

US Dept of Justice Guidelines and the 1EdTech Accessibility Rubric



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Presenters



Kelly Hermann
VP of Access, Equity
and Inclusion
University of Phoenix

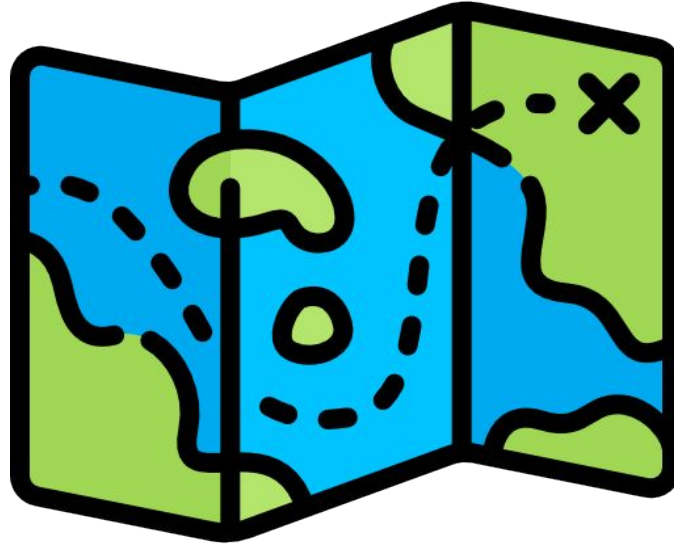


Donna Murray
Digital Accessibility Specialist
North Carolina DPI



Susan Haught
Digital Curriculum
Program Manager
1EdTech

The 1EdTech Accessibility Rubric



Accessibility is a **journey**, not a destination!



Agenda

Are you ready?

- Introductions
- Setting the Stage - Definition
- Overview Update DOJ ADA
- Are you on the same page?
- Resources
- How Accessibility Rubric and other standards include accessibility
- Q&A

Resources and Slides



Session Goals

- Are you aware of the:
 - Update and requirements ADA WCAG 2.1 AA?
 - Getting ready for the implementation
 - Accessibility Rubric Tool and other specs?



Developing a Shared Understanding of Accessibility



What does accessibility mean?

Accessibility means a person with a disability can:

- Get the same information,
- Engage in the same interactions, and
- Enjoy the same services as a person without a disability in an equally effective and integrated manner, with substantially equivalent ease of use as someone without a disability.



Setting The Scene: Who, What, When, Where

- What standard will you follow?
- When will you ask key accessibility related questions, provide alternative formats as needed and ask vendors/suppliers for needed resources?
- Where are your stakeholders (students, parents, faculty/staff, general public) accessing your resources and how does that influence accessibility?
- Who is responsible when something is not accessible?
- Why is this important for your class, department or institution?



Creating a culture of accessibility

- Starts first with understanding the current climate and culture of the institution
- Campus-wide approach – finding your new champions
- “What’s in it for me?”
- Professional development opportunities
- Policies and procedures
- Understanding the technology
- Who are your students? Consider both the general student population and students with disabilities.



ADA Title II Rule

It's the right thing to do!



ADA: Americans with Disabilities Act

- Law as of July 26, 1990
- Title II: State and local governments
- People with disabilities have equal access to services, programs, and activities
- This includes digital content and resources (clarified since 1996)



ADA title II Rule

- [Rule revising the regulation implementing title II of the ADA](#)
- Establishes a technical standard
- Provides clarity about ADA compliance
- Includes web content, mobile applications, and instructional materials
- Public-facing content (includes students)



Web content definition

“The information and sensory experience communicated to the user by means of a user agent (e.g., a web browser), including code or markup that defines the content’s structure, presentation, and interactions.”

This includes text, images, sounds, videos, controls, animations, and conventional electronic documents.



Compliance start dates

Based on census data for county or city:

- Total population $\geq 50,000$ = 2 yrs.
Date: April 24, 2026
- Total population $< 50,000$ = 3 yrs.
Date: April 26, 2027



Requirement: Technical Standard

- [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG\) Version 2.1, Level AA](#)
- Includes third-party content (through contract, license, or other arrangement)



Limited exceptions

- Archived web content
- Some third-party content
- Pre-existing conventional electronic documents
- Individualized documents that are password-protected
- Pre-existing social media posts
- Fundamental alteration or undue burden



Section 504 Rule

- Similar to ADA title II rule
 - Technical standard of WCAG 2.1 AA
 - Limited exceptions
 - Compliance start dates: May 2026/27
 - Based on population size
- Includes internal, employee-facing content



1EdTech Open Standards



1EdTech TrustEd Apps™ Self-Assessment Rubrics

Accessibility Rubric



Helps suppliers attest how they are providing inclusive and equitable applications and tools.

Security Practices Rubric



Helps suppliers attest how they follow secure practices, providing safe applications and tools.

Generative AI Data Rubric



Lets suppliers attest if they are using Generative AI and how the data is used.

These self-assessments can be used as a supplement to help suppliers and institutions have more information which can speed up the procurement process.

1EdTech Accessibility Rubric

The 1EdTech task force of cross-industry institutional and supplier experts collaborated to develop this tool.

The Task Force:

- Researched accessibility guidelines, tools, and included information from HECVAT (EDUCAUSE).
- Developed this self-assessment tool for suppliers to self-assess how they incorporate accessibility into their product(s).



What is the Accessibility Rubric? [1 of 2]



The **TrustEd Apps Accessibility Rubric Specification v1.0 and Rubric** is a self assessment tool for suppliers. It is intended to be a maturity model developed to:

- **Leverage accessibility expertise** across 1EdTech member organizations
- **Provide a common framework** for evaluating a supplier's posture on accessibility
- **Supplement** legislated requirements and accessibility conformance documentation



What is the Accessibility Rubric? [2 of 2]

The **four areas** of the rubric cover a company's posture and practices in the following areas:

1. Information and Documentation
2. Procurement Process and Communication
3. Accessibility and Conformance
4. Alternatives and Accommodations



Who Can Submit a Self-Assessment? - Suppliers

- Contributing, Affiliate, and TrustEd Apps Alliance Supplier member organizations can submit a self-assessment of their product
- Self-assessment results can be viewed by other members in the TrustEd Apps Directory and the TrustEd Apps Management Suite (TAMS)



TrustEd Apps Directory



Rubric Scoring

ITEM # Description	Other Accessibility Vetting Efforts	Score +2	Score +1	Score 0
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Maturity Scale

Max Score: 34 points

Emerging: 1-10

Advancing: 11-21

Optimized: 22+



Accessibility Rubric 5-Min Video




App Vetting Reviews

Visit the [TrustEd Apps Program page](#) to learn more or email TrustEdApps@lmsglobal.org with any questions.

Vetted By	Detailed Results
Kevin Lewis on 2022-01-19 <small>Data Privacy Officer at 1EdTech</small>	Profile VIEW DETAILS
Daisy Bennett on 2020-10-20 <small>Associate General Counsel & Data Protection Officer at Instructure</small>	Profile VIEW DETAILS

As an 1EdTech Member, you can contribute too!

[Add AI Rubric](#) [Add Product Profile](#) [Add Security Rubric](#) [Add Accessibility Rubric](#)



Complete Accessibility Self-Assessment

The rubric has been designed as a self-evaluation tool to be completed by the supplier about the accessibility of its product and its organization's commitment to accessibility. It is not intended to replicate or replace the evaluation of technical standards but rather supplement the technical information with additional information that is important to institutions as they procure products. The rubric represents one component in a comprehensive accessibility evaluation.

Please review the [1EdTech TrustEd Apps Accessibility Rubric Specification v1.0](#) for supplier self-assessment instructions and complete each of the tabs below.

Visit the [1EdTech TrustEd Apps Accessibility Rubric page](#) to learn more or email support@1edtech.org with any questions.

- General
- Information and Documentation
- Procurement Process and Communication
- Accessibility Conformance
- Alternatives and Accommodations

Supplier information

Supplier name: Instructure (37346)

Product
Canvas (400027)

Product version

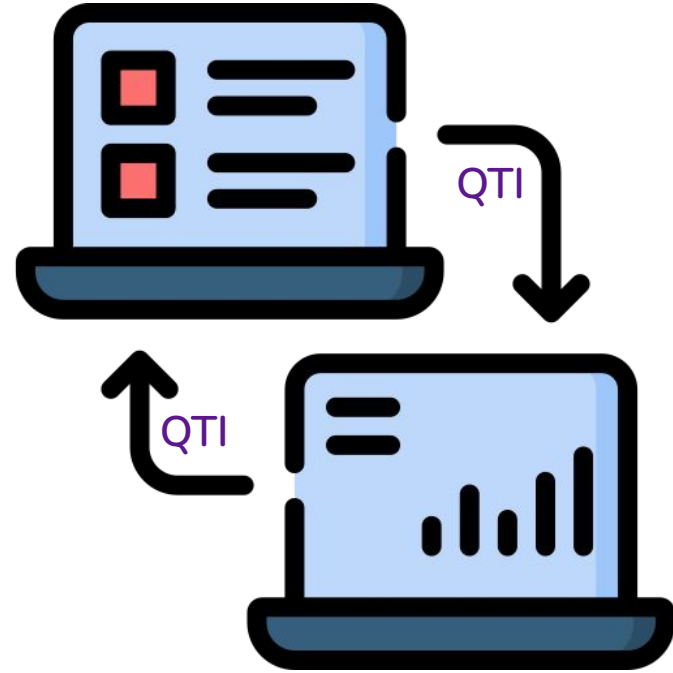


What is Question and Test Interoperability[®] (QTI[®])?

The 1EdTech QTI 3 Standard is a way of packaging and moving tests and questions from one application to another.

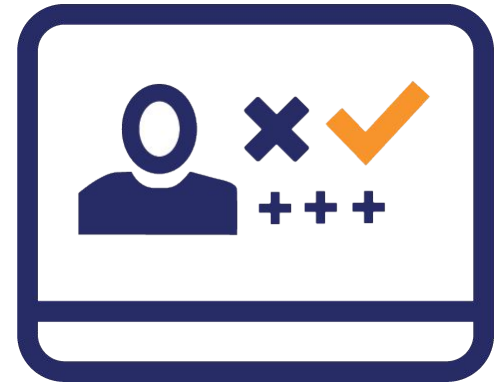
QTI 3 Provides:

- Presentation consistency for your tests and questions
- A secure way to exchange assessment content between applications
- Maintain ownership of QTI content
- Compliance with federal accessibility requirements (Section 508 and WCAG 2.1 AA compliance)



QTI 3 Capabilities that Support Accessible Assessments

- Data-SSML (inline HTML text-to-speech markup)
- Vertical Right to Left Text
- Right to Left Text
- WAI-ARIA and HTML 5 for Semantic markup (for WCAG compliance)
- Supplemental or Alternative content for assessment accommodations
- Personal Needs and Preferences (PNP)



Suppliers - Some Recommendations



Roles & Responsibilities

- By team
- Strategies for collaboration

Accessibility Shared Commitment: Roles and Responsibilities for Vendor Teams

Updated 12/5/2024

This document outlines the key roles and responsibilities of vendor teams in ensuring accessibility compliance. It provides a structured framework for integrating accessibility across product development, quality assurance, project management, sales and marketing, customer support, legal and compliance, and executive leadership teams. The goal is to establish a shared commitment to accessibility throughout the organization.

Product Development Team

Roles	Responsibilities
Design and development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Integrate accessibility into the product design and development process.● Ensure that all product features meet accessibility standards (e.g., WCAG 2.1 AA).
Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Conduct regular accessibility testing using automated tools and manual evaluations.● Involve users with disabilities in usability testing to identify and address real-world accessibility issues.
Documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Create and maintain comprehensive documentation on accessibility features and guidelines for users.

Collaboration:

- **Project Managers:** Work with project managers to ensure that accessibility requirements are included in project plans and timelines.



Creating an ACR

- Understanding WCAG
- Conducting evaluations
- Completing a VPAT

Creating an Accessibility Conformance Report

Updated 12/11/2024

[Introduction](#)

[Understanding WCAG 2.1 AA](#)

[Conducting Accessibility Evaluations](#)

[Completing the VPAT](#)

[Transparency and Honesty in Reporting](#)

[Continuous Improvement and Updates](#)

[Next Steps for Vendors](#)

[Encouragement for Ongoing Commitment](#)

Introduction

Purpose of This Guide

Welcome to the Accessibility Conformance Report Guide using the Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) for WCAG 2.1 AA compliance. This document is designed to assist vendors in accurately evaluating and reporting the accessibility features and compliance levels of their products. The VPAT/ACR serves as a critical tool for vendors to demonstrate their commitment to accessibility and to provide potential clients with transparent, actionable information about the accessibility of their offerings.



1 EdTech Self-Assessment

- For ed orgs & suppliers
- Potential implications of current landscape
- Possible next steps

Interpreting Rubric Scores

This resource is designed to help educational organizations and ed tech vendors

- Understand the potential implications of the current landscape.
- Identify possible next steps.

For each section of the rubric, determine the average score for all items.

Information and Documentation

Score	Ed Organization	Ed Tech Vendor
0	The vendor lacks a public accessibility statement and conformance documentation, suggesting a low priority on transparency and accountability in accessibility. This may indicate higher risks and challenges in ensuring compliance and support.	Reflects a need for significant improvement in providing clear, accessible information about accessibility features and standards. It indicates the need to develop and maintain comprehensive documentation to support users and meet compliance requirements.
1	The vendor provides some accessibility information and documentation but lacks depth and comprehensiveness. This may require additional efforts from the district to verify and ensure the adequacy of accessibility measures.	Shows progress but highlights areas for improvement in transparency and documentation. The vendor should focus on enhancing the detail and availability of accessibility information to build trust and facilitate better support.
2	The vendor offers detailed, accessible information and comprehensive conformance documentation. This suggests a high level of commitment to	Indicates a strong commitment to accessibility, with thorough documentation supporting transparency and



Continuous Improvement Strategies

- Strategies
- Action items
- Aligned with rubric

Vendor Accessibility: Continuous Improvement Strategies

Updated 12/11/2024

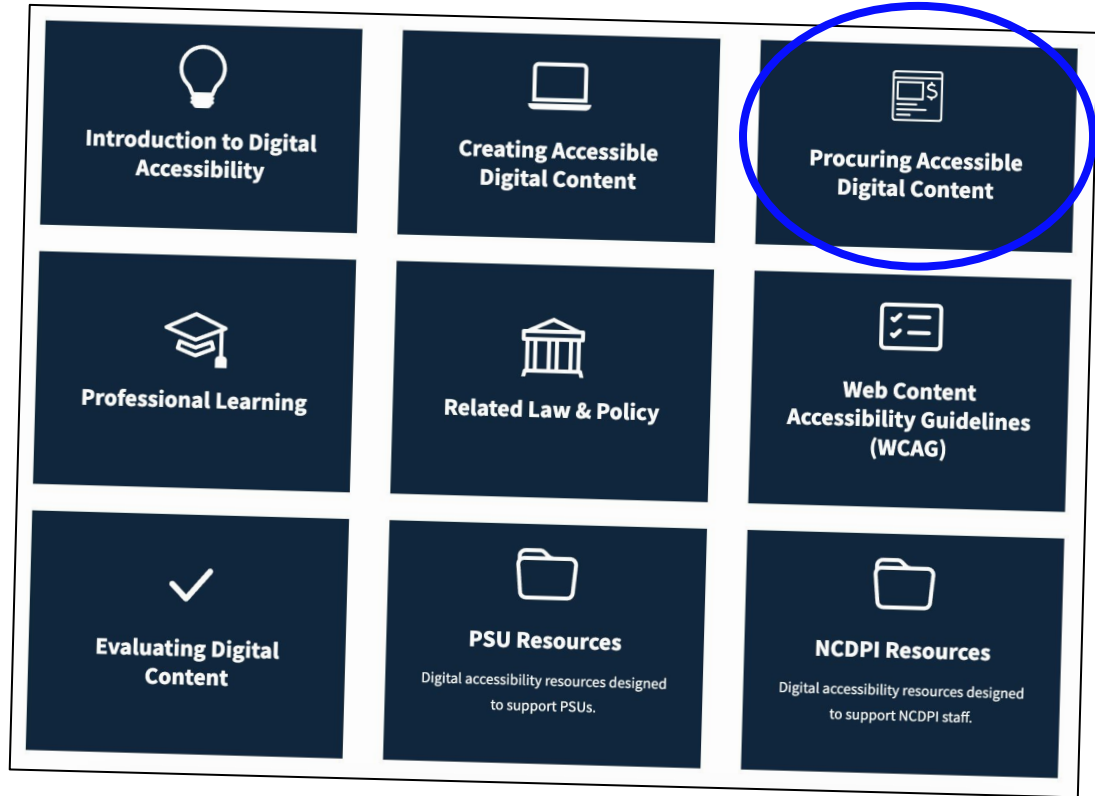
This guide presents strategies for vendors to consider as they work to continuously enhance the accessibility of their products and services. It includes strategies for accessibility documentation, procurement processes, product testing, user engagement, and fostering a company-wide culture of accessibility. With this focus on continuous improvement, vendors can ensure long-term compliance with accessibility standards and improve user experiences.

Information and Documentation

Strategy	Action items	Tasks
Develop comprehensive accessibility statements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Craft a detailed accessibility statement that outlines your commitment to accessibility, the standards you adhere to (e.g., WCAG 2.1), and the measures you take to ensure your products are accessible.● Include information about the testing methods and tools used to evaluate accessibility.	
Maintain up-to-date documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Regularly update your accessibility documentation to reflect the latest features, improvements, and testing results.	



NCDPI Resources



go.ncdpi.gov/DigitalAccessibility





**ACCESSIBILITY
FOR ALL**

CULTURE > COMPLIANCE



Resources

Resources can be found on the event site.





Susan Haught
Digital Curriculum Program Manager
shaught@1EdTech.org

Contact for more
information

TrustEd Apps Accessibility Rubric Resources



**TrustEd Apps Accessibility Rubric
Specification v1.0**



**TrustEd Apps Accessibility Rubric
Web Page**



Assessment and Accessibility



QTI 3



Data-SSML



**Access for All Personal
Needs & Preferences**

