

DRUPAL 8 FORM API ACCESSIBILITY

Brandon Bowersox
d.o. 'brandonojc'
brandon@ojctech.com

*Authored D7 a l l y patches: expand/collapse, drag-n-drop,
headings, form labeling, user/people filters*

WHAT'S WRONG

- **No fieldsets for radios, checkboxes, dates**

Labels and IDs work for single elements like one radio, but fieldset and legend are the accessible, semantic markup for a group

- **Some validation errors are only highlighted in red**

- **Only partial support for 'invisible' labels**

- **Different FAPI attributes for different #types**

EG: http://api.drupal.org/api/drupal/developer--topics--forms_api_reference.html/7

HOW TO FIX FIELDSETS

1. Update `theme_radios()` and `theme_checkboxes()` to be wrapped by `theme_fieldset()`
2. Use existing `theme_fieldset($variables)` as is, passing a new CSS class into its `#attributes`
3. Create a new CSS class, `fieldset.accessible`, so the new fieldset and legend appear like the label does now

HOW TO FIX ERRORS

- W3C recommends a list of errors at the top of the page with links to each erroneous field
- Add an attribute to `drupal_set_message()` to associate each error with a field ID:
`drupal_set_message($message = NULL, $type = 'status', $repeat = TRUE, $anchor = NULL)`
- Work with UX team to style errors with a link

HOW TO FIX FAPI

- Move `#title_display` handling into `form_builder()` so that any field `#type` can support any `#title_display`
- Participate in a broader FAPI re-structuring

I'm eager to help make this happen for D8. Tell me who to coordinate with and how to help enhance FAPI in an accessible way.