



## **What is AIM-VA and how can it impact my students' performance?**

AIM-VA is a service of the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) through a grant to The Kellar Institute for Human disabilities at George Mason University. AIM-VA provides accessible instructional materials to Virginia K-12 students who have an Individualized Education Program (IEP). Accessible instructional materials are alternate print materials, (e.g., braille, electronic files) used by students who are not able to use traditional print formats. The use of accessible instructional materials can positively impact a student's performance in the following ways:

- Improve grades
- Increase independence
- Improve test scores
- Increase success

## **How will I determine if a student will benefit from alternate print materials?**

The following questions will help you determine if a student may benefit from alternate print materials:

- *Does the student have a disability that interferes with using printed educational materials?*
- *Does the student have a reading accommodation for testing?*
- *Is the student reading below grade level?*

## **What documentation in the IEP is needed to provide alternate print materials for a student?**

- The need for alternate print materials should be discussed as an AT consideration at the student's IEP meeting.
- The student's IEP should indicate the student will benefit from alternate print materials.

## **What additional documentation is required?**

- If a student has a print disability due to blindness, visual disability or physical disability, documentation of that disability is typically in the student's school record and additional documentation is not needed.
- If a student has a reading disability due to organic dysfunction, there must be documentation of a print disability by a medical doctor, who may consult with colleagues in associated disciplines, such as an educator. Contact your special education department or AIM-VA with any questions.

## **Where do I go next?**

School educators must create an account to find out the name of the AIM-VA contact for their school or school division. Educators must have a valid Virginia school email address to create an account.

866-926-1879 ● aimva@gmu.edu ● [www.aimva.org](http://www.aimva.org)

