

NRMA

National Reading Media Assessment



“The NRMA has been the easiest tool that I have ever used to find reading media for my students.”

Casey Robertson
Teacher of Blind Students



“The NRMA is a valuable tool for any teacher of blind and low vision students; because it provides a quick, easy, and reliable answer to the question of what reading media is most appropriate for any blind or low-vision student.”

Cindy Eskew
Teacher of Blind Students



“I love that there is an assessment for K-12 AND Pre-Readers and results are easy for parents to read and understand!!”

Wingfield Bouchard
Parent

THE ONLY RESEARCH-BASED TOOL OF ITS KIND!

Why Choose the NRMA?:

The NRMA is a research-based criterion-referenced test developed by the National Federation of the Blind and the Professional Development and Research Institute on Blindness at Louisiana Tech University. Both organizations are highly regarded as innovative leaders in the field of blindness, promoting full integration of blind persons in all areas of employment and community life. Additionally, both organizations recognize literacy as essential to future success and focused their expertise on creating the most comprehensive, accurate, and easy-to-use reading media assessment.

Target Population:

The target population for this tool consists of youth with an identified visual impairment who have enough visual functioning to identify print letters or shapes by sight.

Complete the Assessment in Five Simple Steps:

1. Go to www.nfbnrma.org and create an account.
2. Create a profile for your student.
3. Print the forms and give them to the appropriate people—parent, medical professional, classroom teacher.
4. Record the information collected from others, as well as your own assessment on the Web site.
5. View the results and print for your records.

A screenshot of the NRMA login page. The page title is "National Reading Media Assessment (NRMA)". Below the title is a link "What is the NRMA?". The main heading is "Please log in:". There are two input fields: "Email Address:" and "Password:". Below the password field are two links: "request an account" (highlighted in yellow) and "reset password". At the bottom is a "Login" button. An arrow from step 1 of the list points to the "request an account" link.

Step 1

What does the assessment look like?

Parent Observation Form:

1. Does your child rub, poke, or press his/her eyes?

Always Usually Sometimes Rarely Never

2. Does he/she have to lean in or hunch over to get close enough to accomplish near-vision tasks such as reading, eating, or looking at the computer screen?

Always Usually Sometimes Rarely Never

3. Does he/she bring handheld objects to within six inches to view?

Always Usually Sometimes Rarely Never

Student Interview:

1. Do you have problems seeing the cursor on the computer screen if you are sitting up straight (not leaning in)?

Always Usually Sometimes Rarely Never

2. When you're sitting with your classmates, do you have trouble seeing posters or bulletin boards, or reading what your teacher writes on the board?

Always Usually Sometimes Rarely Never

Classroom Teacher Interview:

1. Does the student have trouble reading large print material?

Always Usually Sometimes Rarely Never

2. Does the student have trouble maintaining a reading speed that is commensurate with sighted peers?

Always Usually Sometimes Rarely Never

TVI/TBS Assessment:

1. Is the student's reading speed of print material commensurate with sighted peers?

Always Usually Sometimes Rarely Never

2. Does the student accurately read standard grade-level mathematical equations and symbols presented in 18-point font print?

Always Usually Sometimes Rarely Never

How is it scored?

$$\text{SS} = \left(\frac{\text{PA}}{\text{NP}} \right) 100$$

Section Score

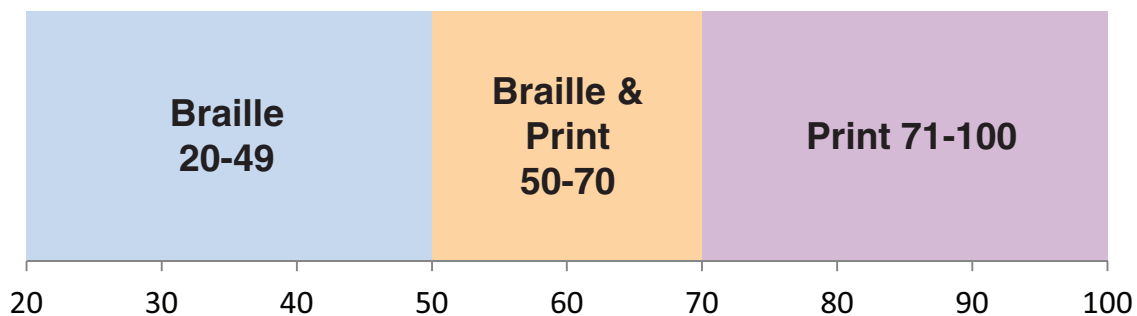
Points Acquired

Number of Points Possible

Straight Forward Scores!

Section	Section Score (SS)
Parent/Guardian Observation	36
Student Interview	25
Classroom Teacher Interview	23
Kindergarten-12th Grade Assessment	36
Sum of Scores	120
Divide by Number of Sections Completed	(4)
FINAL SCORE	30

Each point on the Likert scale has a corresponding value which enables the computer to score the section. These values are provided as examples.



The student in the example who had a final score of 30 is thus determined to be a Braille reader.

The Importance of Standardized Conditions

Standardized conditions (i.e. 18-point font, normal lighting, and good posture) are to be used throughout the assessment process in measuring the youth's visual reading efficiency to insure that appropriate accommodations and/or interventions may be recommended. It becomes counterproductive to allow extra bright lighting, magnification, high contrast, and similar accommodations to be employed during the assessment process as these interventions cloud a clear understanding of visual reading efficiency and prevent accurate assessment results. Providing standardized conditions ensures that the assessment results will provide the student's educational team with the information they need to make crucial decisions about the child's educational needs.