

# Overview of the ADA Software

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## Dragon Naturally Speaking

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Dragon Naturally Speaking is a speech recognition program that is used to control the computer using voice commands. It will work in conjunction with Word or an email program to dictate documents such as letters, emails and reports, and with web browsers to surf the Internet.

In order to use this software a patron must create their own voice profile and save it to a USB drive.

Directions on how to do this can be found at:

<http://nlc.nebraska.gov/lbbnc/ADAresources/training/index.aspx>

Dragon Naturally Speaking can be beneficial to any patron but may be especially useful for patrons who have never learned to type or have a physical condition that makes it difficult to type and/or use a mouse. Some patrons also find it easier to dictate documents.

## JAWS

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JAWS is a screen reading program designed for people who are blind or have very limited vision. JAWS controls software programs by keyboard commands eliminating the need for a mouse. Information about these commands can be found in the print and braille manuals that came with the JAWS software.

## Kurzweil 1000

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Kurzweil 1000 has many features but the one we want to highlight is the option to use the software in conjunction with the scanner to have a printed text document read to a patron. In addition to patrons that are blind or have limited vision, the software may benefit patrons with dyslexia or patrons that struggle to read printed text. Kurzweil also has a feature that enables a patron to scan a document typed in English and have it read to them in other languages including Spanish.

## ZoomText

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ZoomText is a screen magnification and reader software. Some of the features of the software include:

- Ability to enlarge the screen all of the way up to 36 times regular size.
- Change the colors of the screen and text to improve readability.
- Enlarge the mouse pointer so it's easy to locate and follow.
- Have text from documents, websites, email, etc. read to you.

ZoomText can be beneficial to any patron but may be especially useful for patrons who have a hard time reading the small print on the computer screen, are new to computers and keep losing the pointer or patrons that have macular degeneration or other issues that affect a person's vision.