Learn and Love AAC

Meet Speech-Language Pathologist, Eryn Hopper from Earlywood Special Services (Indiana). Eryn uses the PATINS Project consultation services and Assistive Technology Lending Library to select the communication systems most appropriate for each of her students. With the correct Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) tools, her students have access to a rich vocabulary to participate in instructional opportunities throughout the day. Now, her students demonstrate improved literacy and academic skills, plus share more of their individual personalities with
classmates and teachers! View the video to see four of the students in action in the classroom.

If you would like to take advantage of PATINS no-cost services, submit an AAC evaluation form or make a loan request for communication devices/apps.

Simplified Qualification Process for NIMAS/AEM

As of March 1, 2021, a medical doctor’s signature is no longer required to obtain NIMAS files/AEM (Accessible Educational Materials) for an eligible student.

Educators, school psychologists, certified reading specialists, and librarians are now among the professionals authorized to certify eligibility with reading disabilities. The wording on “Eligibility and Certification for Accessible Educational Materials (AEM) ICAM/IERC NIMAS Form 4” (fillable version | printable version) has been updated to reflect this change.

Read more about the new qualification process details and answers to some Frequently Asked Questions. We also encourage you to read the recent post "Accessible Materials & Competent Authority: A Step Closer to Equity & Access in 2021" which has further clarification.

Should you have questions about students with print disabilities
qualifying for AEM through the ICAM, please contact PATINS Director, Daniel McNulty or the ICAM Specialists.

ICAM Services

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**Organizations Coming to the Tech Expo!**

Over 20 incredible presentations coming to the virtual PATINS Tech Expo 2021 with IN*SOURCE on April 15, 2021!

This is your opportunity to preview the latest assistive and accessible technologies and services as well as learn about accessibility and technology supports for all students and families from organizations like Apple, Microsoft, and many more! Additionally, there are over 50 live Exhibitor booths for you to visit between sessions to gain additional information about transformational products and services for Indiana PK-12 students.

[View the Schedule-at-a-Glance and Exhibitor List](#) to see all the participating organizations.
Open to all interested Indiana administrators, teachers, family members, advocates, students, and pre-service teachers/grad students.

Register before April 12, 2021 to secure your spot for our second annual virtual expo!

Tech Expo 2021

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New Free Resources from PATINS

**ABC and Context Data Collection Form**

A customizable Google Sheet and related Google Form for collecting behavior data and easier staff collaboration.

Contact PATINS Specialist, **Jessica Conrad** for more information.

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**Adding Accessible PDFs to Canvas (YouTube Playlist)**

See two ways to add accessible PDFs to Canvas via Adobe Scan and PDF2Go. Plus, two options
for reading the PDFs with text to speech through a free Chrome extension and Microsoft Edge.

For additional support, contact PATINS Specialist, Jena Fahlbush.

Submit A Proposal for Access to Education 2021

Do you believe every student deserves equitable access to the curriculum?
Submit a presentation proposal for PATINS Access to Education 2021 happening on November 17-18, 2021!

We are in search of presentations from both national and local experts designed around accessibility, Accessible Educational Materials (AEM), Assistive Technology, and the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) framework.
Connect through #PatinsIcam Twitter Chats

Join #PatinsIcam Twitter Chat on Tuesday nights at 8:30 pm EST, for one half hour full of collaboration, resource/tool sharing, and supportive conversation to grow your Professional Learning Network (PLN). Indiana educators are eligible to receive 1 no-cost Professional Growth Point (PGP) by attending the chat and completing a short form.

Upcoming #PatinsIcam Twitter chat topics:

**April 6:** Autism Awareness Month

**April 13:** Occupational Therapy Month

**April 20:** Month of the Young Child

**April 27:** No Mode of Communication - Literacy for Students with Intensive Support Needs

Questions about #PatinsIcam Twitter Chat, not sure how to get started, or want to recommend a topic? Email PATINS Specialist, [Kelli Suding](mailto:Kelli.Suding@state.in.us) who is happy to welcome you into the #PatinsIcam PLN.

#PatinsIcam Twitter Chat Details

Register for No-Cost Trainings

For additional information on the trainings listed below, please visit our [training calendar](https://www.pattins.org/training-calendar). Click on the link for more information and to
DRM: What is it and how do I become one? on April 1
This training will explain the tasks required of a Digital Rights Manager (DRM) and the role of the ICAM (Indiana Center for Accessible Materials) in acquiring AEM (Accessible Educational Materials) for students with documented print disabilities.

Getting the Most of Indiana Services For Your Students with Blindness and Low Vision on April 13
Are you working with students with tactile and low vision needs as a teacher or related service provider? Learn about a wealth of no cost resources from PATINS, ICAM (Indiana Center for Accessible Materials), and IERC (Indiana Educational Resource Center). Target Audience: teachers, therapists, administrators, paraprofessionals, families, and students

ICAM Ordering - Answers and Problem Solving on April 8
You have become a Digital Rights Manager (DRM), now it is time to order. This training will guide you through the ordering process and solve any problems you might encounter.

Open Your Chromebook to Accessibility for All on April 20
This live webinar will provide tips for educators on accessibility features of the Chromebook. This 60 minute session is designed to help educators locate, activate, and understand the use of
accessibility features of the Chromebook. There will be some extra extension features for fun too! Grab your lunch and get ready to crack open your Chromebooks! **Target Audience:** general education teachers and special education teachers

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**All times listed are Eastern Standard Time (EST)**

PGPs and ASHA hours are available for all training opportunities.

See a training you would like to attend, but the date doesn't fit your schedule, or it's already full? Maybe you have a training topic that you would like to request. **Request training times & topics that work for you!**

Request Training

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