

Local Entitlement 6.4.07

Reg.300.210 Purchase of Instructional Materials

The applicant administrative unit chooses to coordinate with the National Instructional Materials Access Center (NIMAC) when purchasing print instructional materials.

Yes, the district will coordinate with the NIMAC (opt-in).

(Guidance)

300.172 National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard (NIMAS)/National Instructional Materials Access Center (NIMAC)
The Maine Department of Education recommends that districts choose to coordinate with the NIMAC, because this national effort to centralize the distribution of instructional materials in specialized formats will help guarantee that all students have access to instructional materials in a timely manner.

Every state is required to adopt the NIMAS. NIMAS outlines a set of consistent and valid specifications for document source files created by K-12 publishers that can be used to create accessible specialized formats of print instructional materials. Materials covered by NIMAS include printed textbooks and printed core materials published primarily for use in elementary and secondary school instruction and that are required by the state or school district for use by students in the classroom.

The NIMAC is a national repository of NIMAS source files which then can be converted into specialized formats (Braille, audio, large print, digital text) for use by students who are blind or other students with print disabilities. The purpose is to expedite and expand access to print instructional materials for students (K-12) who are blind or other students with print disabilities to ensure their access to the general curriculum in a timely manner. (At the same time all other students receive instructional materials.)

a. For School Units who choose to coordinate with the NIMAC, contracts or other procurement practices executed on or after December 3, 2006 for textbooks and other printed core materials must include a provision that requires the publisher to produce NIMAS files and send them to the NIMAC. This procurement requirement will not add any cost to the contract. (Publishers of K-12 textbooks have been involved in discussions of the NIMAS and are aware of its

requirements.) The conversion of NIMAS files to student ready materials remains the fiscal responsibility of the School Unit.

or:

b. Purchase instructional materials directly from the publisher that are produced in, or may be rendered in, specialized formats.

No, the School Unit will not coordinate with the NIMAC (opt-out) but assures that it will provide each K-12 student who requires print instructional materials in specialized formats (Braille, audio, large print, digital text) in a timely manner. (At the same time all other students receive instructional materials.)