National Accessible Reading Assessment Projects

The National Accessible Reading Assessment Projects (NARAP) is a collaboration of projects funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) to conduct research to make large-scale assessments of reading proficiency more accessible for students who have disabilities that affect reading.

Funded projects currently include Designing Accessible Reading Assessments (DARA) and the Partnership for Accessible Reading Assessment (PARA). DARA is based at Educational Testing Service (ETS) and PARA is a consortium of the National Center on Educational Outcomes (NCEO), the Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, and Student Testing (CRESST), and Westat, Inc.

Four research and development goals guide the work of the NARAP projects:

1. Formulate a definition of the construct of "reading proficiency."
2. Conduct a program of research on the assessment of reading proficiency.
3. Develop research-based principles and guidelines for large-scale accessible reading assessments.
4. Develop and field-test instruments or methods for assessing reading proficiency.

Further information about NARAP can be found at: http://www.narap.info