Welcome to ALPS, Purdue University’s Adaptive Learning Programs! Our facility is located in the Stewart Center, Room 111. The services we offer are designed for students with disabilities. ALPS can provide you with both practical services and resources for helping you to overcome educational obstacles.

**ALPS offers three principal services:**

**The ALPS Lab**

At our Lab, students can use computers with a variety of assistive technologies to meet their information access and computing needs.

**ALPS Instructional Services**

The ALPS Lab provides students with a wide range of adaptive equipment and various software . . . take your pick:

- Portable equipment for print enlargement.
- Rate controlled audio cassette players.
- Access to computers, THOR, and other online computing services.
- Specialized software, to permit faster typing and to assist with other physically difficult tasks.
- Voice input, to allow use of the computer without requiring use of a keyboard and mouse.
- Adjustable workstations.

Students can be assisted in learning how to use both adaptive equipment and various software for specific academic uses, including:

- Enlargement of printed materials.
- Voice synthesis of printed materials.
- Operation of computers in either speech or enlargement modes.
- Assistance in making other computing operations usable.

*Remember,* there are no time restrictions when using the services provided by the ALPS Lab. We’re here for you!!

**ALPS Comprehensive Services**

**Instruction**

Individualized training is available by appointment. Training can cover the following:

- Equipment operation, including startup procedures.
- Adaptive software: Outspoken, CloseView, JAWS for Windows, Zoom Text, Dragon Naturally Speaking, and Dragon Dictate.
- Adaptive hardware: Arkenstone Openbook, Kurzweil Reader, CCTVs, and Braille printer.
- General information on word processing, spreadsheets, computer aided design, graphics packages, desktop publishing, world wide web access, and email.

**Let’s get started:**

Borrow a campus accessibility map for directions from the Adaptive Programs. See the facilities yourself by going to the ALPS Lab or by calling (765) 494-4387 to set up a personal tour of the facility.
To become a part of ALPS, first make an appointment with Adaptive Programs, at (765) 494-1247, for a personal evaluation. Once your evaluation is complete, Adaptive Programs will recommend services to meet your specific needs. You will then have full access to the resources found in the ALPS Lab.

**Resource List**

**Computers**

For use in the ALPS Lab, 6 IBM-compatible, 4 Macintosh, and 2 SUN Sparc computers are available. At least one computer:

- Has a twenty-one inch monitor.
- Is equipped with voice synthesis.
- Is wheelchair accessible.
- Has specialized input software and hardware for the physically disabled.
- Is networked to other computing facilities and mainframe sites.
- Can access THOR, the Libraries’ Online Catalog.
- Is connected to a laser printer and a Braille printer.
- Has a scanner.

**Text to Speech Systems**

For use in the ALPS Lab, these systems scan standard text by a handheld camera or by a flatbed scanner. An electronic version of the text is created which can be read out loud by a synthesized voice.

**Four-Track Tape Player/Recorder**

Students use four-track tape recorders to playback special monaural tapes, such as Recordings for the Blind and Dyslexic. These are available for short-term loan.

**CCTV**

These devices allow text to be enlarged up to 25 times its normal size. A portable unit is available for short-term loan.

**Braillewriter**

This mechanical device is designed for creating text in Braille and is available for short-term loan.

**Accessory Disk Drive**

This disk drive is designed for use with Blazie personal assistant devices. This device is available for short-term loan.

**Braille Embossing**

This embosser can be used with computer software to allow text documents to be produced in Braille format. The Braille is produced on both sides of standard 11.5” X 11” Braille paper.

**Computer Speech Output**

Some computers have the ability to speak text that is inputted from a keyboard and text that appears on the screen. The speech output software uses the sound card and, once a key disk is borrowed from the ALPS Lab, can be used in other
labs on campus.

**Voice Input**

Available for use in the ALPS Lab, these systems allow text and commands to be communicated to the computer through a microphone. These systems require at least 30 minutes of training before the computer will be able to understand the users voice. Two hours of practice are recommended, after initial training, to more completely acclimate the user and computer. Please make an appointment to get assistance in training this system to recognize your voice.

**Screen Enlargement**

All computers in the ALPS Lab have screen enlargement available for use. Enlargement software allows the user to vary enlargement and can also allow color inversion and reading utilities.