QMethodSoftware Accessibility Conformance Report

WCAG Edition

(Based on VPAT® Version 2.5Rev)

Name of Product/Version:

QMethodSoftware (QMS/QSort), accessibility staging candidate accepted October 28, 2026. Source branch accessibility through ef385ba6292f8566ede96206eda4daacc0ac364a.

Report Date:

October 28, 2026 (America/Toronto).

Product Description:

Cloud-hosted platform for designing, administering, participating in, and analyzing Q methodology studies. Supplied by Sharbel Group Inc. operating as Wired Solutions.

Contact Information:

Sharbel Lutfallah, President | info@qmethodsoftware.com | 519-250-7786

Notes:

This completed supplier assessment reports 46 Supports, 8 Not Applicable and 1 Partially Supports across the 55 WCAG 2.2 Level A and Level AA criteria. It is not an unqualified claim of WCAG conformance or an independent third-party certification.

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Scope: supplier-provided public/account, organization-admin/researcher and participant web interfaces, including authoring and rendering controls. Researchers supply study text, consent language, media, multilingual content and linked tools; that authored content requires separate assessment. Super-administrator screens and unreviewed external integrations are excluded.

Only WCAG 2.2 Levels A and AA are reported. WCAG 2.0, WCAG 2.1, Level AAA, Section 508 and EN 301 549 are not separately assessed in this report. The Level AAA table is omitted. Obsolete criterion 4.1.1 is retained for template context but excluded from the 55-criterion totals.

Known limitation: researcher-enabled automatic redirection after study completion retains a fixed countdown without participant adjustment or cancellation. It is disabled by default; optional enablement is not a timing exemption. Keep it disabled where participants need control over completion-page reading time. No removal date is committed. See 2.2.1.

The owner confirms the final billing, study-admission and persistent-notification fixes were deployed to https://qmethod.wiredsolutions.ca and work as intended. Acceptance was recorded October 28, 2026. Exact latest deployed image digest and individual manual-test timestamps were not supplied; the source commit is not independent hosted-image verification. Production deployment is not asserted.

This report transfers the finalized October 28, 2026 supplier assessment into the official ITI WCAG template without changing criterion ratings. Earlier reports and underlying evidence remain retained. Accessibility testing and remediation are adopted as part of the ongoing development process.

Evaluation Methods Used:

Supplier evaluation combines completed manual accessibility checks, automated browser regression tests, rendered contrast/layout measurements, source inspection and owner-confirmed post-fix staging verification. Manual coverage includes keyboard operation, assistive technology, form validation, visual contrast, text spacing, text resize/reflow and physical-input/orientation workflows.

Retained runs record Windows 10.0.26200, Chrome 156.0.8078.48, Playwright 1.64.0 and axe-core 4.13.0. The owner confirmed NVDA with Chrome testing on October 26, 2026, followed by completion of the manual plan and post-fix acceptance. These records do not establish every browser/assistive-technology combination or the exact latest owner-test configuration.

The earlier captured staging run (20261028.1-accessibility) passed 163 of 163 functional cases but retained strict reporter exit 1. A separate 16-observation media supplement resolved its required collection gap. Billing, timing and notification follow-ups have separate test receipts. These historical counts are not presented as a fresh run against the latest deployment.

Accepted source includes billing input purposes (b5e858bc9583ddab9ce02dbb9c037e4e753c2cf2), study admission and persistent notifications (85f650c989df52cd21d56dd1258463e95bb9bb0d), and notification design (ef385ba6292f8566ede96206eda4daacc0ac364a). Billing-purpose tests used synthetic data and guarded payment submissions.

Detailed evidence is retained in the repository criterion matrix, wcag22-closeout-matrix.md, and closeout, STAGING-REMEDIATION-20261028.1.md, under test/QSort.E2E/remediation/follow-up/. Their linked evidence packages preserve commands, results, source mappings and historical finding dispositions. Assessment records and further accessibility information are available through the contact above.

Supporting assessment summary

QMS Accessibility Statement

Applicable Standards/Guidelines

This report covers the degree of conformance for the following accessibility standard/guidelines:

Standard/Guideline	Included In Report
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.2	Level A: Yes Level AA: Yes Level AAA: No

Terms

The terms used in the Conformance Level information are defined as follows:

- **Supports**: The functionality of the product has at least one method that meets the criterion without known defects or meets with equivalent facilitation.
- **Partially Supports**: Some functionality of the product does not meet the criterion.
- **Does Not Support**: The majority of product functionality does not meet the criterion.
- **Not Applicable**: The criterion is not relevant to the product.

WCAG 2.2 Report

Note: When reporting on conformance with the WCAG 2.x Success Criteria, they are scoped for full pages, complete processes, and accessibility-supported ways of using technology as documented in the WCAG 2.0 Conformance Requirements.

Table 1: Success Criteria, Level A

Notes: WCAG 2.2 Level A. See the scope and evaluation methods above. Criterion 2.2.1 Partially Supports; obsolete 4.1.1 is not a current WCAG 2.2 criterion.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.1.1 Non-text Content (Level A)	Supports	Application controls and meaningful images expose names or descriptions; chart information has equivalent data tables. Decorative icons are hidden where appropriate. Image descriptions persist in previews. Researchers must provide meaningful alternatives for their own content.
1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Not Applicable	No supplier-provided prerecorded audio-only or video-only study content is included. Researchers must provide equivalent alternatives for their media. The editor can present adjacent transcripts, but uploaded content is not certified by this assessment.
1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Not Applicable	No supplier-provided prerecorded synchronized media is included. Researchers are responsible for captions. External VTT tracks are preserved and loaded through HTML source editing; no dedicated caption-upload or hosting capability is claimed.
1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded) (Level A)	Not Applicable	No supplier-provided prerecorded synchronized study media is included. Researchers must provide applicable audio description or media alternatives. Player and editor controls remain assessed under relevant interface criteria.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.3.1 Info and Relationships (Level A)	Supports	Labels, headings, landmarks, radio legends and states, survey groups, archive values and chart/data relationships are exposed programmatically. Completed manual workflow review and retained automated checks support the assessed interfaces.
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence (Level A)	Supports	Shared layouts preserve logical document and reading order. Sorting and chart information has textual equivalents. Editor semantics, traversal checks and completed assistive-technology review support the assessed states.
1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics (Level A)	Supports	Application instructions and controls use text, names and states rather than relying solely on color, shape or location. Sorter instructions describe expanded and collapsed pile behavior. Researchers remain responsible for their authored instructions.
1.4.1 Use of Color (Level A)	Supports	Text, checked/pressed/disabled states, visible selection cues and chart equivalents supplement color. Completed theme and control review supports the assessed interface and tested configurations.
1.4.2 Audio Control (Level A)	Not Applicable	No supplier-provided automatically playing audio is present in the assessed interface. Researchers must provide appropriate audio controls if their content introduces this behavior.
2.1.1 Keyboard (Level A)	Supports	Assessed account, researcher/admin and participant workflows provide keyboard operation, including radios, uploads, editor toolbars/dialogs, sorting, preview and submission. Completed manual testing and post-fix staging acceptance supplement functional regressions.
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap (Level A)	Supports	Dialogs and drawers have deliberate exits and focus-return paths. Editors and sorting modes can be exited. Completed manual checks and Escape/Tab regressions support the absence of unintended keyboard traps.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Application handlers use navigation/control keys and context-scoped interactions. Editor shortcuts use modifiers or operate while the editor has focus. Unreviewed external integrations are outside this conclusion.
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable (Level A)	Partially Supports	Admitted participants may finish and resume after study closing; notifications persist with Dismiss and Escape controls. The SPA's 24-hour access token falls under the greater-than-20-hour exception and uses refresh. However, researcher-enabled completion redirects retain a fixed countdown without participant adjustment or cancellation. This optional, default-off feature remains a known limitation.
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide (Level A)	Supports	Supplier sorting transitions are brief and user-initiated; loading indicators relate to active processing. Completed review identified no remaining pause/stop/hide defect in supplier content. Researcher media and animations require separate assessment.
2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold (Level A)	Supports	Completed manual review identified no flashing defect in the supplier interface and its brief transitions. This conclusion does not certify researcher-uploaded video or animation.
2.4.1 Bypass Blocks (Level A)	Supports	Working skip links, landmarks and named frames allow users to bypass repeated interface blocks. Completed manual navigation review and hosted skip-link checks support this conclusion.
2.4.2 Page Titled (Level A)	Supports	Application documents use the title “Q-Sort Application.” The completed review accepted this application-name title as describing the application documents; contextual headings identify tasks and views.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.4.3 Focus Order (Level A)	Supports	Route changes, validation, drawers/dialogs, editors and sorting have tested focus transitions. Completed manual review and staged acceptance include the later hidden-control, radio and expanded-pile fixes.
2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context) (Level A)	Supports	Links have contextual names and destination labels, including dashboard and row actions. Completed assistive-technology navigation supports purpose in context. Researchers are responsible for their authored links.
2.5.1 Pointer Gestures (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Essential pointer operations have single-pointer alternatives. Sorter select-then-place does not require a multipoint or path-based gesture. Completed physical-input checks and pointer regressions support these operations.
2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Sorter cancellation and interrupted gestures preserve committed placements. Ordinary controls use native activation behavior. Completed physical-input and regression checks support cancellation and recovery.
2.5.3 Label in Name (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Computed accessible names retain visible action and field text, including participant button text and editor captions. The control inventory and completed manual review support the supplier interface.
2.5.4 Motion Actuation (Level A 2.1 and 2.2)	Not Applicable	No supplier operation requires device motion. Sensor references identified in source were capability checks, not required motion input.
3.1.1 Language of Page (Level A)	Supports	Both application entry documents declare en-CA, matching the assessed English interface. Researchers must identify the language of their own study content appropriately.
3.2.1 On Focus (Level A)	Supports	Completed navigation, form and editor testing supports no unexpected context change solely on focus. Editor-purpose changes do not add duplicate focus-triggered announcements.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
3.2.2 On Input (Level A)	Supports	Participation choices, survey settings and analysis controls follow their named actions, preserve relevant values and expose dependent settings. Completed workflow review supports predictable input behavior.
3.2.6 Consistent Help (Level A 2.2 only)	Supports	Repeated help and navigation mechanisms use consistent relative placement. Completed navigation/help review and retained open/close checks support this conclusion.
3.3.1 Error Identification (Level A)	Supports	Required and invalid input is identified through text, associations and invalid states. First-invalid focus and announcements have been repaired and verified in participant/admin form workflows.
3.3.2 Labels or Instructions (Level A)	Supports	Labels, question legends, required indicators, contextual editor names and instructions identify expected input. Visible radio keyboard guidance supplements native operation.
3.3.7 Redundant Entry (Level A 2.2 only)	Supports	Survey revisits, resumed participation and saved settings preserve previously entered information. Completed workflow review supports the assessed processes without unnecessary repeated entry.
4.1.1 Parsing (Level A) WCAG 2.0 and 2.1 – Always answer 'Supports' WCAG 2.2 (obsolete and removed) - Does not apply	Does not apply to WCAG 2.2	Criterion 4.1.1 was made obsolete and removed from WCAG 2.2. This retained template row is not a conformance rating and is excluded from the 55 assessed criteria. WCAG 2.0 and 2.1 are outside this report.
4.1.2 Name, Role, Value (Level A)	Supports	Native and custom controls expose names, roles and applicable states, including radios, dialogs, editors, selections and sorting. Source inventories, runtime checks, NVDA records and completed manual review support this conclusion.

Table 2: Success Criteria, Level AA

Notes: WCAG 2.2 Level AA. Ratings apply to the assessed supplier interfaces and configurations described above.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.2.4 Captions (Live) (Level AA)	Not Applicable	No supplier-provided live synchronized media is included. Researcher-embedded or linked live media requires its own caption assessment.
1.2.5 Audio Description (Prerecorded) (Level AA)	Not Applicable	No supplier-provided prerecorded video requiring audio description is included. Researchers must supply required audio description for their videos.
1.3.4 Orientation (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	The assessed interface supports desktop and narrow layouts without forcing an orientation. The completed manual device/orientation checklist is included in the owner-confirmed assessment.
1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Account fields expose appropriate personal-information purposes. All ten applicable billing fields expose billing autocomplete tokens on native controls, including country, province and expiry selections. Local tests and owner-confirmed staged verification cover bindings and validation. Token assertions do not establish browser autofill success.
1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum) (Level AA)	Supports	Completed manual theme/contrast review and rendered measurements support the assessed interface. Repairs include text, disabled labels and notification surfaces. This assessment does not extend to arbitrary researcher-selected colors.
1.4.4 Resize text (Level AA)	Supports	Completed manual testing covers actual 200% text resizing on principal surfaces. Retained native-browser observations supplement this acceptance; narrow viewport emulation is not used as a substitute.
1.4.5 Images of Text (Level AA)	Supports	Supplier labels, instructions and controls use rendered text. Branding and logos use the applicable essential-image exception. Researcher-uploaded images of text require separate content assessment.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.4.10 Reflow (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Completed actual 400% zoom/reflow testing and the drawer-transition repair support the assessed interface. Inherently two-dimensional sorter grids and data tables retain spatial presentation; surrounding controls and guidance remain part of the assessed workflow.
1.4.11 Non-text Contrast (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Completed theme review and rendered control/focus checks support the assessed interface. Repaired analysis rings, outer textbox focus borders and notification controls retain visible focus and forced-color treatment.
1.4.12 Text Spacing (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Completed manual testing covers the required line, paragraph, letter and word spacing in the planned interface workflows, without a reported remaining loss of content or functionality.
1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Completed tooltip/help testing supports dismissal, persistence and hoverability where applicable.
2.4.5 Multiple Ways (Level AA)	Supports	Shared navigation, study lists/search and dashboard/task links provide multiple ways to locate applicable pages. Sequential participation, study-creation and payment steps are evaluated as processes under the criterion's exception.
2.4.6 Headings and Labels (Level AA)	Supports	Contextual headings, legends and labels describe their purpose. Sixteen editor consumers expose distinct purpose-specific names while retaining visible captions. Completed form and editor review supports these interfaces.
2.4.7 Focus Visible (Level AA)	Supports	Keyboard focus remains visible in assessed workflows. Repairs include analysis rings, radio outline clearance and outer Material textbox borders. Ordinary control outlines and Windows forced colors are retained.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.4.11 Focus Not Obscured (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only)	Supports	Completed zoom, navigation and sorter checks support unobscured focus. Fixed-header/drawer repairs and radio outline clearance are included in the assessment.
2.5.7 Dragging Movements (Level AA 2.2 only)	Supports	Sorting placement, swapping and pile returns provide a single-pointer select-then-place path independent of keyboard operation. Completed manual checks, click/touch regressions and staged fix verification support these alternatives.
2.5.8 Target Size (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only)	Supports	Target measurements, narrow-layout Preview/Expand controls and completed physical-input review support the assessed interface. Applicable minimum-size and spacing exceptions are included; this is not a claim that every target measures 44 pixels.
3.1.2 Language of Parts (Level AA)	Not Applicable	The supplier interface is English and contains no identified passage requiring another language declaration. Multilingual study content is researcher-authored and requires appropriate language markup.
3.2.3 Consistent Navigation (Level AA)	Supports	Shared navigation retains consistent order and identification across the assessed page sets and responsive layouts.
3.2.4 Consistent Identification (Level AA)	Supports	Shared controls and repeated actions use consistent names and roles, with context added where needed. Control/editor inventories and completed manual review support this conclusion.
3.3.3 Error Suggestion (Level AA)	Supports	Forms provide correction guidance for detected required, format and date errors and preserve correction paths. Researcher-authored validation rules remain the author's responsibility.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
3.3.4 Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data) (Level AA)	Supports	Assessed flows provide validation/correction before submission, cancellation and confirmations for relevant data actions. Completed manual and guarded submit/reset/delete tests support the safeguards. Automated tests did not perform a real payment.
3.3.8 Accessible Authentication (Minimum) (Level AA 2.2 only)	Supports	Completed manual testing covers password-manager/paste use, reveal controls and configured CAPTCHA/accessibility alternatives, with retained sign-in/recovery checks. This conclusion applies to the assessed configuration, not every external challenge variation.
4.1.3 Status Messages (Level AA 2.1 and 2.2)	Supports	Saving, errors, progress and sorting status use programmatic status mechanisms. Completed assistive-technology workflows and retained speech observations support the assessment. Notifications preserve Material announcements without moving focus or adding a second live region.