



**STUDENT SUPPORT & TRANSITION SERVICES
DEPARTMENT WITHIN STUDENT AFFAIRS
DISABILITY RESOURCES AND SERVICES**

Assistive Technology Software

Kurzweil: for students who have reading, writing, and learning differences. This program reads aloud while you are reading or writing and highlights words as it reads. It provides a dictionary for word meanings and spellings with an audible spell check. It includes some powerful study skills features like: bookmarks, outlines, word lists, etc. Text books or handouts may be scanned into Kurzweil for students who prefer having their text read to them.

Inspiration: for students who are visual learners. It uses diagrams and outlines to organize new information (concept mapping). Inspiration can take an outline and automatically put it into a visual diagram or it can take a visual diagram and put it into outline form. It strengthens critical thinking, comprehension, and writing skills.

Jaws: for students who are blind or visually impaired. Jaws is a screen reading software program which reads aloud what is displayed on the computer screen. It is very sophisticated and primarily uses keyboard shortcuts. Jaws can also output to a refreshable Braille display. Jaws is very popular in the blind and visually impaired community and has a fairly high learning curve.

ZoomText: for students who are visually impaired. ZoomText is a computer screen magnification and reading software program. It enlarges, enhances, and reads aloud everything on the computer screen. It is very user friendly.

Dragon Naturally Speaking: for students who have difficulty writing or using the computer keyboard. Dragon Naturally Speaking (DNS) is a voice recognition program which is fully integrated with Microsoft Office products. DNS allows you to access the Microsoft programs using your voice, not your hands. Good for people who have difficulty using the computer keyboard due to carpal tunnel syndrome, repetitive stress injuries, cerebral palsy, etc.

Assistive Technology Mobile Cart: CGCC mobile computer cart is designed to provide access to classroom content through assistive technology software and hardware for student's disabilities. This cart has state of the art equipment for visual impairments, learning disabilities, and orthopedic impairments. Technology includes: hydraulically adjustable table, portable CCTV, 24" monitor, cordless keyboard & mouse, large workspace, and the following software programs: ZoomText, Jaws, Kurzweil, Inspiration, and Dragon Naturally Speaking.



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