

# What Are the Technology Needs of an Academic, College-Bound Braille User?

By Belinda Rudinger, M.Ed.  
VI/Assistive Technology Consultant

## Computer Skills:

1. Keyboarding skills
2. Screen reader skills (JAWS, NVDA, Voiceover, etc.)
3. Microsoft Office (Word/Excel/Powerpoint), OR if using a Mac computer with Voiceover: Pages/Numbers/Keynote

## Digital Media Skills:

1. Individual account with Bookshare and/or Learning Ally and/or Bard (NLS) and ability to retrieve his/her own media (auditory and/or braille through device)
2. Listening/Reading device: could be a braille notetaker, a laptop, a tablet/phone, or a DAISY player)

## Internet Use:

Braille notetaker, refreshable braille display, and/or computer and/or tablet/phone

## Email Use:

Braille notetaker, refreshable braille display and/or computer and/or tablet/phone

## Mobile Phone Use:

With auditory capabilities (examples: Google Talk, Voiceover)

## Use of a Scan & Read/Optical Character Recognition Option

Either a standalone device OR a combination of scanner+computer+OCR software

## Use of a Graphing Calculator

Handheld Orion Talking TI-84 or Viewplus Audio Graphing Calculator software on a computer

*For more information, see:*

<http://www.region10.org/supplementary-services/programs/vi-assistive-technology/>



www.pathstoliteracy.org

