Ensuring Equal Access

Portland Community College

Board of Directors – September 2013

Honoring our Obligations

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1974 and the ADA of 1990 as amended in 2008 require us, at a minimum, to do the following:

- Make reasonable accommodation for otherwise qualified individuals

- Ensure non-discrimination and freedom from harassment on the basis of disability

More Specifically…

According to recent guidance from the Office of Civil Rights and the DOJ/DOE, we need to:

- Ensure equally effective communication

- Refrain from adopting or implementing inaccessible technologies unless we have an equally effective alternative to offer
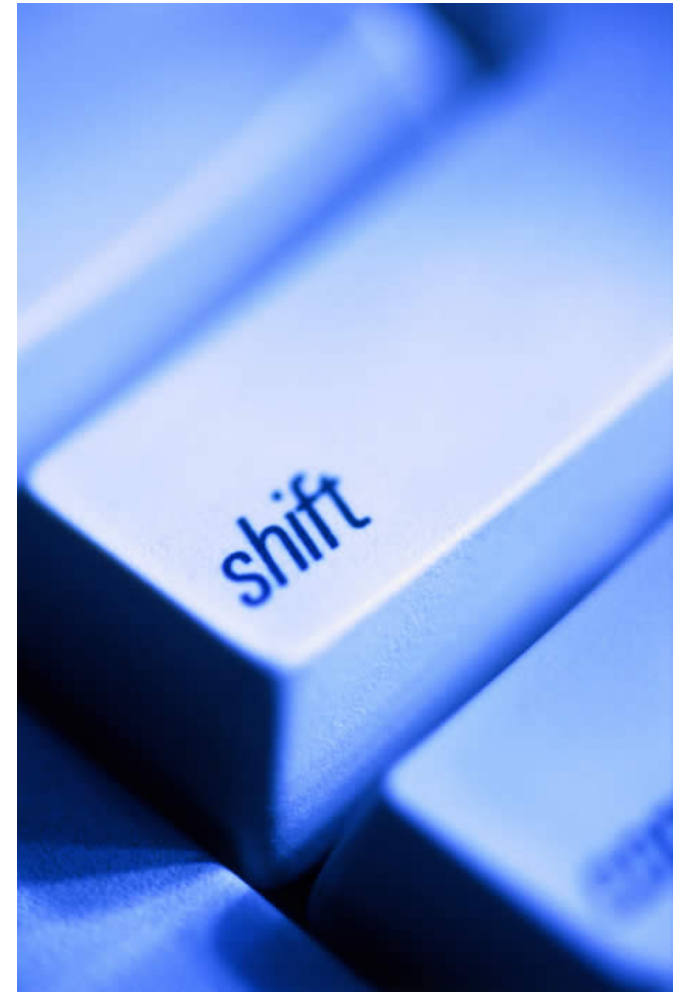
What we're doing at PCC

- ✓ Accommodation Efficiency and Effectiveness – *online so it works for distance students as well as those on campus*

- ✓ Collaborating across the district to address barriers proactively

- ✓ Designing and deploying data delivery options tailored to subject area, division, or department needs

Accommodation Efficiency

- Scanned all hard copy files

- Moved to AIM (database backend with web front)

- Made forms accessible online

- Request and notification via email with links to context
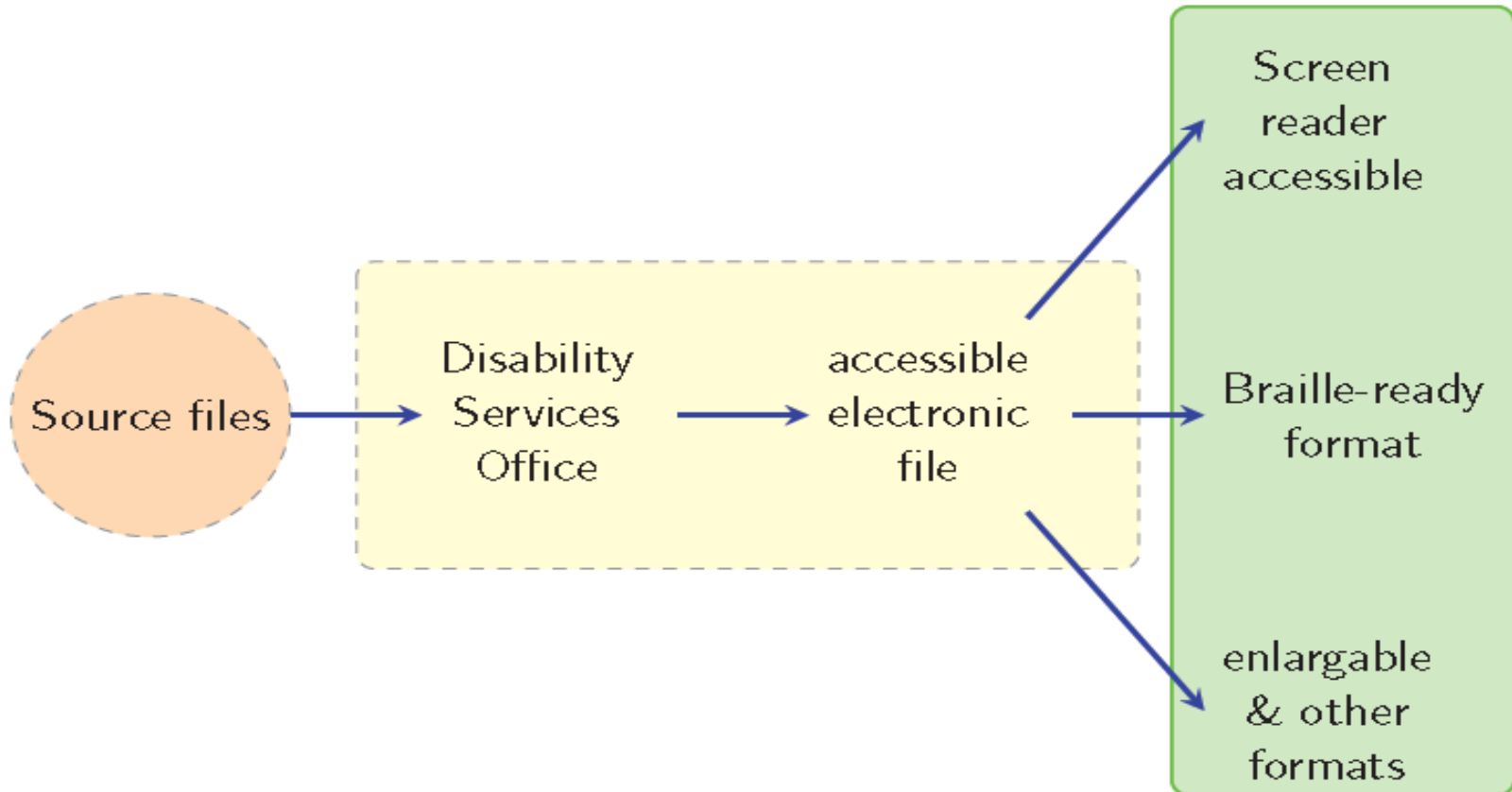
Testing Center Processes

- Testing Centers proctor accommodated exams

- With the online accommodation system:
  - Faculty can enter details once/term rather than once/exam
  - Testing centers can see stats and run a variety of reports

Math Accessibility Study

Faculty release time - Full Report - WeBWorK

Livescribe Pilots

Helping students maximize learning from lectures

- Livescribe pens can be used by Accessibility Aides to create multimedia notes which were then shared with the class as a whole.
- The pilot took place in three math classes and one foreign language class.

At the end of the term the students in the class were asked to share their feedback.

- They were asked about:
- Use of the multimedia notes
  - **86% had used the notes**
- Effectiveness of the notes compared to standard written notes
  - **90% of those found them effective**
- Feedback or Comments
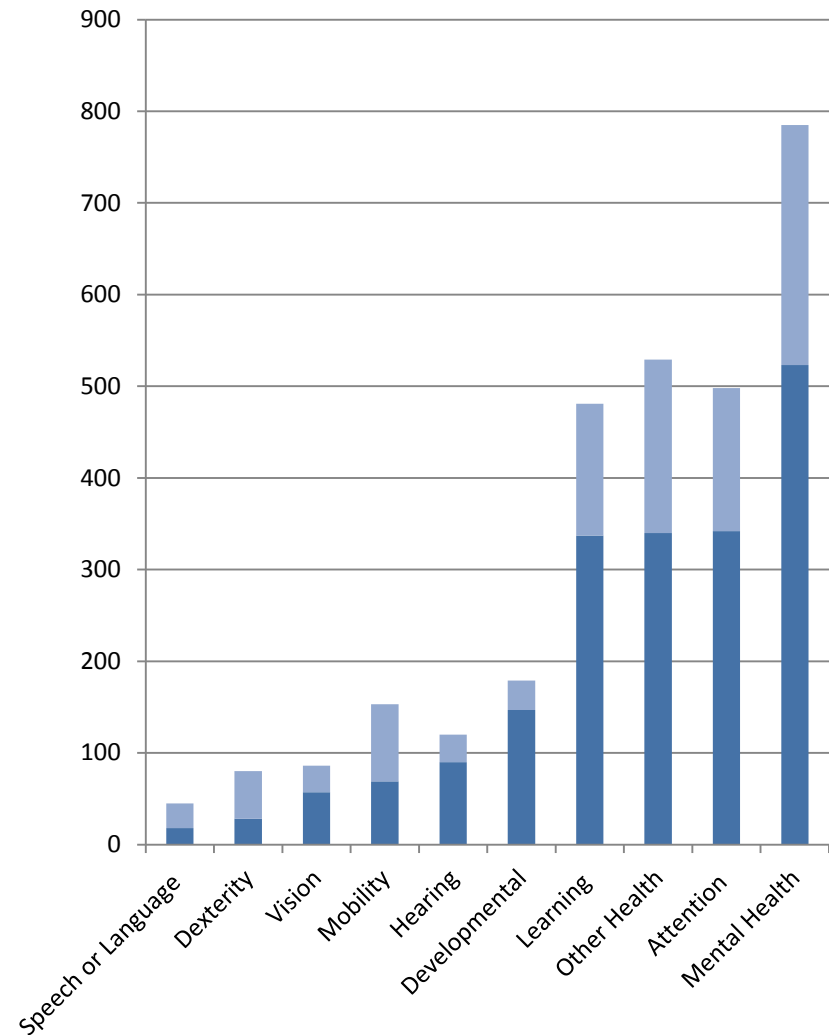 - **Lots of positive words and a few really good ideas that we will implement**

Data Reporting

Breakdowns by:

- Disability

- Accommodation Type

- Campus or DL

- Subject Area

- Timeline

Custom reports may be available upon requests

Culture of Curiosity

Disability Services team members are working on assessment activities this year

- What do students have to say about the way the accommodation process is working?
- Are our students completing at rates equivalent to peers?
- Are our awareness building efforts working?