





## **Blackboard Ally Sole Source Statement**

To Whom It May Concern:

Blackboard Inc. is the sole producer and holder of sole source of Blackboard Ally. Blackboard Ally is a product that focuses on making digital course content more accessible, and is unique in its approach to addressing this problem. Blackboard Ally is the only product of its kind that combines the following areas of functionality to help institution address the accessibility of their course content:

- Closely and seamlessly integrated into the Learning Management System and core existing LMS workflows.
- Automatically scans course content for accessibility issues based on the WCAG 2.1 AA standard.
- Unique and state-of-the-art Machine Learning algorithms automatically attempt to extract the semantic information in course content.
- Automatically generates various alternative formats for the instructor's original, including Semantic HTML, Audio, ePub, Electronic Braille, OCRd PDF, etc. These are made available to the student and the instructor inside the LMS and the context in which the content is being used.
- Within the context of the Learning Management System, provide feedback to the instructor about the accessibility of their content, as well as detailed guidance on how to fix these issues.
- Full institutional and course-level course content accessibility report that provides detailed insight into the state of accessibility at the institution.

While available to multiple Learning Management Systems, Blackboard Ally is developed exclusively by Blackboard Inc. Blackboard Inc. is the only seller of Blackboard Ally and it may not be purchased via any reseller arrangement.