Utah State Instructional Materials Access Center
742 Harrison Blvd., U-101, Ogden 84404
e-mail:usimacorders@usdb.org | website: www.usimac.org

USIMAC Description of Available Formats

There are multiple formats available to students who are eligible and qualify to access and use accessible formats under provisions of Section 121 (formerly known as the Chafee Amendment) to the U.S. Copyright Act. This information sheet lists the most common formats with a brief description of each.

Braille

In November 2012, the Braille Authority of North America (BANA) voted to adopt the Unified English Braille (UEB) as an official code for the United States. UEB is a revision and extension of the English Braille American Edition (EBAE). In November 2013, BANA, following the UEB Transition Forum consisting of delegates from 31 national organizations, affirmed that January 4, 2016 would be the implementation of the general use of UEB in the United States, replacing the current EBAE code. The United States will also recognize two codes for math, UEB Math/Science and UEB with Nemeth. The State of Utah has elected to implement UEB for the Math/Science code. However, if the IEP/504 team decides that a student's educational needs would be best met by using the Nemeth Braille Code, then USIMAC will provide the materials requested in UEB with Nemeth.

Braille is internationally recognized as the official communications system for blind individuals, enabling them to read and write through a tactile system of raised dots. It is the best option for accessing books and other materials in various formats, from old texts to new publications.

The following options are **Embossed** braille formats:

- **UBR/UEB** – Uncontracted Braille single-sided, double spaced, Pre-K-1st Grade. Unified English Braille is a complete code that is used for both literary (non-technical) and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) (technical) material.

- **UEB** – Contracted braille 2nd-3rd Grade single-sided, single-spaced (Materials are transitional from uncontracted to contracted, therefore we will produce according to student needs) 4th-12th Grade contracted braille double-sided, single-spaced. Unified English Braille is a complete code that is used for both literary (non-technical) and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) (technical) material.

- **UBR/UEB with Nemeth** – Uncontracted braille single-sided, double-spaced, Pre-K-1st Grade, Nemeth Code embedded within UEB context, text surrounding the math expression or chemical formula to be in UEB while the technical content itself is transcribed in the Nemeth Code. Nemeth is a specialized code for writing and reading mathematics and science in braille.

- **UEB with Nemeth** – Contracted braille 2nd-3rd Grade single-sided, single-spaced (Materials are transitional from uncontracted to contracted, therefore we will produce according to student needs) 4th-12th Grade contracted braille double-sided, single-spaced. Nemeth Code embedded within UEB context, text surrounding the math expression or chemical formula to be in UEB while the technical content itself is transcribed in the Nemeth Code. Nemeth is a specialized code for writing and reading mathematics and science in braille.

- **Tactile Graphics** - Tactile graphics are images with a raised surface. They are used to convey non-textual information such as maps, paintings, graphs and diagrams.

- **EBAE** - English Braille American Edition, was produced in both Uncontracted and Contracted braille. (NO LONGER the code in the United States as of January 2016) Phased out of USIMAC in January 2020.

These options (described above) are also available in Refreshable Braille (.BRF). These files can be embossed or downloaded onto a refreshable braille device. Please be aware, these files are not typically formatted.

- .BRF/UBR/UEB, .BRF/UEB, .BRF/UBR/UEB with Nemeth, .BRF/UEB with Nemeth

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Large Print (LP)

Large print books produced by USIMAC can be soft bound or spiral bound and are approximately 11" x 14" in size. They are a direct reproduction of the textbook we receive so the better the copy of the book, the higher quality the large print will be. Please keep in mind that font sizes can only be enlarged about 1-2 sizes from their original font size (for example if you bring a novel in 12 pt font, the max size will end up between 14 -18 pt font). See Text Size Comparison Card.

**PDF

PDF is an electronic file format that is a digital duplicate of the print book with searchable text. It can be stored directly on many devices, easily transported using a flash drive or CD, and can be viewed on computers and tablets that have software capable of viewing PDF files. We recommend using Adobe Reader for best results on your desktop computer. A PDF can be delivered to you as a whole book in one file, or in separate sections such as units or chapters at your request.

**EPUB

The ePUB format has recently become the standard file format for electronic books (e-books). These books can be read by certain book reading software or apps on tablet devices, computers, and even some cell phones. Check your device or software for compatibility with ePUB. ePUB files are a reformatted version of a book, not a direct reproduction. It contains the complete text from the book, is readable by text-to-speech (TTS) software, and text can be increased in size without losing quality or sharpness. ePUB files may also contain many images from the book. USIMAC acquires ePUB files through third party providers.

**DAISY Audio (Digital Talking Book/DTB)

DAISY books are a more accessible audio format for listeners than traditional audio formats. Better accessibility comes in two forms: enhanced navigation control and readable text with the audio. DAISY books offer easy and rapid navigation. A book can be navigated by such elements as sentence, paragraph, page (including specific page numbers), and various heading levels. It is also possible to fast forward or rewind and to jump back and forth by time increments when using the audio component. DAISY books can be produced by USIMAC as audio only, text and audio, or text only. **For in house projects only we don't currently have the capability to produce the following books in DAISY audio: math, maps, atlas, typing or keyboarding type books**

**MP3 Audio

MP3 Audio books are digital files that can be played by most common audio players, assistive technology devices, tablets, phones, and computer audio software. Many of our MP3 books are created by our production team and read by text-to-speech (TTS) software, a computer generated voice. MP3 Audio plays in a linear, track by track fashion, with tracks typically occurring at major text headings such as units, sections, chapters, and subheadings in the text. **For in house projects only we don't currently have the capability to produce the following books in MP3 audio: math, maps, atlas, typing or keyboarding type books.**

Please note if you would like assistance or recommendations utilizing any assistive technology devices or software, to be able to access different alternate formats (i.e. PDF, ePUB, Daisy, or MP3) please fill out the AT consultation form on the AT Dashboard for a free consultation.