



Technology and Learning Connections

Increasing student achievement through the systemic alignment of technology, policies, and curriculum in a multi-tiered system of supports.

Accessible Educational Materials Best Practices Cohort

Purpose

Eight states, including Alaska, Florida, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Minnesota, Ohio and Texas are working with the [National AEM Center](#) to scale up the statewide use of accessible educational materials and accessible technologies for learning by monitoring, analyzing, documenting, and sharing the impact of current work in five high-leverage areas of change:

- Procurement considerations
- Strategies for use of AEM and accessible technologies for learning
- Self-advocacy skills of students
- Provision system development
- Data system development

AEM leadership teams will conduct problem-solving activities to determine the current level of alignment to the [AEM Quality Indicators](#), including the identification of barriers and needed supports.

Florida

Four school districts, including Escambia, Levy, St. Lucie, and Wakulla are participating in the AEM Best Practices Cohort. Florida's work will include an emphasis on self-determination and advocacy for accessible instructional materials and accessible technologies in the classroom, during IEP meetings, and in preparation for post secondary settings. Focus activities include:

- Determine current IEP data that is available on the choice, acquisition, and use of AEM.
- Select a target school for AEM support and develop a school-based AEM Team to coordinate and oversee support activities.
- Identify target support services needed based on the analysis of the AEM Quality Indicators, including the identification of barriers, current supports, and available data.
- Implement a learning media assessment that will be available for any struggling reader.
- Implement a student engagement survey. The survey will be conducted in the beginning of the year and at the end of the year to determine if AEM support activities have impacted student engagement.

Resources

National AEM Center - <http://aem.cast.org/>

AEM Quality Indicators - <http://bit.ly/2shW6oJ>

AEM Best Practices Cohort Wiki Page - <http://aem-florida.wikispaces.com/>

Florida AEM Leadership Teams - <http://bit.ly/1W2g1D7>