

## **Frequently-Asked Questions**

### **Read:OutLoud™ Assistive Technology Text Reader**

*Please read the FAQ's to further understand this VA state-wide assistive technology license program. The first shipment of **Read:OutLoud Universal Access** will be to all School Divisions who have registered Digital Rights Managers (DRMS) by the end of July, 2008. A second shipment will occur when the remaining divisions assign DRMs.*

#### **For what students and what timeframe can we use this Read:OutLoud Universal Access whole-school site license?**

Schools can install ReadOutLoud on any or all computers in their buildings. ReadOutLoud can be used by any student with an IEP. Virginia's Universal Access Statewide License is a 2-year unlimited subscription to Read:OutLoud. This license covers any upgrades to the program during this timeframe.

#### **Which students are best served by a text reader?**

This program is designed to meet the needs of the struggling readers who are served through IEPs.

#### **What type of reading supports does Read:OutLoud have?**

Read:OutLoud starts by providing audio support so that students can listen to the text and get help with words they cannot decode or pronounce. Read:OutLoud includes The Franklin Dictionary to provide for vocabulary support for struggling readers. A unique feature of Read:OutLoud is its embedded reading comprehension strategies recommended by the National Reading Panel and Reading NEXT.

Read:OutLoud is also effective for students with physical disabilities who cannot turn pages of their textbook. Keyboard equivalents can be mapped into a student's access device (alternate keyboard or switch scanning system) to allow them to move through the text effectively and with better control.

#### **Can Read:OutLoud be used on IEP students' home computers?**

Yes, the Virginia Universal Access License for Read:OutLoud includes Take Home Rights.

#### **What hardware do I need to use Read:OutLoud?**

Macintosh: OS: 10.2+, Ram: 256 MB, CPU: G3, Disk: 100 MB, Sound: Yes, Media: CD

Windows: OS: XP, 2000, VISTA, Ram: 256 MB, CPU: Pentium III, Disk: 90 MB, Sound: Yes, Media: CD

## **What formats do VA curriculum materials need to be in to utilize Read:OutLoud?**

NIMAS, Daisy, PDF, RTF, TXT, HTML. Read:OutLoud can also read text on the web.

## **Did the software come on CD or do we download it?**

CD's were sent to the Superintendent that registered DRMs for their division. The quantity of CD's was based on the number of schools in their division. A division that has 10 schools received 10 CD's.

## **Will Read:OutLoud work with books provided by RFB&D?**

Books provided by RFB&D are not yet supported. We are working with RFB&D to address their digital rights management.

## **What if we already have a site license of Read:OutLoud now?**

Chances are you may have Read:OutLoud on a limited number of computers now and do not have any Take Home Rights for students. With this license, you can expand your usage to provide to ANY student with an IEP student in ANY building.

## **Where do I get more information or training?**

Quick Start Tutorial is included with Read:OutLoud. Don Johnston's website also holds extensive materials and information about this program. Visit <http://www.donjohnston.com>.

The Training and Technical Assistant Centers (TTACs) of Virginia are a wonderful resource for training. Please see the calendar of events on the TTAC Online! Website, [www.ttaonline.org](http://www.ttaonline.org).

You can also request a virtual coaching session or an on-site training for a modest fee to cover expenses and travel. Call 1-800-999-4660. Ask for the professional development department [http://www.donjohnston.com/prof\\_services/About\\_PD.html](http://www.donjohnston.com/prof_services/About_PD.html)

## **We received Read:OutLoud Universal Access, Now What?**

### **Q. Our School has Received the CDs, Now What?**

A. If your office has received the Read:OutLoud CD's, please contact your Digital Rights Managers and Special Education Directors to let them know where the CDs are. Most likely, they will request the CD's for their students.

### **Q. Do we need to assign a site contact for the software?**

A. As you know, software programs are constantly being updated. The most efficient way to update the Read:Outloud Software is to have a contact that can receive specific software updates

and incorporate them efficiently. To assign a contact please go to [www.donjohnston.com/offers/sitecontact](http://www.donjohnston.com/offers/sitecontact)

**Q. Can I really install the software on computers in every school building in my Division?**

A. Yes, the number of CDs sent was based on the number of buildings used for educational purposes in your division.

**Q. Our division has a network for the software used in our classrooms. Will this software work on the network?**

A. Maybe, and Maybe not. If your division needs to install the software on the network, and the Read:OutLoud Universal Access software you have received does not work with your network, contact Joyce Sharp, [jsharp1@gmu.edu](mailto:jsharp1@gmu.edu). (see key contact below)

**Q. Does our school need to sign the Site license paperwork that came with the software?**

A. No, the license has been signed on behalf of all school divisions in the State of Virginia. Please fill in the School/Site Name and keep the license with the software.

**Q. What computers may I install the Read:OutLoud Universal Access on?**

A. ReadOutLoud can be used by any student with an IEP, therefore we recommend that you install the software on any computer system that the student may be using for their education at school *and at home*. Please note the minimum requirements for installation:

**Macintosh:** OS: 10.2+, Ram: 256 MB, CPU: G3, Disk: 100 MB, Sound: Yes, Media: CD

**Windows:** OS: XP, 2000, VISTA, Ram: 256 MB, CPU: Pentium III, Disk: 90 MB, Sound: Yes, Media: CD

**Q. Can I copy the CD for other computers and students to take home?**

A. Yes. We ask though, that you please respect the [License Rights and Obligations Reference for School Site](#). We also ask that you properly label the CDs with the [ROL CD Label](#).

**Q. Do I need passwords to launch the Read:OutLoud Universal Access program?**

A. To launch the Read:Outloud program you do need one of the following passwords:

Teacher User: school  
Administrative User: admin1  
Student: 123456

**Q. Is there a list of tips that I can use to learn how to get started right away?**

A. Yes, follow this link to download a Quick Card, Skill Checklist and Product Manual. [http://www.donjohnston.com/resources/readoutloud\\_index.html](http://www.donjohnston.com/resources/readoutloud_index.html)

**Q. Where do I get more information or training?**

A Quick Start Tutorial is included with Read:OutLoud. Don Johnston's website also holds extensive materials and information about this program. Visit [http://www.donjohnston.com/products/read\\_outloud/index.html](http://www.donjohnston.com/products/read_outloud/index.html)

- A full overview of the software program is available [http://www.donjohnston.com/products/read\\_outloud/index.html](http://www.donjohnston.com/products/read_outloud/index.html)
- SetBC, a Canadian Organization, has some wonderful training materials on AT products, including Read:OutLoud. [http://setbc.org/setbc/access/access\\_solo\\_resources.html](http://setbc.org/setbc/access/access_solo_resources.html)
- You can also request a virtual coaching session or an on-site training for a modest fee to cover expenses and travel. Call 1-800-999-4660. Ask for the professional development department [http://www.donjohnston.com/prof\\_services/About\\_PD.html](http://www.donjohnston.com/prof_services/About_PD.html)
- Please continually check the AIM-VA website for hands-on training opportunities coming this Fall.

**Q. Who is the key contact person and how do I get in touch with him/her?**

A. The key contact is Joyce Sharp, AIM-VA Communications and Training Coordinator, The Helen A. Kellar Institute for Human disAbilities

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