Assistive Technology Resources

Specific Text to Speech Software

Kurzweil Educational Systems- Kurzweil Educational Systems specializes in reader software for Dyslexia, English Language Learners, Blind and Visually Impaired, as well as for use in reading, writing, and test-taking accommodations. produces two important software products for individuals with learning difficulties and for those who are blind. http://www.kurzweiledu.com/

Kurzweil 3000 is the premier reading, writing, and learning software for students with dyslexia, attention deficit disorder, or other learning difficulties, including physical impairments or needs in the areas of language learning, speed and processing of reading and visually sustainable reading. It has been redesigned for direct software installation for all users.

Kurzweil 1000 provides blind and visually impaired users access to printed and electronic materials. Printed documents (after being scanned) and digital files (such as e-books or email) are converted from text to speech and read aloud.

Read & Write Gold

Read & Write Gold is a specialized software program developed to assist students with learning disabilities in reading, language development, and writing. The specialized software, developed by TextHelp, is marketed as one of the most multifaceted programs designed to improve reading fluency and comprehension, helps users conduct research, and assists struggling writers to produce quality written documents. The Program includes multiple resources including online help, training guides, video guided tours, webinars, and interactive online training.

Dragon Naturally Speaking Software

Dragon Naturally Speaking- “speech recognition software, lets you dictate documents, search the web, email and more on your computer — quickly and accurately — just by using your voice. The user speaks and the computer types. Dragon’s speech recognition is 99% accurate.”

www.nuance.com/dragon
Assistive Technology Resources

Alternate Media

The American Printing House for the Blind (APH)- The American Printing House for the Blind (APH) maintains and promotes the Louis Database of Accessible Materials for People who are Blind or Visually Impaired. Louis contains information on nearly 200,000 titles in accessible formats including Braille, large print, sound recording, and electronic files. Information is contributed by over 180 agencies throughout the United States. http://www.aph.org/louis.htm

Bookshare.org - Bookshare.org dramatically increases access to books for the community of visually impaired and otherwise print disabled individuals. This online community enables book scans to be shared, thereby leveraging the collections of thousands of individuals who regularly scan books, eliminating significant duplication of effort. Bookshare.org takes advantage of a special exemption in the U.S. copyright law that permits the reproduction of publications into specialized formats for the disabled. http://www.bookshare.org/

Learning Ally - Learning Ally is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping blind, visually impaired, and students with dyslexia to succeed in education. Initially formed to serve all people with "print disabilities" — those who can't effectively read standard print because of a disability. They have the world’s largest collection of human-narrated audio textbooks and literature. http://www.learningally.org/

Magnifiers

ZoomText – “ZoomText is the world's leading magnification and screen reading software for the visually impaired and helps countless individuals across the globe stay employed and in touch with the world. There are two versions available - ZoomText Magnifier, which will enlarge and enhance everything on your computer screen with perfect clarity, making all of your applications easy to see and use; and ZoomText Magnifier/Reader, which includes all the great features of ZoomText Magnifier, and will additionally read aloud anything on your computer screen. Sit back as email, documents, and webpages are read aloud to you right through your computer's speakers, letting you relax your eyes even more.” http://www.aisquared.com
Access Text Network

AccessText is a conduit between the publishing world and colleges and universities across the country, with a shared mission to ensure students with disabilities have equal access to their textbooks in an accessible format and in a timely manner. Founded and supported by the Association of American Publishers and leading textbook publishers, AccessText works with its members and a national advisory committee to ensure its services meet the needs of students, publishers, colleges, and other stakeholders. AccessText is administered by AMAC Accessibility Solutions at the Georgia Institute of Technology, under the auspices of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.

Access Text Partners

AMAC, an initiative of the University System of Georgia, is committed to removing barriers and providing access to knowledge for individuals with physical, sensory, and learning disabilities.

Association of American Publishers is the trade association for U.S. book publishers, providing advocacy and communications on behalf of the industry. The AAP, eight member publishers, and AMAC founded AccessText in 2009.

Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia was created in 1931 as a part of a reorganization of Georgia's state government. With this act, public higher education in Georgia was unified for the first time under a single governing and management authority.

Alternate Text Production Center (ATPC) mission is to produce electronic text (e-text) and braille learning materials for students with print disabilities. They specialize in post-secondary products to include formatted e-text files, complex Braille transcription, Braille embossing, and tactile graphics.

American Printing House for the Blind (APH) joins ATN on a journey of improving college textbook accessibility. The focus of the collaboration stems from linking ATN with the APH Louis database, which contains 200,000 titles in accessible formats for K-12 and post-secondary level students.

CourseSmart is a venture supported by the leading publishers in North American higher education. Founded in 2007, CourseSmart provides eTextbooks and digital learning tools to millions of student and faculty users.

Dolphin Computer Access has expanded its services to the United States. "It is our vision is to deliver independence to people with vision and print impairments all over the world." - Noel Duffy, Dolphin Computer Access.

Learning Ally and ATN focus on improving the process by which Disability Service Providers at colleges and universities locate and acquire alternate format materials appropriate to the needs of their students.

Tools for Life, Georgia’s Assistive Technology Act Program, is dedicated to increasing access to and acquisition of assistive technology (AT) devices and services for Georgians of all ages and disabilities.
Assistive Technology Resources – Apps

The Office of Disability Services is pleased to share a sampling of Applications (Apps) for iPad and/or iPhone that may be helpful for students with disabilities. The list includes Apps that are free or that are available at a reasonable cost. The listing of Apps is not intended as an endorsement or individual products or an encouragement to purchase, but is for informational purposes only.

Note Taking

Notability: handwriting, note taking, audio recording, annotate PDFs & cloud sync Dropbox

Audio Note: recording notes with audio & notepad

Pages: word processor, works with iCloud

Paper Desk: audio synched, export to Dropbox

Soundnote: notes & synched audio

Evernotes: notes, photos to-do list

*Penultimate: note taking with stylus

WritePad: converts handwriting notes into text

Visual

Zoom Reader: magnify & read printed text

Vision Assist App: handheld electronic magnifier
General Tools

Graphing Calculator HD

SpellChecker: Multilanguage spellcheck, grammar

iStudiezPro: schedule & course load organizer

inClass: organize calendar and notetaking

myHomework: keep track of assignments

Audio/Speech

Quick Voice Recorder: popular recorder

Speak It: text to speech for emails and other docs

GoodReader: PDF reader

Dragon Dictation: easy to use voice recognition
Writing Tools


IdeaSketch: draw a diagram & convert it to text outline

WEB Accessibility

Magpie for Captioning Voice and Video
http://ncam.wgbh.org/webaccess/magpie/