Dear Prospective Students,

We want to provide you with an important update regarding **voice equipment and the technology we will be using in our November 9 term**.

**An Exciting Development with Case CATalyst**

Our court reporting software, **Case CATalyst**, is currently in the process of a major upgrade that will include **Speechmatics**, a speech recognition technology you may have heard about in the court reporting community.

Case CATalyst has begun beta testing Speechmatics, and we are extremely honored that **our own instructor, Mary Rea, along with many of our high-speed students and graduates, have been selected to participate in the beta testing**.

This is an exciting opportunity for our program and our students. Speechmatics will eventually be integrated into Case CATalyst and will be **available to students at no additional charge**.

Once you move to the professional version of Case CATalyst after completing your student status, there will be an annual fee for the professional software, which will include full technical support. We have heard that the cost may be approximately $1,200 per year, but **that amount has not been finalized, and we do not want you to consider it an official price at this time**.

**What Does This Mean for the November 9 Term?**

At this point, **Speechmatics is not expected to be ready for full implementation when our November 9 term begins**.

Therefore, we will continue to teach primarily using **Dragon Legal** during the November term. We will also introduce instruction and information about Speechmatics as it becomes available.

We are working directly with Case CATalyst to hopefully make the beta version of Speechmatics available to our students sometime during the November term. However, **we do not control the development, testing, or release schedule**, so we cannot guarantee exactly when it will become available.

This means there is a possibility that you may use Dragon for **one term, or perhaps two terms**, and then decide that you would like to transition exclusively to Speechmatics once it is officially released and you are comfortable with it.

**So… Should You Buy Dragon?**

We understand the question you may be asking:

**"If Speechmatics is coming, why would I purchase Dragon?"**

That is a very reasonable question, and we want to be completely transparent with you.

At this time, **the decision is yours**.

You have two options:

**Option 1 – Start November 9**
You can begin the program in November, learn using Dragon, and also become familiar with Speechmatics as it develops. Learning both technologies may ultimately be a tremendous advantage as you move into your court reporting career.

**Option 2 – Wait Until February 22**
If you would prefer to wait until Speechmatics has had more time to develop and you are more comfortable knowing which technology you want to use, you may choose to postpone your start date until February. Based on what we currently know, we are hopeful that Speechmatics will be fully launched by then. However, **we cannot guarantee that timeline**.

We want to emphasize that **we are sharing what we know today, but technology development schedules can change**. We do not want anyone to feel pressured into making a decision based on information that we cannot guarantee.

**If You Choose to Start November 9**

If you decide that you would like to move forward with the **November 9 start date**, please complete the form below.

By completing the form, you are acknowledging that:

- You understand that **Dragon Legal will be the primary voice technology used at the beginning of the November term**.
- You understand that Speechmatics is currently being beta tested and may become available during the term.
- You understand that the timing of the Speechmatics release is **not controlled by Tri-Community Adult School**.
- You understand that you may choose to use Dragon for one or more terms before transitioning to Speechmatics.

- You understand that purchasing Dragon now is **your decision**, based on the information currently available.
- You understand that Speechmatics may not be available on the timeline we currently anticipate.

**[CLICK HERE TO CONFIRM THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE WITH THE NOVEMBER START DATE OR WOULD LIKE TO WAIT UNTIL THE FEBRUARY START DATE.]**

We are incredibly excited about the possibilities that Speechmatics may bring to voice court reporting, and we are equally excited that our program has been selected to participate in this process.

Most importantly, we want you to have the information you need to make the decision that is **right for you**.

We look forward to welcoming our next group of students—and we are excited to see where this technology takes the profession!

Warmly,

Carrie Ravenscroft
Program Coordinator
Tri-Community Adult School
Court Reporting Program