

Supporting Students with Disabilities through AI: What, Why, & How

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Published: June 1, 2024

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National Center on Accessible Educational Materials (2024). Supporting Students with Disabilities through AI: What, Why, & How. Wakefield, MA: National Center on Accessible Educational Materials.

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Introduction

Traditional educational tools have long aimed to cater to diverse learning needs through various adaptive technologies and strategies. However, generative AI represents a significant advancement in this field, offering unprecedented opportunities to tailor educational content to the variable needs and preferences of students, including those with disabilities. This innovative approach enables a more nuanced and responsive educational experience, enhancing accessibility and engagement for all learners.

AI in Education

Despite generative AI's potential to revolutionize education for students with disabilities since its public availability in November 2022, its adoption faces challenges due to a lack of guidance and understanding in educational districts.

Personalized Education through AI

Generative AI can tailor educational materials to individual students' comprehension levels and facilitate more effective communication for those using augmentative devices, transforming their learning and interaction experiences.

Policy and Implementation Challenges

Teachers can begin integrating generative AI into their classrooms by educating themselves on its use and employing creative solutions to navigate student data privacy issues, thus preparing students for responsible technology use. For a specific solution

to the data privacy conundrum, please visit the “**Getting Started**” section in the longer version of this paper.

Conclusion

For generative AI to enhance accessibility and participation in education for students with disabilities, collaboration between school districts and AI providers on policy development and privacy is crucial, paving the way for a new era of inclusive education.

References format:

[AI and Education: Personalized Learning and Adaptive Curriculum](#)

[Breaking Barriers: How AI Promotes Inclusive Education for Students with Disabilities](#)

[GenAI Chatbot Prompt Library for Educators](#)

[Future of Privacy Forum](#)

[Guide to Developing an AI Policy at your School](#)

[Notes for Presentation to SLATE \(State Leaders in Assistive Technology\)](#)

[Generative Artificial Intelligence in K-12 Classrooms](#)

[Resources for the Educational Use of Generative AI in K-12 Classrooms](#)