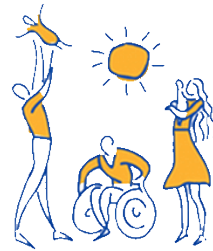


2009 FCTD Institute

on Assistive & Instructional Technology

July 20-31, 2009

- Earn continuing education units (CEUs)
- Expand your knowledge of technology devices and services
- Meet disability professionals throughout the country
- Have in-depth discussions with national experts



Accessible Instructional Materials

WMA, DAISY, BRF... Do you find digital media options bewildering? You aren't alone. Navigating the world of accessible instructional materials can be confusing. From file formats to players to digital conversion and play-back, how does one make sense of it all? This strand of the FCTD's online summer institute will explain and explore the world of accessible media, including the laws designed to get instructional materials into the hands of students with print disabilities. Participants will learn about digital formats, how to find and access digital books, and about software and hardware suitable for classroom, home, and therapeutic environments.

Social Media Tools

Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, and thousands of blogs, wikis, and related social media tools - when well used, they connect, inform, entertain, and educate. Social media tools have changed the way Americans meet, communicate and collaborate. Educators and disability professionals have joined the fray, creating forums specific to their interests, including assistive and instructional technologies. If you're an experienced user of social media, we invite you to share your insights and resources. If you're quietly guarding the secret that you really have no idea what a wiki is, and Twittering...well, really; then this is the place to learn, in in educator- and parent-friendly language.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Where does the FCTD Institute on Assistive and Instructional Technology take place?

The FCTD Institute is offered entirely online, so that you can participate when and where it is most convenient for you. At least a week prior to the Institute you'll receive an email with a URL (website address). On the start date, you'll use that URL to access the website pages that have been created exclusively for the Institute. You'll create a screen name to log in; no password will be necessary.

The Institute website will be available 24/7 for you to read and post questions and comments. Discussion moderators will check in several times a day to post their comments and to respond to participant questions.

2. What are the registration fees to participate?

Funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs, the FCTD's annual Institute is FREE to participants.

3. What is the time commitment?

There is no hard and fast rule. Clearly those who spend more time checking the status of the discussion, posting questions and comments, and collaborating with colleagues will get more out of the experience. We find it works best if you can check in at least twice a day, if only for a few minutes. However, the sky won't fall if you have to miss a day or two.

4. I'm a parent – is the Institute only for professionals in the disabilities field? I'm a disabilities professional – is the Institute only for parents?

The Family Center provides a range of resources on assistive and instructional technology to organizations that work with families of children with disabilities. Parents are not our direct audience, although we produce a number of resources designed for direct distribution to them, via our member organizations. As you know, however, many disability organizations, from Parent Training and Information Centers to disability-specific associations and parent support groups, are staffed by parents. So the Institute is open to both professionals and interested parents. Organizations can have multiple participants and are in fact encouraged to do so.

5. Can we pose questions on subjects other than the two identified discussion strands?

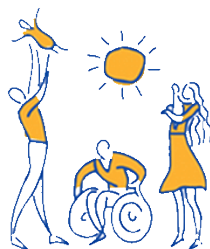
By all means. Our experts will attempt to answer any and all questions. There is, as well, an enormous amount of knowledge on the part of participants.

Other Things You Should Know

1. We ask participants not to be anonymous. Just as you would meet people at a site-based Institute, we believe you'll get a great deal out of meeting and interacting with this interesting and well-informed group of individuals from throughout the country. You will receive a draft of the participant list before the start of the Institute. We ask that you check the list to verify your contact information. We have assured all participants that the list will not be used by anyone for commercial purposes, so please help us make good on that promise. If you would prefer not to be included on the final participant chart, please let us know and we will honor your request.
2. In addition to the threaded discussions, you'll find on the Institute website: (1) an introduction to the topic written by FCTD staff; (2) introductory "expert perspectives"; (3) photos and bios of the participating experts; and (4) an annotated, hyperlinked list of relevant resources. We will also be sending out booklets that include the transcripts of the discussions at the end of the Institute.
3. Those who wish can apply for and receive **Continuing Education Units (CEUs)** issued by RESNA - the Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America. RESNA is authorized to issue CEUs for eligible assistive technology programs.

If you have any further questions, please contact us via e-mail at fctd@aed.org
or call 202-884-8068.

To register now online, please visit
http://www.fctd.info/registration_types/1/registrations/new



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