

## **SAM Student User Accessibility (508 compliance) Statement**

The following information pertains to student accessibility of our SAM (Skills Assessment Manager) software developed by Course Technology, a part of Cengage Learning:

Cengage Learning is devoted to the task of ensuring that our products are as accessible as possible for student users. Despite the fact that SAM is not fully accessible to students with disabilities, the SAM team is careful to keep our users in mind when building certain features of SAM and continually evaluate ways to make SAM accessible to a wider student audience.

What follows is a brief summary of each type and how SAM is being used in these cases:

**Hearing impaired students** will find SAM to be accessible and convenient due to the fact that there is only one audio feature, which is located in SAM Training. The features of SAM Training that incorporate audio ALSO incorporate matching text on the screen, so students can simply read what they may not be able to hear. Rochester, NY's [National Technical Institute for the Deaf is using SAM in this fashion](#).

**Visually impaired students** will experience varying levels of SAM accessibility, depending on the degree of their visual impairment. *ZoomText*, a Windows screen magnifier, may provide a solution for those who need all items on the screen enlarged to a particular reading size. Please note that this option may not work as effectively for users considered to be legally blind. In these instances, we suggest making alternate arrangements such as scheduling text-based assignments in conjunction with Cengage Learning's Permissions/Accessibility Department. Cengage Learning is a participating member of the AccessText Network (ATN). The ATN provides a common interface for Disabled Student Service offices and providers to request, track, and receive electronic files for college textbooks on behalf of students with print-related disabilities. Under this arrangement, the Disability Support Services official at the student's school may request an electronic file of text-based material. Instructions, contact information, and details on where to find other helpful resources are available at the following Cengage Learning website: <http://www.cengage.com/permissions/accessibility/>.

**Students with learning and cognitive disabilities** will benefit from the flexibility of SAM assignment scheduling. This feature is designed so that instructors can easily select and edit settings such as scoring type, time limit, number of attempts and retakes, date and times available, and other options that allow for student-specific attention. SAM Training is also helpful in that it provides a pressure-free environment where students can take their time learning skills by reading, watching or receiving guided help. The rewind, fast-forward, pause, and volume controls are always available in SAM Training, and visual indicators let students know which Training tasks they've completed. Additionally, SAM's in-depth Reports offer students the ability to see exactly how they did on an assignment, and offer instructors a helpful viewpoint of how their classes are faring on an individual level or classroom level. This alternative scheduling arrangement is in place at Pellissippi State Community College (Knoxville, TN) as well as San Francisco State University (San Francisco, CA).

Cengage Learning continues to strive towards our goal of making all products, both print and digital, accessible to all students. We are committed to providing assistance to students who are unable to use standard instructional materials, and will continue to challenge ourselves to develop new, engaging solutions for all types of students in the future.

The SAM Team  
Course Technology, a part of Cengage Learning