

# students with disabilities: adaptive technology resources

## magnification/screen reading systems

### ABBYY READER

– software program used to convert scanned text into editable text on a computer using Optical Character Recognition (OCR); converts PDF files into text files; aids students who need to convert text to audio

### JAWS

– screen reading software used to assist students with visual and learning disabilities; outputs to refreshable Braille displays

### KURZWEIL 3000

– software that enables the student to see and hear the material

### LARGE PRINT KEYBOARD

– designed for any student who has difficulty seeing the standard computer keyboard

### OPENBOOK

– software that enables most computers to become a reading machine; scans text that can be saved on a CD; allows students to hear the material on most CD players

### OPTELEC

– magnification system that allows students with low vision to read and write easily

### WINDOW-EYES (SOFTWARE)

– screen reader software that converts components of the Windows operating system into synthesized speech

### ZOOMTEXT XTRA (SOFTWARE)

– magnification/screen reader software that assists students with visual and learning disabilities

## Amplification systems

### CHATTERVOX

– portable voice amplifier that can boost volume by 18 decibels

### ELECTRONIC STETHOSCOPE

– electronically amplifies sound with minimum distortion; a switch changes the frequency of the amplifier and accommodates those with either cardiac or respiratory needs

### PERSONAL FM EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

– wireless FM amplification system that transmits the instructor's voice to the student with independent microphone and FM volume controls; allows the student and instructor to use the system in a large or small classroom

## notetaking systems

### BRAILLE 'N SPEAK

– portable note taking device for students with visual disabilities; Braille keyboard for data entry with voice output; allows data to be printed in text format using a serial printer

### CARBONLESS CARBON PAPER

– addresses the needs of students with hearing, mobility and learning disabilities; allows the student to watch either the instructor or sign language interpreter while another student uses the carbonless paper to hand write lecture notes

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## mobility aids

### CO:WRITER

– software program that helps students write complete and correct sentences with very few keystrokes

### DRAGON NATURALLY SPEAKING (SOFTWARE)

– allows hands-free operation of a PC for students with mobility disabilities; allows user to create letters and spreadsheets, and virtually control any Windows application without the use of a keyboard

### ERGONOMIC KEYBOARD

– adjustable keyboard that reduces muscle load, wrist strain and fatigue/pain in the arms and wrists; adjusts to suit the individual user

### SOFTYPE

– software utility which replaces the functionality of a standard keyboard with a full-featured on-screen keyboard; SoftType can be accessed using a mouse or mouse emulator such as the HeadMouse

### TRACKBALL MOUSE AND HEADMOUSE

– reduces arm and shoulder movements when compared to a standard mouse; helpful for students with limited mobility

## braille systems

### BRAILLE PRINTER

– enables the user to print Word documents into Braille print using software such as the Duxbury Braille Translator

### BRAILLE TRANSLATOR BY DUXBURY

– provides translation that automates the process of conversion from regular print to Braille, and vice versa

### PERKINS BRAILLER

– writing machine that serves as an all-purpose Braille writer; contains six keys, one for each dot in the Braille cell

### TACTILE GRAPHICS DESIGNER (SOFTWARE)

– produces Braille graphics

## multi-function aids

### AUTOMATIC DIGITAL WRIST BLOOD PRESSURE MONITOR

– gives a digital printout of a person's blood pressure without the use of a stethoscope

### FRANKLIN SPEAKING LANGUAGE MASTER

– hand-held device with full speech capability and a large screen display allowing the user to correct spelling and find word definitions; includes a thesaurus and some models have a phonics guide

### FRANKLIN SPELLING ACE WITH THESAURUS

– will verify/correct the spelling of words

### iCOMMUNICATOR PROGRAM

– converts in real-time translation: speech to text; speech to video sign language; speech to computer-generated voice; text to computer-generated voice or video sign language

### MATHTALK (SOFTWARE)

– works in tandem with Scientific Notebook; enables students to speak mathematical equations into a document instead of typing them

### SCIENTIFIC NOTEBOOK (SOFTWARE)

– ideal for reports, homework and exams, as well as documents that contain text, mathematics and graphics

### VICTOR READER WAVE CD PLAYER

– portable CD player that plays Daisy CDs, as well as MP3 and audio CDs; provides instant access to specific page numbers and chapters in the Daisy structure; includes a full numeric keypad with a bookmarking feature

### WYNN WIZARD (SOFTWARE)

– aids students in reading and writing more effectively; helps with conditions that affect visual or auditory processing; transforms printed text into understandable information using a bi-modal approach and simultaneously highlighting the text as it is spoken