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## ABSTRACT

This directory lists sources for the funding of assistive technology for people with disabilities. Introductory information urges determination of what assistive technology is needed and the gathering of all necessary information (such as primary and secondary disabilities, employment history, income and expenses, and health insurance) prior to contacting a funding source or preparing a justification statement. Sources of funding are listed by state within the following broad categories: state technology assistance projects, state protection and advocacy agencies, and other sources of information (brief descriptions of 17 print sources). Usually provided for each listing are: organization name, address, phone numbers (voice, TTY, and fax), email, and Web site. (Contains 17 references.) (DB)

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Informed Consumer Guide to Information in Funding Assistive Technology

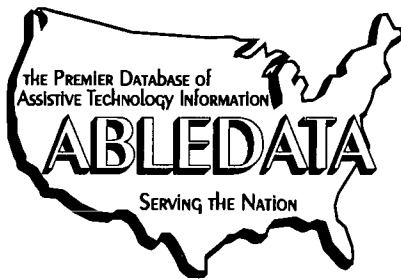
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## ABLEDATA, America's Premier Source for Assistive Technology Information

# Informed Consumer Guide to Information on Funding Assistive Technology\*

October 2001

### Introduction

With the advent of new technology, more and more options exist to enable persons with disabilities to live independently, to achieve higher levels of education, to participate in activities of the workplace, and to engage in hobbies and recreational activities. With the awareness of the existence of technology, persons with disabilities and their families expect access to that technology.

However, attempting to fulfill those expectations often leads to frustration as individuals seek financial assistance to purchase needed devices. Consumers and families are often confronted with a seemingly impenetrable maze of eligibility requirements, potential funding sources, restrictions, paperwork, rules and regulations, and denials and refusals. This Informed Consumer Guide attempts to provide sources of information to help negotiate that maze.

### Getting Started

Before trying to find the appropriate funding source, there are two basic steps to take to lay the groundwork. First, determine what assistive technology is needed. For those with long-term disability, it is likely that the types of devices needed are already familiar; it may well be that the situation is one in which the user is seeking to replace old or outdated technology. In this case, the consumer needs to determine the specific item required (make, model, manufacturer, etc.) and from where it will be purchased. Consultation with a therapist, physician, or rehabilitation professional may be required to determine necessary features to accommodate changes in disability and/or ability levels. Once those determinations are made, acquire a prescription for the device. For parents of children with disabilities or for those who are newly disabled, consultation with medical and rehabilitation professionals is the essential first step in the process.

The second step is the gathering of information. Whether assistance is sought from an insurance company, a community organization, a government agency, or another resource, organized information is critical. Having the following available will help alleviate frustration and unnecessary delays:

- ✓ Primary Disability
- ✓ Time of Onset
- ✓ Cause of Disability
- ✓ Secondary Disability

- ✓ Time of Onset of Secondary Disability
- ✓ Cause of Secondary Disability
- ✓ Employment History
- ✓ Family Gross Income
- ✓ Monthly Expenses (rent or mortgage payments, utilities, outstanding loans and bills, medical expenses, etc.)
- ✓ Health Insurance Information
- ✓ Names, Ages, and Relationship of Dependents

### Preparing a Justification Statement

Before any funds are actually appropriated, some funding sources require the applicant to prepare a justification statement. This is particularly true for government programs. When the funding source is a public or private insurance policy, either the expected beneficiary, a physician, or a therapist usually must submit a statement indicating the medical necessity of the purchase.

State vocational rehabilitation agencies normally insist that anyone applying for funds must be able to clearly demonstrate that the service or technology will enhance their ability to prepare for, get, or keep a job. If employment is not an expected outcome, then the justification statement must show that the device will improve the individual's ability to function independently.

Often local school districts will pay for devices and auxiliary aids used in the classroom. However, parents must first be prepared to demonstrate how the device will enhance their child's ability to obtain an appropriate education in the least restrictive environment possible.

Other funding sources will have their own specific requirements. Success in securing funding is frequently dependent on the applicant's ability to address each agency's unique requirements in a funding request.

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*Information for Independence*

\*This Guide replaces the July 1998 version of Funding Assistive Technology.

## Sources of Funding Assistance and Information

A variety of projects and agencies offer funding-related information. Some are national in scope, while others are state-specific. The following listings provide a starting point.

### State Technology Assistance Projects

Each state and territory in the U.S. has a Technology Assistance project that has up-to-date information on assistive technology resources for that state. Some projects have compiled lists of funding resources available in their states.

#### Alabama

Statewide Technology Access and Response (STAR)  
System for Alabamians with Disabilities  
Alabama Dept. of Rehabilitation Services  
2125 East South Blvd., P.O. Box 20752  
Montgomery, AL 36120-0752  
V: 800/782-7656 (in state only); 334/613-3480.  
TTY: 334/613-3519.  
Fax: 334/613-3485.  
E-mail: [tbridges@rehab.state.al.us/star](mailto:tbridges@rehab.state.al.us/star).  
Web: <http://www.rehab.state.al.us/star>.

#### Alaska

Alaska Assistive Technology Project  
Department of Education  
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Assistive Technologies of Alaska  
1016 West 6th St., Suite 205  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
V: 800/478-4378 (in state only); 907/269-3570.  
TTY: 800/898-0138 (in state only); 907/563-0153.  
Fax: 907/269-3632.  
E-mail: [james\\_beck@labor.state.ak.us](mailto:james_beck@labor.state.ak.us).  
Web: <http://www.labor.state.ak.us/at/index.htm>.

#### American Samoa

American Samoa Assistive Technology Service (ASATS)  
Project  
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Department of Human Resources  
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799  
V: 011/684/699-1529 (V).  
TTY: 011/684/233-7874.  
Fax: 011/684/699-1376.  
E-mail: [edperei@yahoo.com](mailto:edperei@yahoo.com).

#### Arizona

Arizona Technology Access Program (AzTAP)  
Northern Arizona University  
4105 N. 20th Street, Suite 260  
Phoenix, AZ 85016  
V: 800/477-9921 (in state only); 602/728-9534.  
TTY: 602/728-9536.  
Fax: 602/728-9353.  
E-mail: [jill.oberstein@nau.edu](mailto:jill.oberstein@nau.edu).  
URL: <http://www.nau.edu/ihd/aztap.html>.

#### Arkansas

Arkansas Increasing Capabilities Access Network (ICAN)  
Department of Education/Vocational Education Division  
Arkansas Rehabilitation Services  
2201 Brookwood Drive, Suite 117  
Little Rock, AR 72202  
V/TTY: 800/828-2799 (in state only); 501/666-8868.  
Fax: 501/666-5319.  
E-mail: [aehurst@ars.state.ar.us](mailto:aehurst@ars.state.ar.us).  
Web: <http://www.arkansas-ican.org>.

#### California

California Assistive Technology System (CATS)  
Department of Rehabilitation  
P.O. Box 944222  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2220  
Voice: 916/263-8687.  
TTY: 916/263-8685.  
Fax: 916/263-8683.  
E-mail: [info@atnet.org](mailto:info@atnet.org).  
Web: <http://www.atnet.org>.

#### Colorado

Colorado Assistive Technology Project  
The Pavilion, A036/B140  
1919 Ogden Street  
Denver, CO 80218  
V: 800/255-3477 (in state only); 303/864-5100.  
TTY: 303/864-5110.  
Fax: 303/864-5119.  
E-mail: [cathy.bodine@uchsc.edu](mailto:cathy.bodine@uchsc.edu).  
Web: <http://www.uchsc.edu/atp/>.

#### Connecticut

Connecticut Assistive Technology Program  
Department of Social Services  
Bureau of Rehabilitation Services  
25 Sigourney St., 11th Floor  
Hartford, CT 06106  
V: 800/537-2549 (in state only); 860/424-4881.  
TTY: 860/424-4839.  
Fax: 860/424-4850.  
E-mail: [Techact@UConnvm.uconn.edu](mailto:Techact@UConnvm.uconn.edu).  
URL: <http://www.techact.uconn.edu>.

#### Delaware

Delaware Assistive Technology Initiative (DATI)  
Center for Applied Science and Engineering  
University of Delaware/A.I. duPont Hospital for Children  
1600 Rockland Road, Room 154  
P.O. Box 269  
Wilmington, DE 19899-0269  
V/TTY: 800/870-DATI (in state only)  
V: 302/651-6790.  
TTY: 302/651-6794.  
Fax: 302/651-6793.  
E-mail: [dati@asel.udel.edu](mailto:dati@asel.udel.edu).  
URL: <http://www.asel.udel.edu/dati/>.

**District of Columbia**

University Legal Services Assistive Technology Program for  
the District of Columbia  
300 I St., NE Suite 202  
Washington, DC 20002  
V: 202/547-0198.  
TTY: 202/546-2657.  
Fax: 202/645-2662.  
E-mail: [atpdc@uls-dc.com](mailto:atpdc@uls-dc.com).  
Web: <http://www.atpdc.org>.

**Florida**

Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology  
(FAAST)  
1020 E. Lafayette St., Suite 110  
Tallahassee, FL 32301-4546  
V/TDD: 800/322-7881 (in state, information and referral only);  
850/487-3278.  
Fax: 850/487-2805.  
E-mail: [faast@faast.org](mailto:faast@faast.org).  
Web: <http://www.faast.org>.

**Georgia**

Tools for Life  
Department of Labor/Tools for Life  
Vocational Rehabilitation Program  
1700 Century Circle B-4  
Atlanta, Georgia 30345  
Voice: 800/497-8665 (in state only); 404/657-3084;  
TTY: 404/657-3085.  
Fax: 404/657-3086.  
E-mail: [102476.1737@compuserve.com](mailto:102476.1737@compuserve.com).  
URL: <http://www.gatfl.org/>.

**Guam**

Guam System for Assistive Technology (GSAT)  
University of Guam  
University Affiliated Program on Developmental Disabilities  
UOG Station  
303 University Drive, House # 19 Dean's Circle  
Mangilao, GU 96923  
Voice: 011/671/735-2493.  
TTY: 011/671/734-8378.  
Fax: 011/671/734-5709.  
E-mail: [gsat@ite.net](mailto:gsat@ite.net).  
Web: <http://www.uog.edu/uap/gsat.html>.

**Hawaii**

Assistive Technology Resource Centers of Hawaii (ATRC)  
414 Kuwili St., Suite 104  
Honolulu, HI 96817  
V/TTY: 800/645-3007 (in state only); 808/532-7110.  
Fax: 808/532-7120.  
E-mail: [atrc@atrc.org](mailto:atrc@atrc.org).  
Web: <http://www.atrc.org>.

**Idaho**

Idaho Assistive Technology Project  
Idaho Center on Developmental Disabilities  
University of Idaho  
Professional Building  
129 West Third Street  
Moscow, ID 83844-4401  
V/TT: 800/432-8324 (in state only); 208/885-3559.  
Fax: 208/885-3628.  
E-mail: [seile861@uidaho.edu](mailto:seile861@uidaho.edu).  
Web: <http://www.ets.uidaho.edu/idatech/>.

**Illinois**

Illinois Assistive Technology Project  
1 W. Old State Capital Plaza, Suite 100  
Springfield, IL 62701  
V/TTY: 800/852-5110 (in state only).  
V: 217/522-7985.  
TTY: 217/522-9966.  
Fax: 217/522-8067.  
E-mail: [iatp@fgi.net](mailto:iatp@fgi.net).  
Web: <http://www.iltech.org>.

**Indiana**

ATTAIN: Assistive Technology Through Action in INdiana  
2346 South Lynhurst Drive  
Airport Office Centre Suite 507  
Indianapolis, IN 46241  
V: 800/528-8246 (in state only); 317/486-8808.  
Fax and TTY: 317/486-8809.  
E-mail: [attain@attaininc.org](mailto:attain@attaininc.org).  
Web: <http://www.attaininc.org>.

**Iowa**

Iowa Program for Assistive Technology  
University of Iowa, University Hospital School  
100 Hawkins Drive, Room S295  
Iowa City, IA 52242-1011  
V: 800/331-3027; 319/356-0550.  
TTY: 877/686-0032.  
Fax: 319/356-8284.  
E-mail: [infotech@uiowa.edu](mailto:infotech@uiowa.edu).  
Web: <http://www.uiowa.edu/infotech/>.

**Kansas**

Assistive Technology for Kansans  
University of Kansas  
University Affiliated Program at Parsons Assistive  
Technology Center  
2601 Gabriel, P.O. Box 738  
Parsons, KS 67357  
V/TTY: 800/526-3648 (in state only); 316/421-8367.  
Fax: 316/421-0954.  
E-mail: [ssack@ku.edu](mailto:ssack@ku.edu).  
Web: <http://www.atk.lsi.ukans.edu>.

**Kentucky**

Kentucky Assistive Technology Service (KATS) Network  
Kentucky Department for the Blind  
KATS Network Coordinating Center  
8412 Westport Road  
Louisville, KY 40242  
V/TTY: 800/327-5287 (in state only); 502/327-0022.  
Fax: 502/327-9974.  
E-mail: [katsnet@iglou.com](mailto:katsnet@iglou.com).  
Web: <http://www.katsnet.org>.

**Louisiana**

Louisiana Assistive Technology Access Network (LATAN)  
P.O. Box 14115  
3042 Old Forge Road, Suite B  
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-4115  
V/TTY: 800/270-6185 (in state only); 225/925-9500.  
Fax: 225/925-9560.  
E-mail: [jnesbit@latan.com](mailto:jnesbit@latan.com).  
Web: <http://www.latan.org>.

**Maine**

Maine Consumer Information and Technology Training  
Exchange (Maine CITE)  
Maine CITE Coordinating Center  
University of Maine System Network  
46 University Drive  
Augusta, ME 04330  
V: 207/621-3195.  
TTY: 207/621-3482.  
Fax: 207/621-3193.  
E-mail: [iweb@doe.k12.me.us](mailto:iweb@doe.k12.me.us).  
Web: <http://www.maine cite.org>.

**Maryland**

Maryland Technology Assistance Program (MTAP)  
2301 Argonne Drive  
Baltimore, MD 21218-1696  
V/TTY: 800/832-4827 (in state only); 410/554-9230.  
Fax: 410/554-9237.  
E-mail: [info@mdtap.org](mailto:info@mdtap.org).  
Web: <http://www.mdtap.org>.

**Massachusetts**

MATP Center  
Children's Hospital  
1295 Boylston Street, Suite 310  
Boston, MA 02215  
V/TTY: 800/848-8867 (in state only).  
V: 617/355-7153.  
TTY: 617/355-7301.  
Fax: 617/355-6345.  
E-mail: [matp@matp.org](mailto:matp@matp.org).  
Web: <http://www.matp.org>.

**Michigan**

Michigan Assistive Technology Project  
740 West Lake Lansing Road, Suite 400  
Lansing, MI 48823  
V/TTY: 800/760-4600; 517/333-2477.  
Fax: 517/333-2677.  
E-mail: [kdwyeth@match.org](mailto:kdwyeth@match.org).  
Web: <http://www.copower.org>.

**Minnesota**

System of Technology to Achieve Results (STAR)  
Governor's Advisory Council on Technology for People with  
Disabilities  
300 Centennial Building  
658 Cedar Street, Room 360  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
V: 800/657-3862 (in state only); 612/296-2771.  
TTY: 800/657-3895 (in state only); 612/296-8478.  
Fax: 612/282-6671.  
E-mail: [star.program@state.mn.us](mailto:star.program@state.mn.us).  
URL: <http://www.admin.state.mn.us/assistivetechology/>.

**Mississippi**

Project START - Success Through Assistive/Rehabilitative  
Technology  
Department of Rehabilitation Services  
P.O. Box 1698  
Jackson, MS 39215  
V/TTY: 800/852-8328 (in state only); 601/987-4872.  
Fax: 601/364-2349.  
E-mail: [spower@mdrs.state.ms.us](mailto:spower@mdrs.state.ms.us).

**Missouri**

Missouri Assistive Technology Project  
Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations  
4731 South Cochise, Suite 114  
Independence, MO 64055-6975  
V: 800/647-8557 (in state only); 816/373-5193.  
TTY: 800/647-8558 (in state only).  
Fax: 816/373-9314.  
E-mail: [matpmo@qni.com](mailto:matpmo@qni.com).  
Web: <http://www.dolir.state.mo.us/matp/>.

**Montana**

MonTECH  
Rural Institute on Disabilities  
The University of Montana  
634 Eddy Avenue  
Missoula, MT 59812  
V/TTY: 800/732-0323 (in state only); 406/243-5676.  
Fax: 406/243-4730.  
E-mail: [montech@selway.umt.edu](mailto:montech@selway.umt.edu).  
Web: <http://ruralinstitute.umt.edu/HDC/montech.htm>.

**Nebraska**

Nebraska Assistive Technology Partnership  
5143 South 48th Street, Suite C  
Lincoln, NE 68516-2204  
V/TTY: 888/806-6287 (in state only); 402/471-0734.  
Fax: 402/471-6052.  
E-mail: [mschultz@atp.state.ne.us](mailto:mschultz@atp.state.ne.us).  
Web: <http://www.nde.state.ne.us/ATP/TECHome.html>.

**Nevada**

Nevada Assistive Technology Collaborative  
Rehabilitation Division  
Community-Based Services  
711 South Stewart Street  
Carson City, NV 89710  
V: 775/687-4452.  
TTY: 775/687-3388.  
Fax: 775/687-3292.  
E-mail: [pgowins@govmail.state.ne.us](mailto:pgowins@govmail.state.ne.us).  
Web: [http://detr.state.nv.us/rehab/reh\\_pgbs.htm#State](http://detr.state.nv.us/rehab/reh_pgbs.htm#State)  
Assistive Technology Act Program.

**New Hampshire**

New Hampshire Assistive Technology Partnership  
Institute on Disability/UAP  
10 Ferry Street, Unit 14. Suite 317/318  
Concord, NH 03301  
V/TT: 800/238-2048 (in state only); 603/224-0630.  
Fax: 603/226-0389 (Fax).  
E-mail: [sonke.domblut@unh.edu](mailto:sonke.domblut@unh.edu).  
Web: <http://iod.unh.edu/projects/assist.htm#nhatpp>.

**New Jersey**

New Jersey Technology Assistive Resource Program (TARP)  
210 South Broad Street, Third Floor  
Trenton, NJ 08608  
V: 800/342-5832 (in state only); 609/777-0945.  
TTY: 609/633-7106.  
Fax: 609/777-0187.  
E-mail: [advoca@njpanda.org](mailto:advoca@njpanda.org).  
Web: <http://www.njpanda.org/tarp/index.html>.

**New Mexico**

New Mexico Technology-Related Assistance Program  
(NMTAP)  
435 Saint Michaels Drive, Building D  
Santa Fe, NM 87505  
V: 800/866-2253; 505/827-3532.  
TTY: 800/659-4915 (in state only); 505/827-3587.  
Fax: 505/954-8562.  
E-mail: [aklaus@state.nm.us](mailto:aklaus@state.nm.us).  
Web: <http://www.nmtap.com>.

**New York**

New York State Office of Advocate for Persons with  
Disabilities  
TRAID Project  
One Empire State Plaza, Suite 1001  
Albany, NY 12223-1150  
V/TTY: 800/522-4369 (in state only).  
V: 518/474-2825.  
TTY: 518/473-4231.  
Fax: 518/473-6005.  
E-mail: [traid@nysnet.net](mailto:traid@nysnet.net)  
Web: [http://www.advoc4disabled.state.ny.us/TRAID\\_Project/technlog.htm](http://www.advoc4disabled.state.ny.us/TRAID_Project/technlog.htm).

**North Carolina**

North Carolina Assistive Technology Project  
North Carolina Department of Human Resources  
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services  
1110 Navaho Drive, Suite 101  
Raleigh, NC 27609-7322  
V/TT: 919/850-2787.  
Fax: 919/850-2792.  
E-mail: [rickic@mindspring.com](mailto:rickic@mindspring.com).  
Web: <http://www.mindspring.com/~ncatp>.

**North Dakota**

North Dakota Interagency Program for Assistive Technology  
(IPAT)  
P.O. Box 743  
Cavalier, ND 58220  
V/TT: 800/265-4728; 701/265-4807.  
Fax: 701/265-3150.  
E-mail: [jlee@polarcomm.com](mailto:jlee@polarcomm.com).  
Web: <http://www.ndipat.org/>.

**Northern Mariana Islands**

CNMI System of Technology-Related Assistance for  
Individuals with Disabilities (STRAID)  
CNMI Governor's Developmental Disabilities Council  
Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands  
P.O. Box 502565  
Saipan, MP 96950-2565  
V/TTY: 011/670/664-7000.  
Fax: 011/670-664-7030.  
E-mail: [clamkin@cnmiddcouncil.org](mailto:clamkin@cnmiddcouncil.org).  
Web: <http://www.cnmiddcouncil.org/atstarid/atflash.htm>.

**Ohio**

Ohio Project on Technology-Related Assistance for  
Individuals  
J.L. Camera Center  
2050 Kenny Road, 9th Floor  
Columbus, OH 43221  
V/TTY: 800/784-3425 (in state only).  
V: 614/292-2426.  
TTY: 614/292-3162.  
Fax: 614/292-5866.  
E-mail: [atohio@osc.edu](mailto:atohio@osc.edu).  
Web: <http://www.atohio.org>.

**Oklahoma**

Oklahoma ABLE Tech  
Oklahoma State University  
1514 West Hall of Fame  
Stillwater, OK 74078  
V/TTY: 800/257-1705 (in state only); 405/744-9748.  
Fax: 405/744-7670.  
E-mail: [mljwell@okstate.edu](mailto:mljwell@okstate.edu).  
Web: <http://okabletech.okstate.edu/>.

**Oregon**

Technology Access for Life Needs  
Oregon Disabilities Commission  
3070 Lancaster Drive NE  
Salem, OR 97305  
V/TTY: 800/677-7512 (in state only); 503/361-1201.  
Fax: 503/370-4530.  
E-mail: [ati@orednet.org](mailto:ati@orednet.org).  
Web: <http://www.taln.org/>.

**Pennsylvania**

Pennsylvania's Initiative on Assistive Technology (PIAT)  
Temple University  
Institute on Disabilities/UAP  
Ritter Annex, Room 433  
Philadelphia, PA 19122  
V: 800/204-7428 (in state only).  
TTY: 800/750-7428 (in state only).  
Fax: 215/204-9371.  
E-mail: [piat@astro.temple.edu](mailto:piat@astro.temple.edu).  
Web: [http://www.temple.edu/inst\\_disabilities/piat/](http://www.temple.edu/inst_disabilities/piat/).

**Puerto Rico**

Puerto Rico Assistive Technology Project  
Universidad de Puerto Rico  
Recinto de Ciencias Médicas  
Colegio de Profesiones Relacionados con la Salud  
PO Box 365067  
San Juan, PR 00936-5067  
V/TTY: 800/496-6035 (in U.S.); 800/981-6033 (in Puerto Rico).  
TTY: 787/754-8034.  
Fax: 787/759-3645.  
E-mail: [pratp@rcmad.upr.clu.edu](mailto:pratp@rcmad.upr.clu.edu).  
Web: <http://www.pratp.org>.

**Rhode Island**

Rhode Island Assistive Technology Access Partnership (ATAP)  
Rhode Island Department of Human Services  
Office of Rehabilitation Services  
40 Fountain Street  
Providence, RI 02903-1898  
V: 800/916-8324 (in state only); 401/421-7005;  
401/272-7990 (Cambodian); 401/272-8090 (Spanish).  
TTY: 401/421-7016.  
Fax: 401/421-9259.  
E-mail: [reginac@ors.state.ri.us](mailto:reginac@ors.state.ri.us).  
Web: <http://www.atap.state.ri.us/>.

**South Carolina**

South Carolina Assistive Technology Program (SCATP)  
USC School of Medicine  
Center for Disability Resources  
Columbia, SC 29208  
V/TTY: 800/922-1107 (in state only); 803/935-5263.  
Fax: 803/935-5342.  
E-mail: [jjendron@usit.net](mailto:jjendron@usit.net).  
Web: <http://www.sc.edu/scatp/>.

**South Dakota**

DakotaLink  
1925 Plaza Boulevard  
Rapid City, SD 57702  
V/TTY: 800/645-0673 (in state only); 605/394-1876.  
E-mail: [atinfo@tie.net](mailto:atinfo@tie.net).  
Web: <http://dakotalink.tie.net/>.

**Tennessee**

Tennessee Technology Access Project  
Cordell Hull Bldg, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
425 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243  
V: 800/732-5059 (in state only); 615/531-3122.  
TTY: 615/741-4566.  
Fax: 615-532-4685.  
E-mail: [tmap@mail.state.tn.us](mailto:tmap@mail.state.tn.us).  
Web: <http://www.state.tn.us/mental/tmap.htm>.

**Texas**

Texas Assistive Technology Partnership Project  
University of Texas at Austin  
Texas University Affiliated Program  
SZB 252-D5100  
Austin, TX 78712-1290  
V/TTY: 800/828-7839 (in state only).  
V: 512/471-7621.  
TDD: 512/471-1844.  
Fax: 512/471-7549.  
E-mail: [techaccess@teachnet.edb.utexas.edu](mailto:techaccess@teachnet.edb.utexas.edu).  
Web: <http://tatp.edb.utexas.edu/>.

**U.S. Virgin Islands**

U.S. Virgin Islands Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities (TRAID)  
University of the Virgin Islands/University Affiliated Program  
#2 John Brewer Bay  
St. Thomas, VI 00801-0990  
V: 340/693-1323.  
Fax: 340/693-1325.  
E-mail: [yhabtes@uvi.edu](mailto:yhabtes@uvi.edu).  
Web: <http://www.uvi.edu/pub-relations/viuapindx.htm>.



**Utah**

Utah Assistive Technology Program (UATP)  
Utah State University  
Center for Persons with Disabilities  
6588 Old Main Hill  
Logan, UT 84322-6588  
V/TTY: 435/797-7089.  
V: 435/797-3824.  
Fax: 435/797-2355.  
E-mail: [judith@cpd.usu.edu](mailto:judith@cpd.usu.edu).  
Web: <http://www.uatpat.org>.

**Vermont**

Vermont Assistive Technology Project  
103 South Main Street  
Weeks Building, First Floor  
Waterbury, VT 05671-2305  
V/TTY: 800/639-1522 (in state only); 802/241-2620.  
Fax: 802/241-2174.  
E-mail: [mikell@dad.state.vt.us](mailto:mikell@dad.state.vt.us).  
Web: <http://www.dad.state.vt.us/atp/>.

**Virginia**

Virginia Assistive Technology System (VATS)  
Department of Rehabilitative Services  
8004 Franklin Farms Drive  
P.O. Box K-300  
Richmond, VA 23288-0300  
V/TTY: 800/435-8490 (in state only); 804/662-9990.  
Fax: 804/662-9478.  
E-mail: [knorrkh@drs.state.va.us](mailto:knorrkh@drs.state.va.us).  
Web: <http://www.vats.org>.

**Washington**

Washington Assistive Technology Alliance (WATA)  
University of Washington  
Center for Technology and Disability Studies  
CHDD South Building, Room 104  
P.O. Box 357920  
Seattle, WA 98195-7920  
V/TTY: 800/841-8345 (in state only).  
V: 206/685-4181.  
TTY: 206/616-1396.  
Fax: 206/543-4779.  
E-mail: [uwctds@u.washington.edu](mailto:uwctds@u.washington.edu)  
Web: <http://wata.org>

**West Virginia**

West Virginia Assistive Technology System (WVATS)  
WVUCED  
Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center  
955 Hartman Run Road  
Morgantown, WV 26505  
V/TTY: 800/841-8436 (in state only); 304/293-4692.  
Fax: 304/293-7294.  
E-mail: [jstewart@wvu.edu](mailto:jstewart@wvu.edu).  
Web: <http://www.ced.wvu.edu/wvats/>.

**Wisconsin**

Wis Tech  
Wisconsin Assistive Technology Program  
Division of Supportive Living  
P.O. Box 7851  
1 W. Wilson Street, Room 450  
Madison, WI 53707  
V: 608/266-1794.  
TTY: 608/267-9880.  
Fax: 608/267-3203.  
E-mail: [abbey@dhfs.state.wi.us](mailto:abbey@dhfs.state.wi.us).  
Web: <http://www.wistech.org>.

**Wyoming**

Wyoming's New Option in Technology (WYNOT)  
University of Wyoming  
1465 North 4th Street, Suite 111  
Laramie, WY 82072  
V/TTY: 800/861-4312 (in state only); 307/766-2084.  
Fax: 307/721-2084.  
E-mail: [wynot.uw@uwyo.edu](mailto:wynot.uw@uwyo.edu).  
Web: <http://wind.uwyo.edu/wynot/>.

**For further information on any state technology assistance project, contact that project at the number or e-mail address given or visit the project's Internet site where available.**

## State Protection and Advocacy Agencies

Most states also have a protection and advocacy agency (P&A) that provides assistance to persons with disabilities in accessing appropriate programs and services.

### Alabama

Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program  
P.O. Box 870395  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0395  
V/TTY: 800/826-1675.  
E-mail: ADAP@law.ua.edu.  
Web: <http://www.adap.net/>.

### Alaska

Disability Law Center of Alaska  
615 East 82nd, Suite 101  
Anchorage, AK 99518  
907/344-1002

### Arizona

*Tuscon*  
Arizona Center for Disability Law  
3131 North Country Club, No. 100  
Tuscon, AZ 85716  
V/TTY: 800/922-1447.

or

*Phoenix*  
3839 N. 3rd Street, Suite 209  
Phoenix, AZ 85012  
V/TTY: 800/927-2260.  
E-mail: center@acdl.com.  
Web: <http://www.acdl.com/>.

### Arkansas

Advocacy Services, Inc.  
1100 North University, Suite 201  
Little Rock, AR 72207  
V/TTY: 800/482-1174  
E-mail: panda@arkdisabilityrights.org.  
Web: <http://www.arkdisabilityrights.org/>.

### California

Protection and Advocacy, Inc.  
100 Howe Avenue, Suite 235N  
Sacramento, CA 95825-9968  
V/TTY: 800/776-5746  
E-mail: taymour@pai-ca.org.  
Web: <http://www.pai-ca.org/>.

### Colorado

The Legal Center  
*Denver*  
455 Sherman Street, Suite 130  
Denver, CO 80203  
V/TTY: 800/288-1376

or

*Grand Junction*  
2829 North Avenue, Suite 205  
Grand Junction, CO 81501-1501  
V/TTY: 800/531-2105  
E-mail: tlcmail@thelegalcenter.org.  
Web: <http://www.thelegalcenter.org/>.

### Connecticut

Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with  
Disabilities  
60B Weston St.  
Hartford, CT 06120-1551  
V/TTY: 800/842-7303  
E-mail: HN2571@earthlink.net.  
Web: <http://www.state.ct.us/opapd/>.

### Delaware

Disabilities Law Program  
913 Washington Street  
Wilmington, DE 19801  
V/TTY: 302/575-0660  
E-mail: BJHartman@diamondnet.org.

### District of Columbia

University Legal Services/P&A  
300 I Street NE, Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20002  
202/547-0198

### Florida

The Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities  
2671 Executive Center Circle West, Suite 100  
Tallahassee, FL 32301-5092  
V: 800/342-0823  
TTY: 800/346-4127  
E-mail: info@advocacycenter.org.  
Web: <http://www.advocacycenter.org/>.

### Georgia

Georgia Advocacy Office, Inc.  
100 Crescent Center Parkway, Suite 520  
Tucker, GA 30084  
V/TTY: 800/537-2329  
E-mail: info@thegao.org.  
Web: <http://thegao.org/>.

### Guam

Guam Legal Services  
113 Bradley Place  
Hagatha, Guam 69610  
671/477-9811  
E-mail: glsc@netpci.com.

**Hawaii**

Hawaii Disability Rights Center  
 900 Fort Street Mall, Suite 1040  
 Honolulu, HI 96813-9607  
 V/TDD: 800/882-1057  
 E-mail: [pahi@pixi.com](mailto:pahi@pixi.com).  
 Web: <http://www.pixi.com/~pahi/>.

**Idaho**

Comprehensive Advocacy, Inc.  
 4477 Emerald Street, Suite B-100  
 Boise, ID 83706  
 V/TTY: 208/336-5353  
 E-mail: [coadinc@qwest.net](mailto:coadinc@qwest.net).  
 Web: <http://users.moscow.com/co-ad/>.

**Illinois**

Equip for Equality, Inc.  
*Springfield*  
 426 East Monroe, Suite 302  
 Springfield, IL 62705  
 V/TTY: 800/758-0464  
 or  
*Chicago*  
 11 E/ Adams, Suite 1200  
 Chicago, IL 60603  
 V: 800/537-2632.  
 TTY: 800/610-2779  
 or  
*Rock Island*  
 1612 Second Ave.  
 P.O. Box 3753  
 Rock Island, IL 61204  
 V/TTY: 800/758-6869.  
 E-mail: [contactus@equipforequality.org](mailto:contactus@equipforequality.org).  
 Web: <http://www.equipforequality.org/>.

**Indiana**

Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services  
 4701 N. Keystone Avenue, No. 222  
 Indianapolis, IN 46205-1554  
 V/TTY: 800/622-4845  
 E-mail: [tgallagher@ipas.state.in.us](mailto:tgallagher@ipas.state.in.us).

**Iowa**

Iowa Protection and Advocacy Services  
 3015 Merle Hay Road, Suite 6  
 Des Moines, IA 50310  
 V/TTY: 800/779-2502.  
 E-mail: [info@ipna.org](mailto:info@ipna.org).  
 Web: <http://www.ipna.org/>.

**Kansas**

Kansas Advocacy and Protective Services, Inc.  
 3745 Southwest Wanamaker Road  
 Topeka, KS 66510  
 V/TTY: 785/273-9661  
 E-mail: [info@ksadv.org](mailto:info@ksadv.org).  
 Web: <http://www.ksadv.org/>.

**Kentucky**

Department for Public Advocacy  
 Protection and Advocacy Division  
 100 Fair Oaks Lane, 3rd Floor  
 Frankfort, KY 40601  
 V: 502/564-2967  
 TTY: 800/372-2988  
 E-mail: [mfitzgerald@mail.pa.state.ky.us](mailto:mfitzgerald@mail.pa.state.ky.us).

**Louisiana**

Advocacy Center  
 225 Baronne St., Suite 2112  
 New Orleans, Louisiana 70112-1724  
 V/TTY: 800/960-7705  
 E-mail: [advocacycenter@advocacyla.org](mailto:advocacycenter@advocacyla.org).  
 Web: <http://www.advocacyla.org/>.

**Maine**

Maine Disability Rights Center  
 P.O. Box 2007  
 Augusta, ME 04338-2007  
 V/TTY: 800/452-1948.  
 E-mail: [Advocate@drcme.org](mailto:Advocate@drcme.org).  
 Web: <http://www.drcme.org/>.

**Maryland**

Maryland Disability Law Center  
 The Walbert Building, Suite 400  
 1800 North Charles Street  
 Baltimore, MD 21201  
 V: 800/233-7221  
 TTY: 410/727-6387  
 E-mail: [philf@mdlcbalto.org](mailto:philf@mdlcbalto.org).  
 Web: <http://www.mdlcbalto.org/>.

**Massachusetts**

Disability Law Center, Inc.  
 11 Beacon St., No. 925  
 Boston, MA 02108  
 V: 800/872-9992.  
 TTY: 800/381-0577.  
 E-mail: [mail@dlc-ma.org](mailto:mail@dlc-ma.org).  
 Web: <http://www.dlc-ma.org/>.

**Michigan**

Michigan Protection and Advocacy Service  
 106 West Allegan, No. 210  
 Lansing, MI 48933-1706  
 V/TTY: 800/288-5923  
 E-mail: [molson@mpas.org](mailto:molson@mpas.org).  
 Web: <http://www.mpas.org/>.

**Minnesota**

Minnesota Disability Law Center  
 300 Kickernick Building  
 430 First Avenue, North, No. 300  
 Minneapolis, MN 55401-1780  
 V: 800/292-4150.  
 TTY: 612/332-4668.  
 E-mail: [selliot@midmnlegal.org](mailto:selliot@midmnlegal.org).  
 Web: <http://www.mnlegalservices.org/mdlc/>.

**Mississippi**

Mississippi Protection and Advocacy System for  
 Developmental Disabilities  
 5330 Executive Place, Suite A  
 Jackson, MS 39206  
 V/TTY: 601/981-8207  
 E-mail: [mstpna@bellsouth.net](mailto:mstpna@bellsouth.net).

**Missouri**

Missouri Protection & Advocacy Services  
 925 South Country Club Drive, Unit B-1  
 Jefferson City, MO 65109  
 V: 800/392-8667  
 E-mail: [mopasjc@socket.net](mailto:mopasjc@socket.net).  
 Web: <http://members.socket.net/~mopasjc/MOP&A.htm>.

**Montana**

Montana Advocacy Program  
 P.O. Box 1681  
 400 North Park, 2nd Floor  
 Helena, MT 59624  
 V/TT: 800/245-8743  
 E-mail: [advocate@mtadv.org](mailto:advocate@mtadv.org).  
 Web: <http://www.mtadv.org/>.

**Nebraska**

Nebraska Advocacy Services, Inc.  
 522 Lincoln Center Building  
 215 Centennial Mall South  
 Lincoln, NE 68508  
 V/TTY: 402/474-3183  
 E-mail: [nas@navix.net](mailto:nas@navix.net).

**Nevada**

Nevada Disability Advocacy and Law Center  
 6039 Eldora, Suite C - Box 3  
 Las Vegas, NV 89146  
 V: 888/349-3843  
 TTY: 702/257-8160  
 E-mail: [ndalc@ndalc.org](mailto:ndalc@ndalc.org).  
 Web: <http://www.ndalc.org/>.

**New Hampshire**

Disabilities Rights Center, Inc.  
 P.O. Box 3660  
 18 Low Avenue  
 Concord, NH 03302-3660  
 V/TT: 603/228-0432  
 E-mail: [advocacy@drcnh.org](mailto:advocacy@drcnh.org).  
 Web: <http://www.drcnh.org/>.

**New Jersey**

New Jersey Protection and Advocacy, Inc.  
 210 S. Broad St., 3rd Floor  
 Trenton, NJ 08608  
 V: 800/922-7233  
 TTY: 609/633-7106  
 E-mail: [advoca@njpanda.org](mailto:advoca@njpanda.org).  
 Web: <http://www.njpanda.org/>.

**New Mexico**

Protection and Advocacy System, Inc.  
 1720 Louisiana Blvd., NE, No. 204  
 Albuquerque, NM 87110  
 800/432-4682  
 E-mail: [nmpanda@nmprotection-advocacy.com](mailto:nmpanda@nmprotection-advocacy.com).  
 Web: [www.nmprotection-advocacy.com](http://www.nmprotection-advocacy.com).

**New York**

New York State Commission on Quality of Care  
 for the Mentally Disabled  
 401 State Street  
 Schenectady, New York 12305-2397  
 V/TTY: 800/624-4143  
 E-mail: [marcelc@cqc.state.ny.us](mailto:marcelc@cqc.state.ny.us).  
 Web: <http://www.cqc.state.ny.us/>.

**North Carolina**

Governor's Advocacy Council for Persons with Disabilities  
 1314 Mail Service Center  
 Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1314  
 800/821-6922  
 E-mail: [gacpd@ncmail.net](mailto:gacpd@ncmail.net).  
 Web: <http://www.doa.state.nc.us/doa/gacpd/gacpd.htm>.

**North Dakota**

North Dakota Protection and Advocacy Project  
 400 East Broadway, Suite 616  
 Bismark, ND 58501-4073  
 V: 800/472-2670  
 TTY: 800/366-6888  
 E-mail: [panda@state.nd.us](mailto:panda@state.nd.us).  
 Web: <http://www.ndpanda.org>.

**Northern Marianas Islands**

Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy System, Inc.  
 P.O. Box 503529  
 Saipan, MP 96950-3529  
 670/235-7274  
 E-mail: [ibarcinasp&a@saipan.com](mailto:ibarcinasp&a@saipan.com).

**Ohio**

Ohio Legal Rights Service  
 8 E. Long St., 5th Floor  
 Columbus, OH 43215  
 V/TTY: 800/282-9181  
 E-mail: [OLRS\\_Email@olrs.state.oh.us](mailto:OLRS_Email@olrs.state.oh.us).  
 Web: <http://www.state.oh.us/olrs/>.

**Oklahoma**

Oklahoma Disability Law Center, Inc.  
300 Cameron Bldg.  
2915 Classen Blvd.  
Oklahoma City, OK 73106  
V/TT: 800/880-7755  
E-mail: [odlcokc@flash.net](mailto:odlcokc@flash.net).  
Web: <http://www.flash.net/~odlcokc/>.

**Oregon**

Oregon Advocacy Center  
620 SW Fifth Ave., 5th Floor  
Portland, OR 97204-1428  
V: 800/452-1694  
TTY: 800/556-5351  
E-mail: [welcome@oradvocacy.org](mailto:welcome@oradvocacy.org).  
Web: <http://www.oradvocacy.org/>.

**Pennsylvania**

Pennsylvania Protection and Advocacy Inc.  
11414 North Cameron Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17103  
V/TTY: 800/692-7443.  
E-mail: [ppa@ppainc.org](mailto:ppa@ppainc.org).  
Web: <http://www.ppainc.org/>.

**Puerto Rico**

Office of the Ombudsman for People with Disabilities  
P.O. Box 41309  
San Juan, PR 00940-1309  
V: 787/725-2333

**Rhode Island**

Rhode Island Disability Law Center  
349 Eddy Street  
Providence, RI 02903  
V: 800/733-5332  
TTY: 401/831-5335

**South Carolina**

Protection and Advocacy For Persons with Disabilities, Inc.  
3710 Landmark Dr., Suite 208  
Columbia, SC 29204  
V/TTY: 800/922-5225  
E-mail: [info@protectionandadvocacy-sc.org](mailto:info@protectionandadvocacy-sc.org).  
Web: <http://www.protectionandadvocacy-sc.org/>.

**South Dakota**

South Dakota Advocacy Services  
221 South Central Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501  
V/TTY: 800/658-4782  
E-mail: [sdas@sdadvocacy.com](mailto:sdas@sdadvocacy.com).  
Web: <http://www.sdadvocacy.com/>.

**Tennessee**

Tennessee Protection and Advocacy, Inc.  
P.O. Box 121257  
Nashville, TN 37212  
V: 800/287-9636  
TTY: 615/298-2471  
E-mail: [shirleys@tpainc.org](mailto:shirleys@tpainc.org).  
Web: <http://www.tpainc.org/>.

**Texas**

Advocacy Inc.  
7800 Shoal Creek Boulevard, No. 171-E  
Austin, TX 78757-1024.  
V/TTY: 800/252-9108.  
E-mail: [infoai@advocacyinc.org](mailto:infoai@advocacyinc.org).  
Web: <http://www.advocacyinc.org/>.

**Utah**

Disability Law Center  
455 East 400 South, Suite 410  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111  
V/TTY: 800/662-9080  
E-mail: [info@disabilitylawcenter.org](mailto:info@disabilitylawcenter.org).  
Web: <http://www.disabilitylawcenter.org/>.

**Vermont**

Vermont Protection and Advocacy  
141 Main Street, Suite 7  
Montpelier, VT 05602  
V: 800/834-7890  
TTY: 802/229-2603  
E-mail: [info@vtpa.org](mailto:info@vtpa.org).  
Web: <http://www.vtpa.org/>.

**U.S. Virgin Islands**

Virgin Islands Advocacy  
*St. Croix*  
63 Estate Cane Carlton, Frederiksted,  
St. Croix, VI 00840  
*St. Thomas*  
9003 Havensight Mall, Suite 313,  
St. Thomas, VI 00802  
V/TTY: 340/772-4641  
E-mail: [viadvocacy@worldnet.att.net](mailto:viadvocacy@worldnet.att.net).  
Web: <http://www.viadvocacy.org/>.

**Virginia**

Department for Rights of Virginians with Disabilities  
202 N. 9th Street, 9th Floor  
Richmond, VA 23219  
V/TTY: 800/552-3962  
E-mail: [wareka@drvd.state.va.us](mailto:wareka@drvd.state.va.us).  
Web: <http://www.cns.state.va.us/drvd/>.

## Washington

Washington Protection and Advocacy System  
180 West Dayton, Suite 102  
Edmonds, WA 98020  
V: 800/562-2702  
TTY: 800/905-0209  
E-mail: [wpas@wpas-rights.org](mailto:wpas@wpas-rights.org).  
Web: <http://www.wpas-rights.org/>.

## West Virginia

West Virginia Advocates, Inc.  
Litton Building, 4th Floor  
1207 Quarrier St.  
Charleston, WV 25301  
V/TTY: 800/950-5250.  
E-mail: [wvadvocates@newwave.net](mailto:wvadvocates@newwave.net).  
Web: <http://www.wvadvocates.org>.

## Wisconsin

Wisconsin Coalition for Advocacy  
*Madison*  
16 N. Carroll Street, No. 400  
Madison, WI 53703  
V/TTY: 800/928-8778  
or  
*Milwaukee*  
2040 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 678  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233  
V/TTY: 800/708-3034  
E-mail: [lorip@w-c-a.org](mailto:lorip@w-c-a.org).  
Web: <http://www.w-c-a.org/>.

## Wyoming

Wyoming Protection and Advocacy System, Inc.  
320 West 25th Street, 2nd Floor  
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001  
307/632-3496  
E-mail: [wypanda@vcn.com](mailto:wypanda@vcn.com).  
Web: <http://wypanda.vcn.com>.

## Other Sources of Information

**National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC)**  
<http://www.naric.com>

NARIC maintains an extensive collection of printed material pertaining to the procurement and utilization of assistive technology. The following documents from the NARIC library have been selected as being particularly useful for people searching for assistive device funding. Some of the publications are available on the Internet. Paper copies of most documents are available at a nominal charge. NARIC's contact information follows:

NARIC  
1010 Wayne Ave., Suite 800  
Silver Spring, MD 20910.  
V: 800/346-2742  
TTY: 301/495-5626  
<http://www.naric.com>.

1. "Resources for People with Disabilities: A National Directory, 2nd Edition," from Ferguson Publishing. 2001. NARIC Accession Number R08177.

Among the many resources listed in this 2-volume directory are a wide variety of funding sources.

2. "Building an Initial Information Base: Assistive Technology Funding Resources for School-aged Students with Disabilities," C.E. Kemp, J.J. Hourcade, H.P. Parette. In *Journal of Special Education Technology*, Vol. 15 No. 4 (2000), pp. 15-24. NARIC Accession Number J41710.

This article provides an overview for Individualized Education Program (IEP) teams on obtaining funding for assistive technology (AT) for students with disabilities. The article describes a number of AT funding resources, including basic eligibility requirements, and offers suggestions for making successful claims, including documentation. Funding sources discussed include the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Medicaid programs, the Developmental Disabilities and Assistance and Bill of Rights Act Amendments of 1987, vocational rehabilitation (VR) programs, and private insurance.

3. "Funding of Assistive Technology: State Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies and Their Obligation to Maximize Employment," by Ronald M. Hager, Esq. National Assistive Technology Advocacy Project, Neighborhood Legal Services Inc. 1999. NARIC Accession Number: O13195. Available online at <http://www.nls.org/vrbooklt.htm>.

This booklet contains key information on funding assistive technology through the health system. This publication covers important topics of critical importance to individuals with disabilities who are entering the workforce including students transitioning from school, assistive technology for the college student, and the availability of assistive technology.

4. "Funding of Assistive Technology: Work Incentives for Persons with Disabilities Under the Social Security and SSI Programs - Using the Work Incentives to Fund AT and Make Work a Reality," by James R. Sheldon, Jr., Esq. Neighborhood Legal Services. NARIC Accession Number O13343. Available online at: <http://www.nls.org/wkboklet.htm>.

This booklet presents a detailed discussion of the work incentives available under the Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) programs, with an emphasis on using work incentives as a tool to fund assistive technology (AT). Topics discussed include: disincentives such as the \$700 Substantial Gainful Employment (SGA) rule and the Continuing Disability Review (CDR); avoiding the \$700 SGA rule in the SSDI program through income averaging and deductions; the trial work period; continuing eligibility for Medicare, and the right to buy in after eligibility ends; Sections 1619(a) and 1619(b); earned income exclusions in calculating the SSI check; Ticket to Work/Work Incentives Improvement Act (WIIA) provisions; and the SSI Plan for Achieving Self Support (PASS).

5. "Assistive Technology: Public Policy And Financing," by Steven B. Mendelsohn. In **Technology and Disability**, Vol. 6 (1997) pp. 29- 48. NARIC Accession Number J33328.

This article addresses the fact that the independent living movement may be making inroads into policy but change in practice is moving more slowly. Likewise, although assistive technology concerns have been incorporated into legislation, the delivery system continues to be inaccessible in many ways. Financing is still one of the major problems in accessing technology. Sources of funding are described as well as a variety of creative approaches to filling the gaps in funding.

6. "(Just About) Everything You Ever Needed To Know About Assistive Technology - Whether You're An Individual With A Disability, Employer, Or A Rehabilitation Professional," by D. Siskaa, S. Mendolsohn, R.I. Silbert. In **Employment In The Mainstream**, November/ December 1996 (pp. 5-13). NARIC Accession Number J32756.

In addition to providing excellent commentary on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the TECH act, this article does a superb job of addressing some of the common concerns that disabled individuals, employers, and rehabilitation counselors have about purchasing assistive technology. Simple and straightforward check lists are also included alongside detailed funding strategies to make the funding allocation process less intimidating.

7. "Loan Financing For Assistive Technology: Strategies For Development, Current Programs, And Recommendations For The Future," by Joseph F. Wallace, Kenneth H. Knorr. In **Technology and Disability**, Vol. 5 (1996) pp. 255-265. NARIC Accession Number J32742.

This article highlights the need for and the impact of loan financing programs for the acquisition of assistive technology. The importance of consumer involvement in all aspects of program development and operation are emphasized. An in-depth review of the potential that loan financing holds for persons with disabilities is provided through a discussion of the need for alternative financing strategies, an analysis of the results of the *National Research of Loan Financing Strategies*, and a sample of loan financing programs for assistive technology in operation in 1996.

8. "Tips On Breaking The Funding Barrier: How To Get Assistive Technology For Your Child," by J. A. Craddock, D. McNeal, N. Somerville, D. J. Wilson. Rancho Los Amigos Medical Center, Los Amigos Research and Education Institute. 1995. NARIC Accession Number: R07088

This pamphlet is an excellent guide for parents attempting to attain assistive technology for their children. Specifically, it offers advice from other parents on how to get started, where to look for money, and what to do when applying for funding. Places to contact for more information or for help are included throughout and telephone numbers are listed at the end of the pamphlet in a "Resources" section.

9. "Funding And Assistive Technology," by A System of Technology to Achieve Results (STAR). State of Minnesota, Governor's Advocacy on Technology for People with Disabilities. 1996. NARIC Accession Number: O12188N

The arduous task of obtaining funding for assistive technology can be a frustrating and exhausting experience for anyone. This brochure was designed essentially to minimize anxiety for newcomers to the funding allocation game. It highlights funding options and contact information and provides a concise and informative discussion of an individual's rights and entitlements in regards to education, employment, and independent living.

10. "Funding For Assistive Technology And Related Services: An Annotated Bibliography," by A. Enders. Missoula, MT. Rural Institute on Disabilities. Revised 1994. 30p. NARIC Accession Number: R06666. Available from: Montana University Affiliated Rural Institute on Disabilities, University of Montana, 52 Corbin Hall, Missoula, MT 59812. 406/243-5467. Cost \$4.50.

This bibliography is a thorough review of relevant literature up to 1994. It is primarily oriented towards finding funding for an individual's assistive technology. However, suggestions on where and how to find funding for technology programs, program grants, and service delivery models are given in the final section.

## Worth Reading

1. "Work Incentives for Persons with Disabilities under Social Security and SSI Programs: Using the Work Incentives to Fund AT and Make Work a Reality" by James R. Sheldon, Jr., Esq. National Assistive Technology Advocacy Project Neighborhood Legal Services, Inc., Buffalo, NY. December 1999.

Using the most common sources for assistive technology funding like Social Security or Medicaid is a general rule, but don't overlook using work incentives for financial assistance. To ensure a complete understanding of some familiar resources and the policies to obtain funding, this booklet discusses the differences between Medicare and Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income and Social Security. It also illustrates how devices needed for everyday use can correlate in to a work related expense that may be deductible.

2. "The Public School's Special Education System as a Funding Source: The Cutting Edge," By Ronald M. Hager, Esq. National Assistive Technology Advocacy Project Neighborhood Legal Services, Inc., Buffalo, NY. June, 1999

This booklet is for attorneys and advocates seeking quick and detailed information on assistive technology funding through the education system. It gives an outlined description of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and it's regulations and assistive technology funding requirements. Supreme Court decisions are also presented, expressing the

public school's special education system obligation to provide students with disabilities assistive technology devices in school and in the home.

3. "Financing Assistive Technology: AT Purchased for Students Receiving Special Education Services Can Be Used to Facilitate Transition into Adult Services and Productive Adult Life," by Steve Mendelsohn, Esq. and Susan Goodman, Esq. In **The AT Messenger**, January/February/March 1999. Available online at: <http://www.asel.udel.edu/dati/ATmessenger/janfebmar99/financing.html>.

This article discusses a regulatory interpretation by the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) in the U.S. Department of Education that as students transit from special education programs to adult life, the assistive devices purchased for their use by education systems may be transferred to rehabilitation systems to facilitate the transition from school to work.

4. "Reimbursement Trends in Assistive Technology," by Jean L. Minkel, MA, P.T. In **RehabManagement**, February/March 1997 (pp. 37-39).

This is an excellent article, addressed primarily toward health care providers, that talks about factors third party payers consider when determining whether or not to pay for an assistive device, and it talks about the kinds of questions health care providers should be asking themselves when recommending devices to clients or patients.

5. "Financing Assistive Technology: A Handbook for Rehabilitation Professionals," by Ana Torres-Davis; Vera R. Jackson, D.S.W., ACSW; Donald W. Dew, Ed.D., CRC. George Washington University. 1992. Available online at: <http://trace.wisc.edu/archive/fintech/fintech.html>.

Though written in 1992, this on-line handbook continues to provide a valuable overview of assistive technology funding opportunities and options. Some of the information is outdated, but the book remains useful.

6. "Practical Funding For Assistive Technology: Getting the Device You Really Need," By Diane C. Smith, Esq. In **Don't Get Mad, Get Powerful, A Manual for Building Advocacy Skills**, (1986), Mary L. Hines, Michigan Protection and Advocacy Service, Inc., Lansing MI.

Strong self-advocacy skills can make a big difference when it comes to securing funding for assistive technology. This article tackles some general funding obstructions and discusses the "essential elements" needed to succeed. A six-step process is also presented to illustrate the importance of heightening one's ability to express his/her assistive technology needs effectively.

#### 7. **Exceptional Parent Magazine.**

This excellent monthly publication always seems to have helpful information for parents about locating financial resources

to get the products and services needed by their children with disabilities. Check out their web site at <http://www.eparent.com>.

### ***Combating Common Funding Excuses . . .***

A. "*You've Got To Be Kidding: We Are Not Going To Fund That*," by Lewis Golinker, Assistive Technology and Systems Change Project. September 1991 - revised April 1995.

The subtitle to this article is "Common funding 'excuses' given in response to requests for funding of computers and environmental control devices in the major funding programs," and it lists all of the common excuses given by funding sources, as well as suggested arguments to combat those excuses! It is available through the Assistive Technology Funding and Systems Change Project (see above for the address).

B. "*You Want Us To Fund That, Too?*" also by Lewis Golinker (1995). Same availability as previous article.

This article addresses the "common excuses" used to deny funding through Medicaid, special education, vocational rehabilitation, and private insurance companies, and suggests arguments to combat those excuses.

C. "*Common Funding Excuses — Home Modifications*," by Lewis Golinker (1995).

Similar to the articles above, but this one deals specifically with home modification requests to various agencies.

D. "*Assistive Technology Funding by Private Health Care Reimbursement Sources*," by Lewis Golinker (1995).

This article describes the types of private health insurance available, how to review your own health plan for assistive technology coverage information, and how private health plans commonly respond to requests for assistive technology.

### **The Key To Successful Funding**

While beginning the search for funding can be intimidating, the key to success is information, both general and knowing agency requirements. An agency's decision to grant funding for assistive technology is often contingent upon an applicant's knowledge of the process, determination, and preparation. Before beginning to explore their funding options, individuals should be able to identify any special needs and the assistive technology needed to meet them. Time should also be taken to become familiar with potential funding sources, their eligibility requirements, necessary paperwork, and payment policies. Most importantly, applicants should select funding sources in accordance with their needs and be able to justify the funding request to meet the agency's goals.

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