

Resource Handout: Accessible Instructional Materials (AIM)

Brief Outline for Student AIM Acquisition

- Student consideration process regarding AIM (*not necessarily in this order*)
 - *Tip: utilize AIM Navigator & AIM Explorer*
 - Determination of need
 - Selection of formats
 - Acquisition of formats
 - Selection of supports for use
 - Assistive Technology
 - Accommodations and/or modifications
 - Training (both student and staff)
 - Support staff
 - Repair and upgrade

- Find the appropriate source(s) to match: the student's needed format(s) & student's qualifications (work with Digital Rights Manager (DRM) if available)
 - If applicable, register the student with the source(s)

- Search the source(s) for the students needed books and download/request for student (work with Digital Rights Manager (DRM) if available)
 - If book is not found in AMP source's inventory, search the NIMAC repository; if found, request the file from appropriate AU

- If books are not available through existing sources:
 - Contact publisher to request accessible format if available
 - Create an accessible format - in compliance with Fair Use of Copyrighted materials

AIM Acquisition Sources

- **Source Outline**
 - NIMAC (National Instructional Materials Access Center)
 - *Requirements regarding print related disability and IDEA*
 - AMPs (Accessible Media Producers)
 - *General collection – requirements regarding print disability*
 - *NIMAS sourced collection – requirements regarding print disability and IDEA*
 - Specialized Sources
 - *Requirements regarding print disability*
 - Commercial Sources
 - *No qualification requirements*
 - Free Sources
 - *No qualification requirements*
 - Locally Developed
 - *Proceed in compliance with Copyright Law: Fair Use*

- **NIMAC (National Instructional Materials Access Center)**
 - *Requirements regarding print related disability and IDEA*
 - A repository for NIMAS file sets of textbooks and related instructional materials purchased after 2006
 - File sets not yet in a specialized format – not student ready
 - Publishers will deposit NIMAS compliant files to the NIMAC if Local Education Agencies include wording for this request in their book purchase agreements.
 - Must contact an Authorized User to request a book from the NIMAC
 - MN Authorized Users:
 - Minnesota Department of Education
 - Joan Breslin-Larson (MN NIMAC Coordinator)
 - The Communications Center at State Services for the Blind
 - Bookshare for Education
 - Learning Ally
 - Eligibility: student who has a certified & qualifying print related disability and is served under IDEA with an IEP
 - NIMAC Repository: <http://nimac.privatereserve.com/Search.aspx>

- **AMPs (Accessible Media Producers)**

- *General collection – requirements regarding print disability*
- *NIMAC sourced collection – requirements regarding print disability and IDEA*
- Bookshare.org
 - Also a MN Authorized User for NIMAC
 - Specialized Formats: DAISY & non-DAISY text, .brf
 - www.bookshare.org
- Learning Ally (formerly Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic (RFB&D))
 - Also a MN Authorized User for NIMAC
 - Specialized Formats: DAISY & WMA audio books
 - www.learningally.org
- Communication Center of Minnesota State Services for the Blind
 - Also a MN Authorized User for NIMAC
 - Specialized Formats: **embossed Braille, .brf, audio**, Dial-In News, Radio Talking Book (RTB), NFB Newslines, and BARD (NLS web library – 24/7 books and magazine downloading).
 - www.mnssb.org
 - Contact: Maureen Creason, Braille Library Technician
 - 651-642-0878; braille.library@state.mn.us
 - Contact: Dan Gausman, Audio Library Technician
 - 651-649-5903; spb.audioservices@state.mn.us
- To find more AMP's:
 - American Printing House for the Blind's (APH) AMP directory: <http://www.aph.org/ampdb.htm>
 - Louis Database: <http://louis.aph.org/catalog/CategoryInfo.aspx?cid=152>
 - Information from AIM at CAST on three AMPs that collaborate with the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP): http://aim.cast.org/learn/practice/acquisitiondistribution/aim_amp_guide
- For more information on AMPs visit:
 - <http://www.nimac.us/accessible.html>

- **Specialized Sources**

- *Requirements regarding print disability*
- Accessible Book Collection
 - www.accessiblebookcollection.org
 - Annual subscription fee
 - Eligibility: print disability
 - High interest; low reading level
 - Various accessibility methods and program integration
 - Classroom Suite, Clicker 5, Boardmaker Plus! V6
- National Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS)
 - www.loc.gov/nls/
 - Free membership for those with qualifying print disability
 - Book/material formats: Braille and audio

- **Commercial Sources**

- *No qualification requirements*
- Internet
 - Downloads from websites
 - Place purchases on websites
 - Device/Software specific sources
 - Some Examples:
 - Amazon - Kindle
 - Barnes & Noble – NOOKbooks & NOOKstudy
 - iTunes, iBooks
- Book stores
- Publishers
 - Request purchase of accessible digital versions

- **Free Sources**

- *No qualification requirements*
- Internet
 - Website collections
- Libraries
 - Internet libraries
 - EBSCOhost (formerly: NetLibrary) search.epnet.com/ or www.netlibrary.com
 - World eBook Library www.netlibrary.net/
 - Local county library
 - Resources available within buildings
 - Resources available on website

- **Locally Developed**
 - *Proceed in compliance with Copyright Law: Fair Use*
 - Convert printed materials into electronic text by scanning materials with an OCR scanner and/or scan & read program
 - Further Creation of Specialized Formats:
 - Text to audio conversion
 - Convert electronic text into an audio file using synthesized speech
 - Modify/customize visual display of text
 - Print or read via computer or electronic device
 - Convert to Braille
 - Embossed Braille/ hardcopy Braille
 - Read etext/digital Braille with a Refreshable Braille Device

Resources for Sources

- National Center On Accessible Instructional Materials At CAST
 - <http://aim.cast.org/learn/practice/acquisitiondistribution>
- PACER Simon Technology Center
 - <http://www.pacer.org/stc/pubs/ResourcesforDigitalLiterature.pdf>
- National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS)
 - <http://www.loc.gov/nls/reference/factsheets/etexts.html>
- The University of Texas at Austin
 - <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/books/etext.html>
- Candida Martinelli website on eBooks
 - <http://home.wanadoo.nl/cecilia.mccabe/instructions.htm>
 - Resources are presented throughout her 6 online lessons; links found in menu on the left side of the webpage
- Special Education Technology Center: Central Washington University
 - http://www.cwu.edu/~setc/et_resources.php

AIM Topic Sources & Resources

- Copyright Law
 - <http://www.copyright.gov/title17/>
 - Chafee Amendment
 - <http://www.copyright.gov/title17/92chap1.pdf>
 - Resources for thinking about Fair Use:
 - National Center on AIM at CAST
<http://aim.cast.org/learn/policy/federal/copyright>
 - University of Minnesota Libraries <http://www.lib.umn.edu/copyright/>
- National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS)
 - Governing legislation, Q&A, etc.
 - <http://www.loc.gov/nls/index.html>
 - Print Related Disability:
 - <http://www.loc.gov/nls/eligible.html>
 - <http://www.loc.gov/nls/reference/factsheets/readingdisabilities.html>
- IDEA Regulations: NATIONAL INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS ACCESSIBILITY STANDARD (NIMAS), U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs
 - <http://idea.ed.gov/explore/view/p/%2Croot%2Cdynamic%2CTopicalBrief%2C12%2C>
 - <http://idea.ed.gov/download/statute.html>
 - <http://idea.ed.gov/download/finalregulations.pdf>
- Section 504
 - A Parent's Guide to Section 504 In Public Schools. By: Mary Durham
 - <http://www.greatschools.org/special-education/legal-rights/section-504.gs?content=868>
 - Section 504: Legal Foundations of the Right to Accessible Information, American Foundation For the Blind
 - <http://www.afb.org/Section.asp?SectionID=3&TopicID=110&DocumentID=169>
- NIMAS, NIMAC & AIM
 - NIMAC Repository:
 - <http://nimac.privatereserve.com/Search.aspx>

- To find the authorized users in your state
 - visit: <http://aim.cast.org/learn/policy/state>
- NIMAS at CAST
 - www.aim.cast.org
- NIMAC
 - www.nimac.us
- LD Online article: “Accessible Textbooks: A Guide for Parents of Children with Learning Disabilities”
 - www.ldonline.org/article/16308
- Accessible Instructional Materials (AIM) Basics for Families. By: PACER Center and the National Center on Accessible Instructional Materials
 - http://aim.cast.org/learn/aim4families/aim_basics_families
- Accessible Instructional Materials (AIM) A Technical Guide for Families and Advocates. By: PACER Center and the National Center on Accessible Instructional Materials
 - http://aim.cast.org/learn/aim4families/aim_families_advocates
- AIMing for Achievement Series: What Educators and Families Need to Know about Accessible Instructional Materials.
 - <http://aim.cast.org/learn/accessiblemedia/allaboutaim/aimbasics>
- AIMing for Achievement DVD, by: AIM at CAST
 - <http://aim.cast.org/experience/training/AIMAchvDVD>
- Minnesota Department of Education
 - <http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/EdExc/SpecEdClass/index.html>
- AIM Navigator
 - http://aim.cast.org/experience/decision-making_tools/aim_navigator
- AIM Explorer
 - http://aim.cast.org/experience/decision-making_tools/aim_explorer
- Video demonstrations of ten different tools to use for AIM
 - http://aim.cast.org/experience/decision-making_tools/tutorials
- AIM products feature charts:
 - http://aim.cast.org/experience/decision-making_tools/tutorials/aim_products_chart
 - <http://www.pacer.org/stc/pubs/ComparingTexttoSpeechnools.pdf>
 - <http://www.pacer.org/stc/pubs/ScanandRead.pdf>
 - <http://www.pacer.org/stc/pubs/DigitalBookPlayers.pdf>