document, which can cause problems for students with a visual impairment. Then it also states how they can solve this problem.

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4. Pricing

☐ Blackboard Ally is not free of charge.

5. Language

☐ Blackboard Ally is available in several languages, including English.

6. Type and platform

☐ Blackboard Ally is a tool, available for laptops or computers (Windows and Mac) and for smartphones and tablets running on Android and iOS. Blackboard Ally can be integrated with Blackboard Learn, Canvas, D2L and Moodle.