

Accessible Educational Materials: Proactive Strategies Supporting Access to the Curriculum for all Students



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Oregon Technology Access Program
February 23, 2015

Agenda

- What
 - Define AEM and accessible formats
 - Overview of legal requirements
- Who
 - Identify requirements around providing AEM to students
- How
 - Strategies for effectively considering and implementing AEM
 - Sources for acquiring AEM

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Not "AIM", now it's "AEM"

- What is AEM?
 - Accessible **Educational** Materials
 - Accessibility refers to providing access for all people, including people with disabilities, to educational materials.

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What are the Requirements Under the Law?

- Copyright Law (1931) – Library of Congress
- Chafee Amendment (1996) to Copyright Law
- IDEA 2004
 - 300.172 – Access to Instructional Materials
 - 300.210 – Purchase of Instructional Materials
- Oregon Administrative Rules
 - 581-011-0052 – Accessible Instructional Materials Required
 - 581-015-2060 – Accessible Materials
 - 581-022-1640 – Instructional Materials Adoption
 - 581-022-1622 – Independent Adoptions of Instructional Materials

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Accessible Educational Materials are:

- Print educational materials used in instruction to help students meet curricular and/or IEP goals.
- Materials provided in accessible format.
- To be provided to students with print disabilities who need them.

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What are Accessible Formats?

- Braille
- Large Print
- Audio
- Digital Text



Large Print

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What are Print Disabilities?

- Blindness
- Visual Disability
- Physical limitation
- Reading Disability due to organic dysfunction

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Legal requirement

- OAR 591-015-2060
- ...School districts must ensure the timely provision of instructional materials in accessible formats to children who need instructional materials in accessible formats, **including those who are not blind or print disabled.**

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Does a Student "NEED" Accessible Educational Materials?

- Students with a variety of disabilities may need AEM because they understand the content, but are unable to read or access the print materials in the standard format.
- Not all students with IEP or 504 plans will need AEM.
- All students with IEP or 504 plans who do need AEM must receive it.

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Acquiring AEM

- A student’s identified needs, based on his/her disability, will determine where accessible Educational materials can be obtained.
- Not all students are eligible to access materials from all resources due to copyright protection.

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Acquiring AEM

Student needs AEM and has:	#1 NIMAC	#2 AIJ or AMP Bookshare Learning Ally OTMC	#3 Publisher	#4 Commercially Created or Public Domain	#5 Locally created
IEP w/Print disability	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
504 w/Print disability		✓ (not NIMAC)	✓	✓	✓
IEP or 504 w/o Print disability		✓ not NIMAC, not copyrighted, ONLY public domain	✓	✓	✓
No IEP or 504		✓ not NIMAC, not copyrighted, ONLY public domain	✓	✓	✓

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AEM Navigator CAST

Guides the team through four major decision points:

- 1) determination of need,
- 2) selection of format(s),
- 3) acquisition of format(s), and
- 4) selection of supports for use.

<http://aem.cast.org/>

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AEM Explorer CAST

- Free, downloadable simulation tool
- Identify appropriate supports
- Digital text with accessibility features

<http://aem.cast.org/>

Ready, set, hands-on!

OTAP AEM Specific Services

- AEM Professional Development
 - Regional AEM workshops to administrators and school personnel
 - AEM professional development specific to districts
 - AEM training for parents and parent resource agencies
 - AEM presentations at OTAP AT Now! Conference
- Loan Library items for AEM
- AEM information pamphlets
- AEM Technical assistance
- AEM links on the OTAP website

OTAP Fact & Process Sheets

<http://www.otap-oregon.org/>

Web-Based Resources for More Information

- National Center on Accessible Educational Materials – <http://aem.cast.org>
- The PALM Initiative (Purchase Accessible Learning Materials) – <http://aem.cast.org/learn/practice/palm>
- Oregon Department of Education – <http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?=1827>
- Oregon Technology Access Program – www.otap-oregon.org
- Oregon Textbook and Media Center – www.wesd.org/sped/otmc
- Bookshare – www.bookshare.org
- Learning Ally – www.learningally.org/oregon

How to Contact OTAP

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