

# Accessible Instructional Materials for Students with Disabilities in Virginia

AIM-VA Fact Sheet  
April 2010

## ***What is AIM-VA?***

The Accessible Instructional Materials Center of Virginia (AIM-VA) is the new resource for Virginia educators to request instructional materials in accessible formats for students with print disabilities.

## ***What are accessible instructional materials?***

Accessible instructional materials are educational materials in alternate formats produced and published for students with print disabilities. AIM-VA provides the following accessible formats of materials:

Braille	*Digital Talking Book (Daisy 3) (DTB)
Braille Ready Format (brf)	*HTML NIMAS
Large Print	*MS Word Doc
PDF: Accessible	*NIMAS
Recorded Audio	*PDF: Fully-Accessible

\*Formats will be available for ordering upon completion and noted in the AIM-VA ordering system.

## ***Who is eligible for accessible instructional materials?***

AIM-VA offers students with print disabilities access to instructional materials. These students must meet the federal requirements for print disabilities as indicated in the Copyright Act of 1931 as Amended (Chafee Amendment) and have the need for the accessible instructional materials indicated in their IEP or 504 Plan.

To be eligible to use NIMAS files, students must belong to at least one of the following groups:

- i. Blind persons whose visual acuity, as determined by competent authority, is 20/200 or less in the better eye with correcting glasses, or whose widest diameter if visual field subtends an angular distance no greater than 20 degrees.
- ii. Persons whose visual disability, with correction and regardless of optical measurement, is certified by competent authority as preventing the reading of standard printed material.
- iii. Persons certified by competent authority as unable to read or unable to use standard printed material as a result of physical limitations.
- iv. Persons certified by competent authority as having a reading disability resulting from organic dysfunction and of sufficient severity to prevent their reading printed material in a normal manner.

## ***How do students with print disabilities get access to accessible instructional materials?***

The superintendent, principal, special education director, or lead DRM of each school interested in accessible instructional materials must designate a local level staff person to act as the Digital Rights Manager (DRM). The DRM is responsible for ordering accessible instructional materials electronically through the AIM-VA online catalog ([www.aimva.org](http://www.aimva.org)).

## ***How do I get started?***

Visit the AIM-VA website at [www.aimva.org](http://www.aimva.org). This website provides more in-depth information on print disabilities, accessible instructional materials, and how to access the AIM-VA online catalog. You can also contact the AIM-VA Helpdesk for more information on how to get started:

AIM-VA Helpdesk  
E-mail: [aimva@gmu.edu](mailto:aimva@gmu.edu)  
Toll Free: 866 926 1879  
Phone: 703-993-3672