The IL-NET National Training and Technical Assistance (T&TA) Center at ILRU is providing support to centers for independent living and statewide independent living councils as we all navigate the unprecedented times of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. We are sharing this resource below in support of the communities you serve. Please email us at ilru@ilru.org with examples of how you are communicating with consumers in your communities and the resources you have found helpful. Visit the ILRU Resources on COVID-19 webpage for daily updates.

These materials have not been reviewed by ACL; therefore, no assumptions should be made regarding compliance or cost allowability.

The following is shared by Dr. Natalie Shaheen, Assistant Professor of Low Vision and Blindness, Illinois State University. *Please note that edits were made by ILRU to include person-first language; however, the direct websites of resources shared below may not include this language.*

# Emergency Distance Learning FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE BLIND OR WITH LOW VISION

Know of other relevant resources? Share them with [@nlshaheen on Twitter](https://twitter.com/nlshaheen).

## **Distance Teaching and Learning Resources**

* [Don’t Be a Barrier: Be Accessible Now](https://www.nfb.org/blog/dont-be-barrier-be-accessible-now): Accessibility Resources from [@NFB\_Voice](https://twitter.com/NFB_voice)
* [Distance Learning Resources from the National Federation of the Blind](https://www.nfb.org/resources/distance-education-resources): including synchronous lessons for students who are and their families every Thursday at 11a Eastern
* [National Homework Hotline for Blind/Visually Impaired Students](http://www.vistaseducation.com/homeworkhotline/)
* [Accessibility and Online Educational Materials](https://medium.com/@sheribyrnehaber/accessibility-and-education-materials-4e917187d96)
* [Accessibility Tips by @TVI\_Ting](https://www.dropbox.com/s/0eod2dnqvm95lyy/AccessibilityTips_SIU%20.docx?dl=0)
* [@HumanWare Webinars](https://twitter.com/HumanWare/status/1242966671519866884) every Tuesday and Thursday at 12pm Eastern (archived on [Humanware’s YouTube channel)](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoAluL5TOSTfSo6-xjAkUIg)
* [Numerous Ideas and Resources from Paths to Technology](https://www.perkinselearning.org/technology/blog)
* [At Home with APH Resources](https://www.aph.org/athomewithaph-resources/)
* [@Neal\_AT shares important information about that latest HIMS firmware update](https://twitter.com/neal_at/status/1244673979056439298)
* Free Aira for any university students needing assistance, contact [support@aira.io](mailto:support@aira.io)

### **Zoom**

* [Meet Me Accessibly – A Guide to Zoom Cloud Meetings from a Blindness Perspective](https://mosen.org/zoom/) by [@JonathanMosen](https://twitter.com/JonathanMosen)
* [Norms for an Accessible Zoom Meeting (video)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PLgjgKtueGBtdlBFCYnjC4q5YGhzbovOkp&v=t9mpQyw0zJg)
* [Tactile and High Contrast Graphic of the Zoom Interface](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eECYW2VNBXE__65Q2AI66R2qxvWv9gF4/view) created by [@Neal\_AT](https://twitter.com/neal_at)

### **Google Classroom**

* [Google Classroom with HIMS Polaris (video)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S_UUCEKLil0&feature=youtu.be)
* [Using Google Classroom on a BrailleNote Touch on Paths to Literacy](https://www.pathstoliteracy.org/technology/using-google-classroom-braillenote-touch)

## **Now Free Technology and Services**

* [Free JAWS, ZoomText, and Fusion](https://portal.freedomscientific.com/SponsoredSoftware?fbclid=IwAR0F382wc_iVhlM46U-JiLgADlneDYJ0GzGZ_pPGJOcNT46y9WZ9kAeLTzk) through June 30, 2020
* [Objective Ed Distance Learning Tools](https://www.objectiveed.com/distance)

## **Exemplars of Teaching Blind K-12 Students at a Distance**

* [@Neal\_AT used Team Viewer and a HIMS device](https://twitter.com/neal_at/status/1242881040743448577) for a virtual lesson and he offered some takeaways
* [@TVIMonique used recorded audio to engage a student in Braille instruction](https://twitter.com/tvimonique/status/1241063368443731969)
* Many other great examples from the [over 150 teachers of students who are blind (and related service providers) on Twitter](https://twitter.com/i/lists/64333798)
* [TVI’s at Home Part 2: Video Conferencing Setup (video)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Iuh-To9z1o&feature=youtu.be): How to use Zoom for a screen reader lesson

## **Professional Development Resources**

* [Accessible Teaching in the Time of COVID-19](https://www.mapping-access.com/blog-1/2020/3/10/accessible-teaching-in-the-time-of-covid-19) by [@AimiHamraie](https://twitter.com/AimiHamraie)
* [OCR Short Webinar on Online Education and Website Accessibility (video)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DCMLk4cES6A)
* [How to Design a Small Group Activity In the Zoom Classroom (video)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gh5Qdo9ldys&feature=youtu.be) by [@TVI\_Ting](https://twitter.com/TVI_ting)
* [Accessible Instructional Materials in the Digital Classroom](https://www.perkinselearning.org/videos/webcast/accessible-instructional-materials-digital-classroom)
* [TVIs at Home Part 1: File Management (video)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gOepwTuAnK4)
* [TechTalk 3/31 @ 7pm PST: Remote Facilitation for Students Who Use Braille Notetakers](https://twitter.com/VIProgramSFSU/status/1244067084805398531): TechTalks are archived on [SFSU’s VI Program YouTube Channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXGTTMdHYDPM4-YG_KTx4Og)

## **Accessible COVID-19 News, Data, and Information**

* [COVID-19 Tactile Graphics](https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1L3Gvw4uuAoZWTv5i2iIT1f2HRYW6boMF) created by [@n\_c\_ro](https://twitter.com/n_c_ro)
* [Breaking News Section of NFB Newsline Available to All](https://www.nfb.org/about-us/press-room/covid-19-information-available-braille-and-audio)
* [Accessible COVID-19 Statistics Tracker](https://cvstats.net/)
* [Flattening the curve graph in Desmos graphing calculator web app](https://www.desmos.com/calculator/vyldapql4d)
* [Accessible COVID-19 Risk Factor Checker](https://c19check.com/start)