**EQUIPMENT NEEDS ASSESSMENT APPLICATION**

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| Name of Person Submitting Request: | **Kathi Pryor** |
| Program or Service Area: | **DSPS** |
| Division: | **Library & Learning Resources** |
| When was the last Program Efficacy document completed? | **02/15/07** |
| What rating was given? | **continuance** |
| Equipment Requested | **Easy Reader Software** |

1. Provide a rationale for your request.

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| DSPS is requesting the purchase of Easy Readers for the campus’ High Tech Center. Easy Readers allow the user to navigate the book by page or chapter. Easy Readers are a low cost alternative to providing staff support to our visually impaired and learning disabled students to access their audio text books (Recordings for the Blind and Dyslexic/RFB&D). The purchase of four Easy Readers for computers in the High Tech Center will increase the number of students that can use this technology at one time. |

1. Indicate how the content of the EMP One-Sheet and latest Program Efficacy Report support this request. How is the request tied to program planning? *(reference the page number(s) where the information can be found on the EMP and Program Efficacy).*

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| The EMP (p. 77) states that DSPS’s program goal is to enhance efficiency while contributing to student success. Purchase of this software will provide our students ease of reading their texts and reduce the time it takes to sort through a book on CD or other e-text formats. Two of the Easy Readers would be placed in the High Tech Center on the east end of the campus and two would be downloaded to computers in the Library. In the Program Efficacy Report dated 2/15/07, the provision of equal access is of utmost importance to the department’s mission and is listed in the Alternate Media (RFB&D) on p. 6. CCCCO Data Mart shows 2009-10 students with disabilities at SBVC as 1,163 (20% increase). The number of students with visual impairments and learning disabilities has increased 20% as well since these reports were written. |

1. Indicate if there is additional information you wish the committee to consider *(for example: regulatory information, compliance, updated efficiency and/or student success data or planning etc).*

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| The Easy Reader software will allow students with blindness, low vision, dyslexia and other specific learning disabilities to listen to the content of their books through a combination of text, speech, and images. With the increase in the number of students needing this accommodation, the ability to provide this support is imperative to be successful in their classes. |

1. Evaluation of related costs (including any ongoing maintenance or updates) and identification of any alternative or ongoing funding sources. (for example Department Budget, VTEA or Perkins)

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| DSPS budget for equipment is zero (due to cuts). Each Easy Reader software costs $55. DSPS is requesting the purchase of four if possible. With tax and shipping, the total is $257. |

1. What are the consequences of not funding this equipment?

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| Without having Easy Readers, our visually impaired and learning disabled students will take more time in reviewing their reading assignments and impact their success in their courses. With reading difficulties due to their disabilities, software such as this makes studying easier and contributes to student success. |