

TalkType

Educational Funding Justification Guidance



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About TalkType

TalkType is highly accurate, lightning-fast dictation software available for Windows, Mac, Web (including Chromebooks), and mobile devices.

It empowers students to dictate their essays, assignments, and written work seamlessly across multiple platforms, whether they're working on their own devices or using university machines. This flexibility is crucial for students who may need to switch between different platforms or dictate on the go, ensuring they can always stay productive and efficient in their studies.

About This Guide

This guide provides justification for TalkType as a funded assistive technology for education.

Each section in this guide can be referenced when completing funding assessments to explain how TalkType addresses specific disability-related barriers within education. The justifications are organised by disability type and functional impairment, making it easy to find relevant information for individual cases.

Need Assistance?

If you require any assistance with creating your report, please do not hesitate to contact our Assessor Relationship Manager who will be happy to support you.



Harry Clarke
Assessor Relationship Manager
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TalkType

Technical Requirements

TalkType for Desktop requires the following:

- 4GB RAM
 - Intel i5 10th Generation or AMD Ryzen 5 processor
 - Windows 10, Windows 11, macOS Big Sur, Monterey, Ventura, or Sonoma
-

Assessor Recommendation Language

Standard recommendation (with funded hardware):

TalkType dictation software is recommended to support [student's name] with [specific impairment]. The TalkType desktop application requires a minimum specification of 4GB RAM and an Intel i5 10th Generation or AMD Ryzen 5 processor. A suitably specified device (e.g., SFE 's standard specification) is therefore recommended to ensure optimal performance.

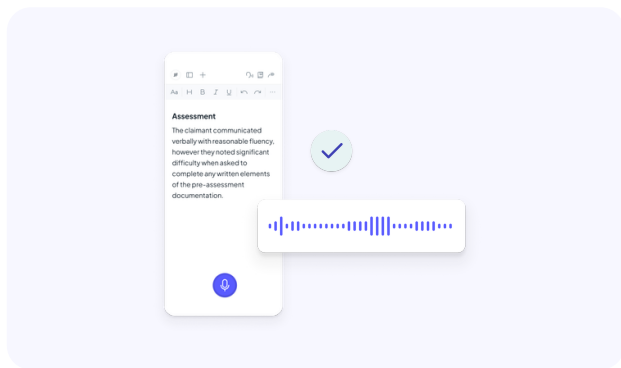
For students using their own device that doesn't meet the desktop application minimum specification:

TalkType dictation software is recommended to support [student's name] with [specific impairment]. As the student wishes to use their own device which does not meet the minimum specification for the TalkType desktop application, they will be able to access TalkType Web through their web browser. This is included at no additional cost with every TalkType licence and provides high-quality speech-to-text dictation, supporting written assignments and study tasks on any laptop with a modern browser. While the desktop application enables system-wide dictation across all applications, TalkType Web provides effective dictation support within the browser without requiring additional hardware.



Why Choose TalkType?

TalkType has been designed to be as clutter free as possible. This means you can find voice commands, shortcuts, and settings quickly and logically. Perfect if you're someone who find busy apps overwhelming.



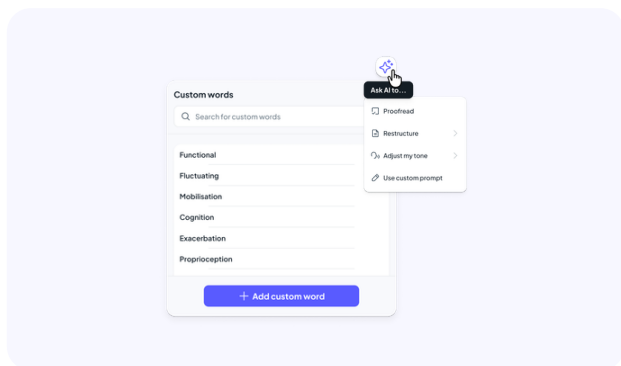
High Accuracy

High-accuracy, real-time transcription designed for professional and educational environments.



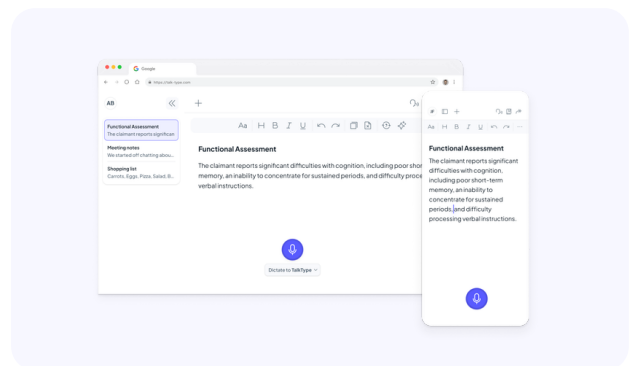
Assistive Integration

Integrates with assistive tools including Read&Write, ClaroRead, and MindView.



Custom Vocabulary

Custom vocabulary support and specialist terms for technical and industry-specific terminology.



Cross-Platform

Cross-platform compatibility with Mac, Windows, Web, and, mobile devices.

TalkType

Use Cases

Disability	TalkType can Support with
SpLD (Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, Dyscalculia)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficulties converting thoughts to writing • Weakness in spelling or grammar • Slowness of writing speed or typing
ADHD/ADD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deficit in concentration • Difficulty converting thoughts into writing • Capturing racing thoughts before they disappear
Anxiety and Mental Health (including GAD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intrusive thoughts and worry significantly impair concentration during note-taking • Anxiety interferes with memory encoding, making it difficult to recall key points • Physical manifestations (restlessness, tremors) can make writing or typing uncomfortable • Pressure to capture everything can be overwhelming, leading to mental blocks
Physical Disability / Movement Disorder / Motor Impairment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inability or slow speed of writing or typing • Pain when typing • Repetitive strain injuries • Energy conservation
Chronic Pain / Fatigue Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced stamina for typing • Pain management • Energy conservation



Dyslexia

Weakness in spelling or grammar

Impairments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Phonological processing difficulties• Weakness in spelling• Grammar difficulties• Encoding challenges
Focused recommendation	<p>This individual has dyslexia, which significantly impacts their ability to spell accurately and apply grammatical rules when writing. Phonological processing difficulties mean they often struggle to encode words correctly, leading to frequent spelling errors and inconsistent grammar in emails, reports, and documentation. The cognitive load of dividing attention between generating ideas and managing spelling and grammar mechanics can be exhausting and affects the quality and confidence of their written output.</p>
How TalkType helps	<p>TalkType allows employees to bypass the phonological encoding process entirely by providing accurate, automatic spelling through speech. Unlike built-in dictation tools which produce frequent errors requiring correction, TalkType's superior accuracy ensures minimal correction is needed, allowing employees to maintain their train of thought. The instant transcription provides immediate visual feedback without the lag characteristic of built-in tools, which is crucial for supporting working memory.</p> <p>TalkType works seamlessly across Windows, Mac, Web, Chromebooks, and mobile devices with the same voice profile and consistent accuracy, enabling flexible working wherever employees are most productive. The mobile app allows immediate idea capture with automatic syncing, while integration with Read&Write, ClaroRead, and MindView creates a comprehensive support ecosystem that built-in dictation tools cannot match.</p>
Recommended final statement	<p>Other dictation tools were considered, including in-built dictation, however TalkType was selected due to its superior accuracy, instant transcription speed, cross-platform compatibility, mobile accessibility, and integration with other assistive technology tools. This combination of features ensures the employee can produce written work efficiently and accurately across all their work environments.</p>

TalkType

Dyslexia

Difficulties converting thoughts to writing

Impairments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Difficulties with written expression• Working memory challenges• Slow processing speed for written output• Verbal strengths not reflected in writing
Focused recommendation	This individual has dyslexia and experiences significant difficulty converting thoughts into written form. While they articulate ideas clearly when speaking, translating these into typed text is laboured and inefficient. The cognitive demands of typing – letter selection, spelling, motor coordination – consume working memory resources needed for higher-order thinking, resulting in written output that doesn't reflect their professional capability.
How TalkType helps	<p>TalkType enables employees to leverage their verbal strengths by speaking their reports and written communications rather than typing them, producing more sophisticated and fluent written work that genuinely reflects their professional ability. Unlike built-in dictation tools which produce frequent errors requiring constant interruption to correct, TalkType's superior accuracy allows employees to dictate entire paragraphs without stopping, preserving their train of thought and enabling genuine flow states. The instant, real-time transcription eliminates the lag characteristic of built-in tools, providing immediate visual feedback that supports working memory and helps maintain coherence throughout longer pieces of work.</p> <p>Cross-platform availability across Windows, Mac, Web, Chromebooks, and mobile devices with consistent voice profile and accuracy enables flexible working wherever employees are most productive. The mobile app allows dictation in diverse environments – while commuting, between meetings, or away from a desk – while seamless integration with tools like Read&Write, MindView, and ClaroRead creates a complete workflow from planning through to review that built-in dictation tools operating in isolation cannot provide.</p>
Recommended final statement	Other dictation tools were considered, including the built-in dictation of the operating system, however TalkType was selected due to its superior accuracy, instant transcription speed, cross-platform compatibility, mobile accessibility, and integration with other assistive technology tools. This combination of features enables the employee to produce written work that genuinely reflects their verbal ability and professional capability.



Dyspraxia

Difficulties with writing or typing

Impairments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Motor coordination difficulties• Slow typing speed• Typing fatigue• Difficulties with fine motor control
Focused recommendation	<p>This individual has dyspraxia, which significantly impacts their ability to type quickly and accurately. Motor coordination difficulties mean that typing is slow, effortful, and tiring, creating a substantial barrier to producing written work. The physical demands of finding keys, coordinating finger movements, and maintaining typing rhythm consume considerable cognitive resources and cause physical fatigue. As a result, they may produce less written output than colleagues, not because of limited understanding or ideas, but simply because the physical act of typing is so demanding. This can place them at a disadvantage in roles where written output is regularly required.</p>
How TalkType helps	<p>TalkType enables employees to leverage their verbal strengths by speaking their reports and written communications rather than typing them, producing more sophisticated and fluent written work that genuinely reflects their professional ability. Unlike built-in dictation tools which produce frequent errors requiring constant interruption to correct, TalkType's superior accuracy allows employees to dictate entire paragraphs without stopping, preserving their train of thought and enabling genuine flow states. The instant, real-time transcription eliminates the lag characteristic of built-in tools, providing immediate visual feedback that supports working memory and helps maintain coherence throughout longer pieces of work.</p> <p>Cross-platform availability across Windows, Mac, Web, Chromebooks, and mobile devices with consistent voice profile and accuracy enables flexible working wherever employees are most productive. The mobile app allows dictation in diverse environments - while commuting, between meetings, or away from a desk - while seamless integration with tools like Read&Write, MindView, and ClaroRead creates a complete workflow from planning through to review that built-in dictation tools operating in isolation cannot provide.</p>
Recommended final statement	<p>Other dictation tools were considered, including the built-in dictation of the operating system, however TalkType was selected due to its superior accuracy, instant transcription speed, cross-platform compatibility, mobile accessibility, and integration with other assistive technology tools. This combination of features enables the employee to produce written work that genuinely reflects their verbal ability and professional capability.</p>



Dysgraphia

Difficulties with writing or typing

Impairments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Difficulties with written expression• Slow writing or typing speed• Poor handwriting legibility• Motor coordination challenges
Focused recommendation	<p>This individual has dysgraphia, which significantly affects their ability to produce written work through typing or handwriting. The motor planning and execution difficulties characteristic of dysgraphia mean that typing is slow, effortful, and error-prone. This creates a substantial barrier in the workplace, as written output is required across a wide range of roles and responsibilities. The cognitive resources required to manage the physical act of typing detract from higher-order thinking about content, and the slow pace of production means the employee requires significantly more time than colleagues to produce equivalent quantities of written work.</p>
How TalkType helps	<p>TalkType removes the motor execution barrier by transforming speech into text, allowing employees to produce written work at speaking speed - typically 5 to 10 times faster - while concentrating their cognitive resources solely on content rather than mechanics. Unlike standard dictation tools that often generate numerous errors requiring typed corrections, TalkType's superior accuracy enables employees to work independently with minimal keyboard input. Its instant transcription feature eliminates lag, offering immediate visual feedback that supports working memory and maintains coherent output throughout longer pieces of work.</p> <p>With compatibility across Windows, Mac, Web, Chromebooks, and mobile devices, TalkType ensures consistent, high-quality dictation regardless of location or device. The mobile app allows employees to capture ideas and create work from anywhere without the need for formal desk setups.</p> <p>Seamless integration with Read&Write, ClaroRead, and MindView supports a comprehensive workflow - incorporating mind mapping for planning, dictation for drafting, and text-to-speech for reviewing - something that built-in dictation tools cannot achieve when used in isolation.</p>
Recommended final statement	<p>Other dictation tools were considered, including the built-in dictation of the operating system, however TalkType was selected due to its superior accuracy, instant transcription speed, cross-platform compatibility, mobile accessibility, and integration with other assistive technology tools. This combination of features enables the employee to produce written work efficiently without the motor coordination challenges associated with typing.</p>



Physical Disability

Difficulties with writing or typing

Impairments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limited mobility or dexterity in hands/arms• Chronic pain when typing• Repetitive strain injuries• Fatigue from sustained keyboard use• Reduced range of motion
Focused recommendation	<p>This individual has a physical disability that limits their ability to type effectively. Whether due to reduced mobility, chronic pain, repetitive strain injury, or other physical barriers, typing is difficult, uncomfortable, or unfeasible. This creates a significant barrier in the workplace, as written output is required across most roles and day-to-day responsibilities. The physical demands of sustained typing can cause pain, exacerbate existing conditions, and lead to fatigue that affects the employee's overall wellbeing and ability to perform their role.</p>
How TalkType helps	<p>TalkType eliminates the physical demands of typing entirely by enabling text production through speech, removing the need for keyboard interaction, sustained hand and arm positioning, and repetitive finger movements. Unlike built-in dictation tools which produce frequent errors requiring typed corrections – reintroducing the very physical demands employees were trying to avoid – TalkType's superior accuracy ensures minimal correction is needed, genuinely removing the typing barrier whilst instant transcription provides immediate visual feedback without the lag that can be problematic for longer tasks.</p> <p>Cross-platform compatibility across Windows, Mac, Web, Chromebooks, and mobile devices ensures consistent, high-quality dictation regardless of location or setup, enabling employees to work from wherever they're most comfortable – whether that's at a standard desk, in a wheelchair, using specialist positioning equipment, or any arrangement that accommodates their physical needs. The mobile app allows flexible device positioning in any comfortable orientation, whilst integration with voice control software enables complete hands-free computing for navigation, formatting, and file management that built-in dictation tools cannot provide.</p>
Recommended final statement	<p>Other dictation tools were considered, including the built-in dictation of the operating system, however TalkType was selected due to its superior accuracy, instant transcription speed, cross-platform compatibility, mobile accessibility, and integration with other assistive technology tools. This combination of features enables the employee to produce written work efficiently without the physical demands and pain associated with typing.</p>



ADHD

Concentration deficits affecting written output

Impairments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attention difficulties• Difficulties maintaining focus on writing tasks• Racing thoughts that outpace typing ability• Working memory challenges• Hyperfocus on mechanics rather than content
Focused recommendation	<p>This individual has ADHD, which significantly impacts their ability to produce written work efficiently. Attention difficulties mean they can struggle to maintain focus during the slow, deliberate process of typing, leading to incomplete work or output that doesn't reflect their true capability. Their thoughts often move faster than they can type, resulting in ideas being lost before they can be captured. The working memory demands of simultaneously holding ideas in mind while managing the motor task of typing creates cognitive overload, and they may find themselves focused on the mechanics of writing – spelling, grammar, key selection – rather than the substance of their work.</p>
How TalkType helps	<p>TalkType allows employees to speak their work at the speed of thought – 120-150 words per minute compared to typing speeds of 30-40 words per minute – enabling them to capture ideas immediately before they disappear or are displaced by new thoughts. By removing the motor and spelling demands of typing, TalkType frees up cognitive resources to focus solely on content and structure, enabling flow states without constant interruption from mechanical concerns. Unlike built-in dictation tools which produce frequent errors requiring correction – each interruption risking complete derailment of thought for people with ADHD – TalkType's superior accuracy with instant, lag-free transcription minimises disruptions, allowing sustained momentum to complete substantial pieces of work.</p> <p>Cross-platform compatibility across Windows, Mac, Web, Chromebooks, and mobile devices enables employees to work wherever and whenever they're experiencing optimal focus rather than being constrained to specific locations, whilst the mobile app allows immediate capture of ideas during commutes, walks, or any moment inspiration strikes, supporting work in short focused bursts rather than sustained desk-based sessions. Integration with mind mapping tools like MindView creates seamless transitions between planning, drafting, and reviewing that support sustained engagement and reduce the friction that can trigger distraction or task abandonment.</p>
Recommended final statement	<p>Other dictation tools were considered, including the built-in dictation of the operating system, however TalkType was selected due to its superior accuracy, instant transcription speed, cross-platform compatibility, mobile accessibility, and integration with other assistive technology tools. This combination of features enables the employee to capture their thoughts at the speed of thinking and produce written work that reflects their true professional capability.</p>



Mental Health Conditions

Difficulties with written output

Impairments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduced concentration due to anxiety or depression• Cognitive fatigue• Difficulties initiating writing tasks• Working memory impacts• Reduced motivation and energy
Focused recommendation	<p>This individual experiences a mental health condition that impacts their ability to produce written work. Anxiety and/or depression can significantly reduce concentration, making it difficult to maintain focus during the extended periods required for typing reports and documentation. Cognitive fatigue means that even when concentration is possible, the employee may have limited mental energy available, and the demands of typing compete with the cognitive resources needed for content generation. The perceived difficulty of starting and completing typed work can also create a barrier to task initiation, leading to avoidance that further affects performance and confidence.</p>
How TalkType helps	<p>TalkType substantially reduces the cognitive and physical demands of producing written work, with speaking being a more natural, lower-effort mode of expression that requires less executive function to initiate and less sustained concentration to maintain. Where typing a report might require several hours of sustained focus, dictating the same content might take 30–40 minutes, enabling employees to complete tasks during periods of higher energy rather than attempting to sustain effort across multiple low-energy sessions. Unlike built-in dictation tools which produce frequent errors requiring correction – frustrating and demoralising when cognitive resources are already depleted – TalkType’s superior accuracy with instant transcription provides immediate positive feedback, supporting a sense of progress rather than constant setback.</p> <p>Cross-platform compatibility enables flexible working patterns that accommodate the variable nature of mental health conditions – working from home on difficult days, returning to the office when concentration improves – ensuring fluctuations don’t create insurmountable barriers to getting work done. The mobile app allows employees to dictate from wherever they feel most comfortable, capturing ideas during brief windows of energy without needing formal desk setups, whilst integration with other assistive and productivity tools creates a supportive workflow that minimises the friction and decision points that can trigger avoidance.</p>
Recommended final statement	<p>Other dictation tools were considered, including the built-in dictation of the operating system, however TalkType was selected due to its superior accuracy, instant transcription speed, cross-platform compatibility, mobile accessibility, and integration with other assistive technology tools. This combination of features enables the employee to produce written work efficiently without the cognitive demands and sustained effort associated with typing.</p>



Chronic Pain/Fatigue

Difficulties sustaining typing or writing

Impairments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chronic pain conditions (fibromyalgia, arthritis, chronic fatigue syndrome, ME, etc.)• Limited stamina for sustained typing• Pain triggered or exacerbated by keyboard use• Energy conservation needs• Variable day-to-day capability
Focused recommendation	<p>This individual experiences chronic pain and/or fatigue that significantly limits their ability to sustain typing. Whether due to conditions such as fibromyalgia, chronic fatigue syndrome, ME, arthritis, or other chronic conditions, extended keyboard use either triggers pain or consumes limited energy reserves needed for other essential activities. The physical demands of typing are not sustainable for this employee, and attempting to produce written work through typing can lead to symptom flares, extended recovery periods, or depletion that affects their wellbeing beyond working hours.</p>
How TalkType helps	<p>TalkType eliminates the physical demands of typing entirely, allowing employees to produce written work through speech without triggering pain or consuming physical energy, enabling sustainable working patterns where getting things done doesn't come at the cost of increased pain or extended recovery. The speed advantage is significant - written work requiring 3-4 hours of sustained physical effort could be dictated in 30-40 minutes - meaning employees can complete tasks during peak energy windows rather than attempting to sustain effort across multiple depleted sessions. Unlike built-in dictation tools which produce frequent errors requiring typed corrections - reintroducing the physical demands employees were trying to avoid - TalkType's superior accuracy genuinely removes the physical burden, whilst instant transcription reduces working memory demands that can be particularly taxing for those also managing brain fog or cognitive fatigue.</p> <p>Cross-platform compatibility ensures consistent, high-quality dictation regardless of physical capability fluctuations - working from home on lower-energy days, in the office on better days - with the mobile app enabling work in short bursts during windows of higher energy, from any position that minimises physical strain. Integration with voice control software creates pathways to completely hands-free computing for navigation, formatting, and file management, enabling comprehensive accessibility beyond just text production that built-in dictation tools cannot provide.</p>
Recommended final statement	<p>Other dictation tools were considered, including the built-in dictation of the operating system, however TalkType was selected due to its superior accuracy, instant transcription speed, cross-platform compatibility, mobile accessibility, and integration with other assistive technology tools. This combination of features enables the employee to produce written work efficiently without the physical demands, pain, and energy expenditure associated with typing.</p>

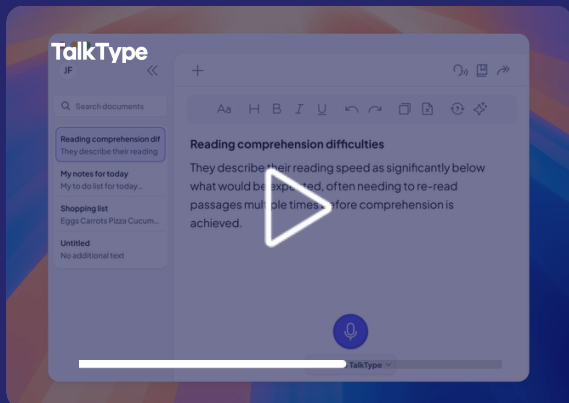


Comparison Guide

Feature	TalkType	Free or in-built solutions
Accuracy	Superior accuracy specifically designed for professional use and diverse speech patterns	Significantly lower accuracy, frequent errors requiring correction
Transcription speed	Instant, real-time transcription with no perceptible lag	Noticeable lag between speech and text appearance
Cross-platform use	Works seamlessly across Windows, Mac, Web, Chromebook, and mobile with consistent performance	Limited to native operating system only
Mobile access	Full-featured mobile app with automatic syncing to desktop	No dedicated mobile app or very limited functionality
Integration with assistive technology	Seamlessly integrates with Read&Write, ClaroRead, MindView, and other AT tools	No integration - operates in isolation
Custom vocabulary	Supports domain-specific and technical terminology, including industry and medical terms	Not supported or very limited
Dictation environment	Works in any application or environment	Often limited to specific applications or requires manual switching
Background noise handling	Advanced audio processing to maintain accuracy in varied environments	Struggles with background noise, significantly reduced accuracy
Ease of use	Intuitive interface designed for educational use	Variable quality, often complex setup required
Technical support	Dedicated support via email or live chat	Limited or no support



Useful Resources



Product Overview

Watch our latest product overview video, and find out how our products can be used for your needs.

User Stories



Find out what our users have to say and why they love TalkType.

For assessors



Click for further information on TalkType for assessors.

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