



Creating Independence

An Introduction to Assistive Technology



Illinois Assistive Technology Program

www.iltech.org

800-852-5110 v/tty



What's up . . . what we'll cover

Define Assistive Technology
Benefits of Assistive Technology
Selecting Assistive Technology
The Illinois Assistive Technology Program
IATP Projects
Resources



Assistive Technology Device

Any item, piece of equipment or product system, whether acquired commercially off the shelf, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities.

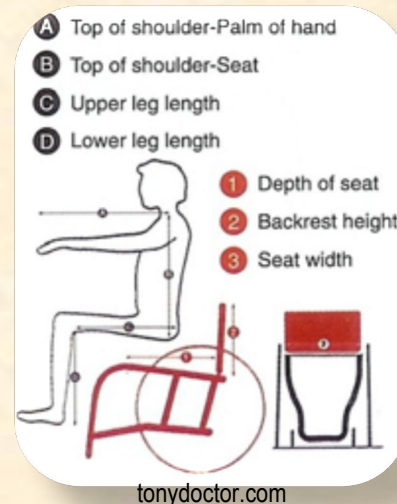


Assistive Technology Service

Any service that directly assists an individual with a disability in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device.



www.healthtrainingguide.com





It's All Assistive. . .



www.mrtoys.com

Clocks & wrist watches

Wheelchairs

Forks, knives & spoons

Braille printers

Shoes with Velcro rather than laces

Hearing aids

iPad

Communication devices



www.texthelp.com



Benefits of Assistive Technology

School age children remain in regular classroom

Adults & children stay in own home

Reduce dependence on family members & paid assistants

Participate in the community

Participate in activities

Promotes independence



www.udservices.org



[cdrlibraryblog](#)

Considerations for Choosing Technology

Personal

Ease of use/Training

Access

Maintenance/Repair

Financial



System of Selection

Start with lowest tech solution available

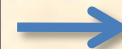
Work upward only when the lower tech device
doesn't work



www.stepforward123.com

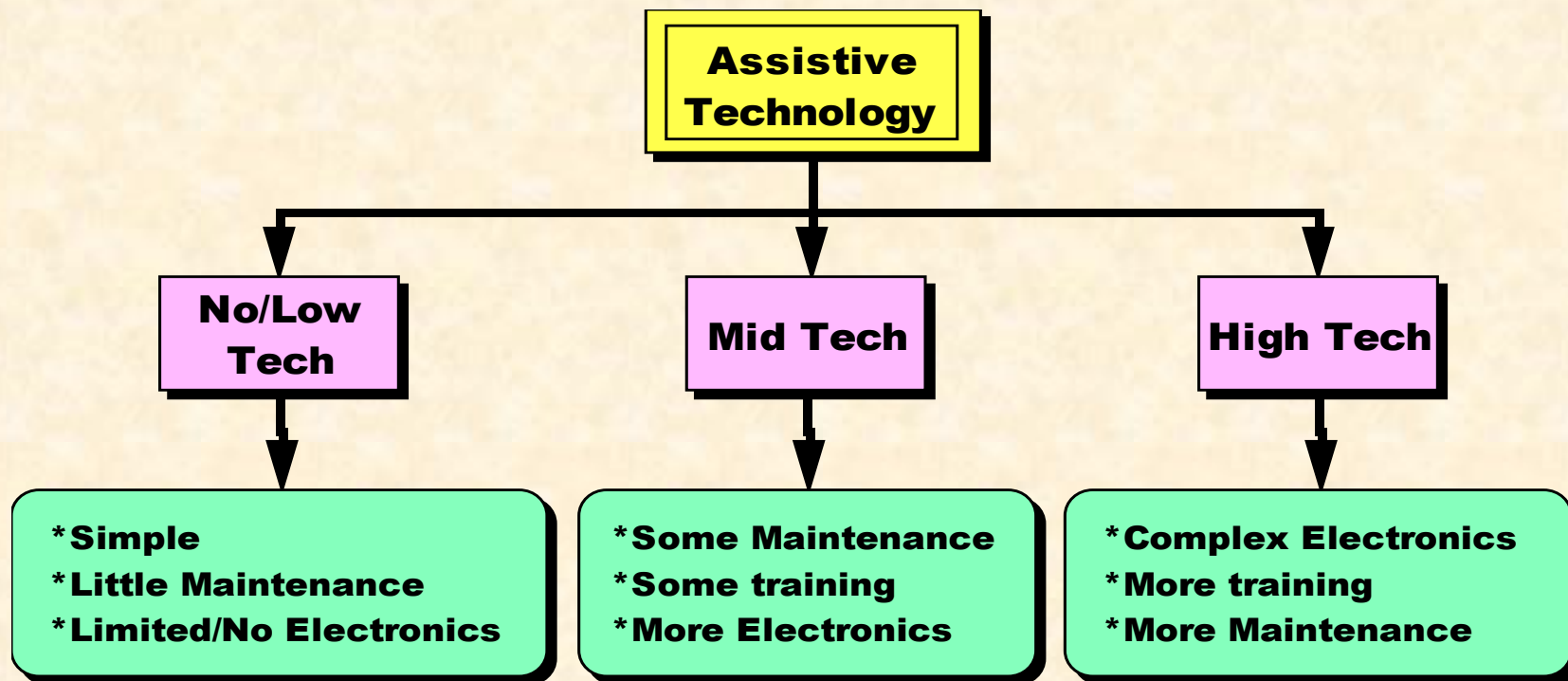


www.bigkeys.com



www.shopping.com

Continuum from No/Low Tech to High Tech





Who is IATP?

The Illinois Assistive Technology Program (IATP) is a not-for-profit agency that promotes the availability of assistive technology (AT) devices and services for people with disabilities. IATP serves all people with disabilities in the state of Illinois, their families, service providers, state agencies, private industry, educators, and other interested individuals, regardless of age or income.



What does IATP do?



www.audiogear.com

Demonstration Center

Device Loans

AT Assessments

School Based AT/AAC Assessments

AT Reuse & Reutilization

Financial Loans

IEP Support

WIPA

Training

ICAT

Website & Facebook



www.enablingdevices.com



Demonstration Center

- Located in Springfield
- Showcases a variety of AT
- Provides hands-on exploration of AT
- Resource information available
- If you can't come to us, we can bring it to you





Device Loan

IATP loans devices to:

- Determine compatibility between user & device
- Use as a backup while waiting for repair
- Conduct evaluations by therapists

Device loans are for 5 weeks & are available to anyone in Illinois



AT Assessments

ATS staff provide:

- AT assessments for DHS/DRS customers, as requested, to identify AT needs
- On-site employment evaluations
- Recommendations for home modifications
- Individualized training
- Follow up services





School Based AT/AAC Assessments

- Provided through a grant from ISBE
- Free to schools
- Suggested devices loaned to schools for trial
- Training provided on AAC & AT as requested



AT Reuse & Reutilization

- Recycling AT
- AT Classifieds
- Donated equipment
- Project with DRS to make used equipment available to VR counselors for customers





Financial Loans



IATP ATLOAN\$ are open to eligible borrowers to purchase AT for daily living and make limited home modifications.

- Credit Builder Loan amounts range from \$250 to \$1,000
- Regular loan amounts from \$1,001 to \$30,000
- Home modification loans restricted to \$5,000
- Terms are based on the life of the item

IEP Support

- Assist parents with IEPs & 504 plans
- Train teachers & parents on IEP process
- Work with college students on getting accommodations
- Need does not have to be AT related



WIPA

- Work Incentives Planning & Assistance Program for individuals receiving SSI/SSDI
- Explains Social Security work incentives and other State & federal benefits
- Open to anyone between age 14 & retirement age receiving Social Security disability benefits who wants to work



Training



- Provides general training on topics related to AT
- Sessions can be customized to fit a group's needs
- Training on AT devices is also provided to individuals through the AT Assessment Project & the School Based AT/AAC Project



Sharing Devices





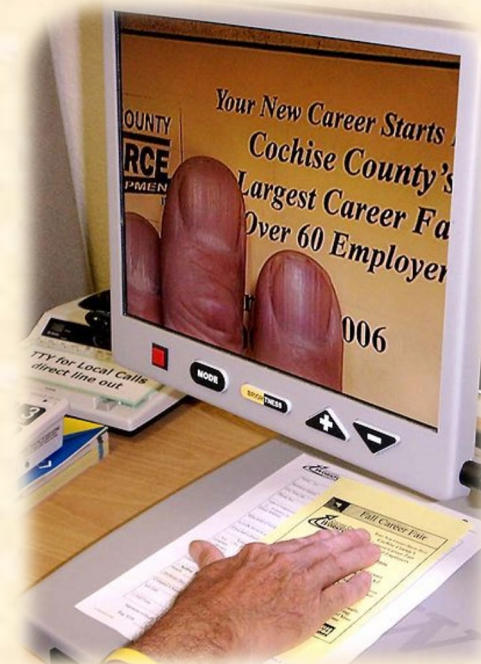
Where Do I Find AT

Contact the Illinois Assistive Technology Program
for information on Assistive Technology

and where to find it

800-852-5110 v/tty

www.iltech.org





Resources

MaxiAids

maxiaids.com 800-522-6294

L S & S

lssproducts.com 800-468-4789

independent living aids

independentliving.com 800-537-2118

enablemart

enablemart.com 888-640-1999

iatp



iatp

