

## **Title 6. Education**

### **Chapter I. Division of Elementary and Secondary Education**

#### **Subchapter E. Special Education**

#### **Part 130. Procedural Requirements and Program Standards**

#### **Subpart 25. Rules to Implement the Accessible Instructional Materials Loan Program**

##### **6 CAR § 130-2501. Purpose.**

(a) It is the purpose of this subpart to set forth the criteria for determining a child's eligibility for materials in an accessible instructional format (i.e., braille, large print, audio or video, or other electronic media).

(b) This subpart defines the process for local school districts to access such accessible instructional materials for children with visual impairments.

##### **6 CAR § 130-2502. Definitions.**

For the purpose of this subpart:

(1) "Adaptive textbooks and other instructional materials" means:

- (A) Braille;
- (B) Large print; and
- (C) Other electronic media;

(2) "Braille skills inventory" means an assessment that provides teachers of children who are visually impaired or blind, who read braille, with a tool that promotes meaningful assessment of braille literacy skills;

(3) "Functional vision assessment" means data gathered by a certified teacher of the visually impaired that provides evidence of a child's use of visual ability in near and distance tasks;

(4) "IDEA" means the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act;

(5) "IEP" means the individualized education program for a child with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq.;

(6) "Informal reading inventories (IRIs)" means commercially available IRIs that are adapted into braille and large print and used as a part of continuing assessment to determine child progress in reading as measured by reading comprehension and reading rate;

(7) "Learning Media Assessment (LMA)" authored by Koenig, A. & Holbrook, C., 1995, is a structured systematic procedure used to gather information and document decisions regarding the selection of reading and writing media for children who are visually impaired; and

(8) "Reading rates" are measured using informal reading inventories and content texts and are one (1) component of the data needed to determine efficiency in a child's current literacy media.

#### **6 CAR § 130-2503. Administration.**

The accessible format instructional materials program for children with visual impairments shall be:

(1) Administered by the Instructional Resource Center at the Arkansas School for the Deaf and Blind; and

(2) Supervised by the Special Education Unit of the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education.

#### **6 CAR § 130-2504. Eligibility for adaptive textbooks.**

The following criteria should be considered when determining the appropriate reading medium for children with visual impairment:

(1) Observations made by, but not limited to, the:

(A) Classroom teacher;

(B) Parent;

(C) Teacher of the visually impaired; and

(D) Certified educational vision consultant;

(2) Assessment by a regional vision consultant, vision teacher, or reading teacher, to include the following, as appropriate:

- (A) Learning Media Assessment;
- (B) Braille skills inventory;
- (C) Functional vision assessment; and
- (D) Reading rates;

(3) Eye specialist report detailing acuity, pathology and prognosis, and low vision needs; and

(4) Child's IEP team recommendation.

**6 CAR § 130-2505. School district access to accessible instructional materials.**

(a) Local school districts must assess any child whose visual impairment adversely affects his or her educational performance as to the child's need for accessible instructional materials.

(b) For the purpose of this part, the criteria stated in 6 CAR § 130-2504 shall be the minimum criteria for determining a child's eligibility.

(c) Local school districts may seek assistance for assessing a child's need for accessible instructional materials by calling the Educational Services for Visually Impaired.

(d) Following a determination that a child is eligible for accessible instructional materials, the certified educational vision consultant serving the local school district will approve the purchase of textbooks for each child determined eligible.

(e) The certified educational vision consultant will authorize a completed book order form and transmit the form to the Instructional Resource Center.

**6 CAR § 130-2506. Costs.**

(a) There shall be no charge to local school districts for the approved routine loan of accessible instructional materials, unless the materials are lost or are severely damaged.

(b) Should a duplicate item be requested or should loaned materials be lost or sustain such damage as to render the materials unusable, the district will be billed for the costs associated with replacements.