

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/ LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

CISAM provides professional development/learning opportunities to parents, educators, and students. Visit the CISAM website at <http://cisam.ossb.oh.gov/ProfessionalDevelopment.php> for an inservice calendar and announcements.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

CISAM provides free technical assistance to school districts relating to the hardware and software needs of students with print disabilities. A CISAM consultant will work with educational personnel and parents via telephone, email, or onsite. Contact CISAM at 614.644.8465 or email pmauro@cisamoh.org.



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Center for Instructional Supports and Accessible Materials



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CENTER FOR INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORTS AND ACCESSIBLE MATERIALS

The Center for Instructional Supports and Accessible Materials (CISAM) is a statewide project serving students with print disabilities, including students who are blind and visually impaired. Our mission is to promote excellence in educational opportunities for students with print disabilities and their families by providing access to and the availability of quality accessible instructional materials (AIM), professional development/learning opportunities, and technical assistance.



ACCESSIBLE INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS (AIM)

CISAM strives to ensure that students with print disabilities, including students who are blind and visually impaired, have equal access to quality AIM in order to attain their full potential.

CISAM's goal is to assist school personnel in locating AIM in a timely manner in alternate formats for eligible Ohio students including:

- Braille,
- Large Print,
- Audio, and
- Digital Text.

NATIONAL INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS ACCESSIBILITY STANDARD (NIMAS)

NIMAS is a technical standard used by publishers to produce source files in multiple specialized formats for students with print disabilities. At the end of 2004, President George Bush signed into law the reauthorized *Individualized with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)*. This statute addressed the timely delivery of print textbooks to school-age students with print disabilities in specialized formats including braille, large print, digital text, and audio.

For student eligibility guidelines, and additional information on accessing NIMAS files, visit the CISAM website at <http://cisam.ossb.oh.gov/NIMAS.php>.

FEDERAL QUOTA

The Federal Act to Promote the Education of the Blind enacted by Congress in 1879 provides adapted educational materials to eligible students who meet the definition of blindness. An annual registration of eligible students determines a per capita amount of money designated for the purchase of educational materials produced by the American Printing House for the Blind, Inc. (APH).

CISAM conducts the annual registration on behalf of the Ohio Department of Education, Office for Exceptional Children. For guideline information, visit the CISAM website at <http://cisam.ossb.oh.gov/FederalQuota.php>.