



Project Activities - Timelines - Agency Responsibility -  
2017-2018 - Year 4

**GOAL 1:** Increase the braille competency of Ohio’s educators through the provision of high-quality professional development and technical assistance that focus on results-driven outcomes.

**Objective 1.1** Provide professional development to educators.

Activity	Year 4	Primary Responsible Entity
A. Transition Introduction to UEB	Dec. 1, 2017	AT & AEM Center
B. Instructional Strategies to Deal with Nemeth and UEB	Feb. 23, 2018	AT & AEM Center
C. 4-Day Summer Basic Braille Course for educators	June 11-14, 2018	AT & AEM Center
D. 4-Day Summer Basic Nemeth Course for educators	June 25-28, 2018	AT & AEM Center
E. Summer Advanced Braille Course for educators	June 18 – July 9, 2018	AT & AEM Center
F. Summer Advanced Nemeth Course for educators	June 19 – July 10, 2018	AT & AEM Center
G. 12-week Blended Basic Braille Course – 2nd part of 2017 Course  – 1st part of 2018 Course	Oct. 4, 11, 18, 2017  Aug. 8,15,22,29, 2018 Sept. 5,12,19,26, 2018	AT & AEM Center/OSSB

## BEST GRANT ACTIVITIES 2017-2018

**Objective 1.2** Provide technical assistance and support to educators.

Activity	Year 4	Primary Responsible Entity
A. Follow-up email and phone technical assistance for 12-week Blended Basic Braille Course	Robin Finley and Dan Kelley	AT & AEM Center/OSSB
B. Technical assistance services regarding assistive technology hardware and software in the areas of braille literacy, production and technology for educators	Jerry Whittaker and Katie Robinson	AT & AEM Center/OSSB

**Objective 1.3** Provide avenues to communicate information and support to educators.

Activity	Year 4	Primary Responsible Entity
A. Listserv posts with braille initiatives such as Braille Challenge, Seedlings, NFB Bell Program, AFB Dots for Literacy	AT & AEM Listserv BEST Community of Practice	AT & AEM Center/OCD/BE/OSSB
B. AT & AEM Center Twitter posts, announcements, updates, and grant information	Twitter	AT & AEM Center/All Partners
C. Improve access to and communication of BEST grant sponsored training through updates on the AT & AEM Center website and online event registration process	AT & AEM website	AT & AEM Center

## BEST GRANT ACTIVITIES 2017-2018

**Goal 2:** Increase the knowledge and use/implementation of braille and state-of-the-art technologies of Ohio educators through high-quality professional development/learning opportunities and technical assistance that focuses on results-driven outcomes.

**Objective 2.1** Provide high-quality professional development training to educators in Ohio serving students who are blind and visually impaired or deafblind to increase their knowledge and use/implementation of braille and state-of-the-art technologies.

Activity	Year 4	Primary Responsible Entity
A. Coordinate VI/braille related AT vendor exhibits in collaboration with the OCALICON Sensory Summit	AT Forum at OCALICON Nov. 16-17, 2017	AT & AEM Center/ ACBO/OCDBE/OSSB
B. Collaborate with OCALI, the AT & AEM Center and the Ohio Educational State Support Teams on the four regional AT conference and vendor fairs to ensure inclusion of VI/braille related content/vendors.	<u>AT Conference &amp; Vendor Fairs:</u> Oct 3, 2017 – Mansfield Oct. 4, 2017 – Rootstown Oct. 5, 2017 – Cambridge Oct. 6, 2017 – Hillsboro	AT & AEM Center
C. Facilitate professional development training by VI AT Vendors	<b>BrailleNote Touch</b> – Oct 10, 2017 - Humanware  <b>JAWS   FOCUS   EIBraille</b> - Jan. 19, 2018 -- VFO Group  <b>VFO Products</b> – Date TBD	AT&AEM / Humanware  AT&AEM / VFO Group

## BEST GRANT ACTIVITIES 2017-2018

**Objective 2.2** Provide technical assistance and support relating to state of the art technologies to educators in school districts by adults who are blind and technology experts.

Activity	Year 4	Primary Responsible Entity
A. Email, phone and on-site support from collaborative partners regarding technology displayed at OCALICON Sensory Summit and Vendor Fairs		Partners/Vendors
B. Technical assistance relating to assistive technologies and computer hardware and software by AT & AEM Center technical assistance consultants		AT & AEM Center

**Goal 3:** Increase the competency of personnel providing quality braille materials for Ohio students who require braille through provision of high-quality professional development training and technical assistance support.

**Objective 3.1** Provide high-quality professional development to educators related to the production of braille.

Activity	Year 4	Primary Responsible Entity
A. Professional development activities on the production of braille	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Duxbury I – Oct 11-12, 2017 Susan Christensen</li> <li>• Duxbury II– Oct. 25-26, 2017</li> <li>• MathType – Nov 1, 2017 Susan Christensen</li> <li>• Scanning for Braille, LP &amp; Audio – Sept 6-7, 2018 Jerry Whittaker</li> </ul>	AT & AEM Center
B. Follow-up training to the initial training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Duxbury I – Mar. 6-7, 2018 Susan Christensen</li> <li>• Duxbury II – Mar. 8, 2018 Susan Christensen</li> </ul>	AT & AEM Center
C. Participant pre- and post-checklists	Duxbury I and II MathType	AT & AEM Center

**BEST GRANT ACTIVITIES 2017-2018**

**Objective 3.2** Provide technical assistance to school districts that produce braille for Ohio schools.

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Primary Responsible Entity</b>
A. Technical assistance to educators after the initial training	Email and phone	AT & AEM Center
B. On-site technical assistance to Local Braille Production Centers (LBPCs)	AT & AEM Center TA Consultants (upon request)	AT & AEM Center/OSSB

**Objective 3.3** Expand braille production capacities at the local school district level.

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Primary Responsible Entity</b>
A. Establishment of LBPCs in Ohio school districts	Select and install 2 LBPCs as written in grant	AT & AEM Center
B. Technical assistance, support and training	Duxbury and Scanning	AT & AEM Center

**Objective 3.4** Provide training and support to Grafton Braille Service Center (GBSC) Prison Braille Program.

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Primary Responsible Entity</b>
A. Professional development training at GBSC Prison Braille Program	TBD	AT & AEM Center
B. Technical Assistance, support and training	Email, phone, and on-site	AT & AEM Center

## BEST GRANT ACTIVITIES 2017-2018

### Manage Project

Activity	Year 4	Primary Responsible Entity
A. Advisory Board Meeting/ Teleconferences	Feb. 28, 2018 – 1:00pm-2:30pm August 2, 2018 – 1:00pm-2:30pm	AT & AEM Center/All Partners
B. BEST Leadership Meetings	Oct. 17, 2017 – 8:30am-10:00am Feb. 28, 2018 – 8:30am-10:00am June 7, 2018 – 8:30am-10:00am Aug. 2, 2018 – 8:30am-10:00am	AT & AEM Center/All Partners
B. Monthly Evaluation Meetings with external evaluator	10/3/17, 2/8/18, 3/19/18, 4/25/18, 5/15/18, 6/26/18	AT & AEM Center
C. Contract with Qualified Personnel 1 Susan 2 Robin 3 Dan 4 Aimee 5 Shelley 6 Jerry 7 Lauri 8 Jan 9 Julie	Susan Christensen – Duxbury, MathType & TA Robin Finley – Follow-up TA and Blended Braille Course Aimee Howley – External Evaluation Dan Kelley – Follow-up TA and Blended Braille Course Shelley Mack – Summer Braille Courses, UEB Trainings, Braille Consultant Jerry Whittaker – TA, Consultation, Professional Development, Scanning	AT & AEM Center

**\*Acronyms:**

ACBO – American Council of the Blind of Ohio  
 AT – Assistive Technology  
 AT & AEM Center – Assistive Technology and Accessible Educational Materials Center  
 BEST – Braille Excellence for Students and Teachers  
 GBSC – Grafton Braille Service Center

LPBC – Local Braille Production Centers  
 OCDBE – Ohio Center for Deafblind Education  
 OSU – The Ohio State University  
 OSSB – Ohio State School for the Blind  
 TA – Technical Assistance  
 TVI – Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments