# Assistive Technology

In Your Library

# Myths about Assistive Technology in Libraries

Is only software or hardware for computers

Is to only be used by people with visible disabilities

Is too costly to implement system-wide

Is too costly to maintain

Is always high-tech

Is required to comply with ADA Library Laws

Is difficult to learn

Is difficult to teach

Won't be used enough to warrant investment

Takes up too much space

# Truth

Assistive Technology is good for all users

Universal design is how we are supposed to create

Your patrons will love it

# Clearview Speech CCTV



36 reading languages, 74 voices/accents

Capture full 8x11 page with ease

Interactive, voice enabled <span style="color:yellow">touchscreen</span> interface

Read columns, paragraphs, words easily

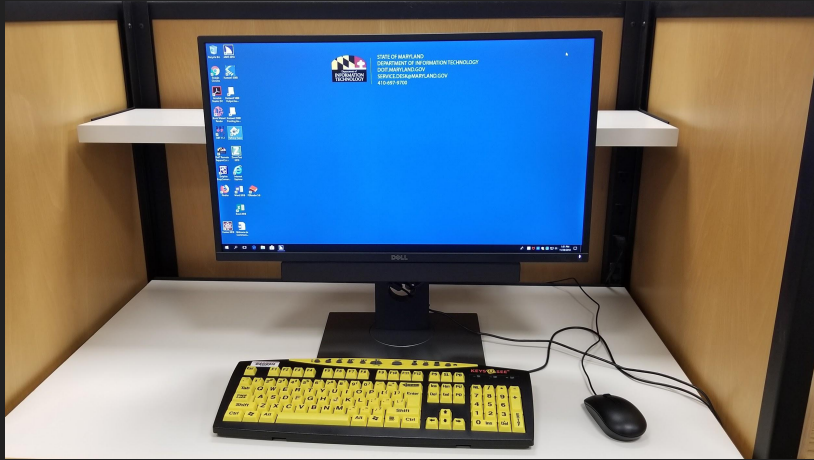Control contrast, size, zoom, reading speed

1.5x -170x zoom (75+ optical)

Save text to USB for later use as MP3

Built in speakers/headphone input

42 lbs - sturdy construction

# ADA Workstations



Windows 7 PC, but can be upgraded to 10

Jaws Professional

Magic Screen Enhancer Professional

Enhanced Keyboard especially designed for MAGic shortcut keystrokes

Speaker Bar

Extra Large Monitor

Movable Desk

CCTV Unit

# Screen Reader Software

| Jaws Screen Reader | NVDA |
|---|---|
| Industry standard in government and business | Freeware/Open Access, check with IT staff |
| Free technical support (long distance call) | Technical support is by users only; listserv |
| Free and Paid training materials available | Runs on any operating system; portable |
| Creates accessibility when possible | Relies on accessible coding |
| Voices are high-quality and more human | Voices are less human, more synthetic computer |
| Price is a disadvantage, there is a cost for upgrades | Lag time is less than with Jaws |
| Software activation difficulties (access code) | Add-ons cost and are third party |

# Screen Magnification Software

| Magic/ZoomText | Windows Magnifier/Narrator |
|---|---|
| 60 day free trial, then cost | Free to use, forever |
| Color/Focus/Font Smoothing Enhancement | Color/Focus/Font Smoothing Enhancement |
| 1x-36x Zooming in 25% increments | 1x-16x Zooming in 25% to 400% increments |
| Voice over during installation and setup | Easy to use/Intuitive |
| Highlights text as read aloud | Tracks the cursor as you type |
| Save customizable settings | Many tutorials online |
| Dual monitor support | |

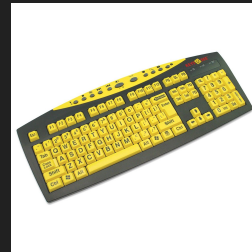# Computer Adaptive Technology

Hands Free Mousing System (left & right) allows the user to just "hover" the mouse over a link or data entry place to "click."

Single Handed Keyboard comes in left/right hand. Allows someone with the ability to only use one hand to access and navigate the computer.

Refreshable Braille Display & Keyboard Provides users the ability to utilize eBraille as both input and output.
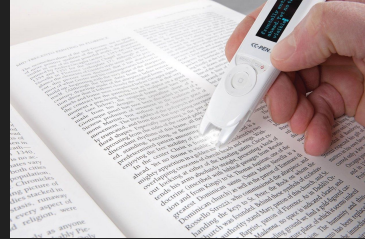
Large print keyboards come in traditional and high-contrast keys. Allows low vision individuals to search and find keys.

# Computer Adaptive Technology



External screen magnifiers are somewhat cheap and allow individuals to see the screen without screen manipulation.



C-Pen Reader Pen Scanner reads printed text out loud; helps with dyslexia.



Hand held magnifiers are somewhat cheap and allow individuals to read newspapers and books in the library.



Boogie Board Jot is an LCD eWriter that allows non-verbal or speech-impaired communication.

# iPad apps

Be My Eyes

BARD

Seeing Ai

Nearby Explorer

VIA (Visually Impaired Apps)

Google Assistant

BigBrowser

See It - Video Magnifier

NFB - Newsline

SuperVision+ Magnifyer

KNFB Reader ($)

WayRound ($) (tag system)

Voice Dream ($)

Aira ($)

# Additional Tips for Accessibility

Large Print signs of library events

Monitor contrast/print size of contrast

"Caption" social media posts when possible

Keep library well lit, keep obstructions minimal

48" between stacks (36" is required min, but…)

Create documents in accessible formats

Train for disability etiquette

Know your ADA