

# Resources



## **CT Tech Act Project's Mission:**

Increasing independence and improving the lives of individuals with disabilities through increased access to Assistive Technology for work, school and community living.

## **What is Assistive Technology?**

AT is any item or piece of equipment that is used to increase, maintain or improve the functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities in all aspects of life, including at school, at work, at home and in the community.

## **Assistive Technology Categories:**

Here are some examples of AT devices that fall under each AT Category.

Communication: communication board with words or pictures, device with voice output, eye gaze systems

Mobility: Walkers, Adapted vehicles, manual wheelchairs, power wheelchairs or scooters

Vision: Magnifiers, large print, Computer screen magnification software, Braille printer

Hearing: Closed Captioning, using pen and paper, TTY, telephone with amplifier, FM System, Hearing Aids

Activities of Daily Living: Adaptive eating utensils or equipment for cooking, grab bars, non-slip materials, adaptive equipment for bathing and dressing, environmental control units, switch operated appliances, electronic door openers

Positioning & Seating: alternative or adaptive chair, non-slip material, custom fitted wheelchair inserts

Recreation: adapted toys, adaptive sports equipment, arm supports for drawing or painting, computer games, and specialized computer software

## **CT Tech Act (CTTAP) Programs include:**

### **AT Exchange**

Access the classifieds online to find new and used Assistive Technology devices for sale or for free.

Log onto [www.getATstuff.com](http://www.getATstuff.com) to search our listings or to post an AT device that you no longer use or need.

You don't have to have a computer to find out what AT devices are on the AT Exchange, just call CTTAP and we'll mail you the listing or post your item for you.

## AT Loan

Depending on the Assistive Technology device or services that you need, costs can be very low or very high. You may be able to use private insurance or public programs like Medicaid, Vocational Rehabilitation or turn to community agencies for funding. If none of these options are available to you, you may have to pay out of pocket.

The CTTAP offers a low-interest loan specifically for the purchase of AT devices or services, to individuals who qualify. Contact us for more information on the AT loan.

## Computer Loan Program for schools

The Computer Loan Program is operated out of Southern Connecticut State University's (SCSU) Center for Adaptive Technology.

### Who is eligible?

Any Connecticut School who is interested in borrowing a laptop, a Mac or a tablet pc may apply.

### Why borrow a laptop?

We want to help students with disabilities get the right Assistive Technology and adaptive software and we want to help schools maximize their funds. Any Connecticut School can borrow a laptop for a student with a disability for the purpose of evaluations, to replace a student's computer while theirs is on order or away for repairs, or to allow a student to try a specific software program, before the school purchases it.

### How long can a school borrow a laptop?

Laptops are available on a first come, first serve basis and a school may borrow the computer for up to 4 months.

### What kind of software is available on the laptops?

Laptops will have Microsoft Office as well as the following common adaptive software:

- Kurzweil 3000
- Word Q
- Co: Writer Solo
- Dragon Naturally Speaking
- Speak Q
- Other adaptive software, by request

For more information or to apply:

Contact SCSU's Center for Adaptive Technology at 203-392-5799.

## **Computer Loan Program for individuals**

This Computer Loan Program is operated out of Southern Connecticut State University's (SCSU) Center for Adaptive Technology and is a long-term loan of a computer with adaptive software.

What is a long-term loan?

A person may borrow the computer with adaptive software or access devices for as long as he or she needs it. If the person no longer requires the device, it must be returned to the program to be loaned out to another eligible individual.

Who is eligible?

Any Connecticut resident who is on one of the state Medicaid Waiver: the Katie Beckett Waiver, the Personal Care Assistance Waiver, the Department of Developmental Services Waiver, the Acquired Brain Injury Wavier or the CT Home Care Program for Elders Waiver.

What kind of software is available on the laptops?

Laptops will have Microsoft Office and will include the adaptive software that the borrower will need, for example,

- Kurzweil 3000
- Word Q
- Co: Writer Solo
- Dragon Naturally Speaking
- Speak Q
- Other adaptive software, by request

For more information or to apply:

Contact SCSU's Center for Adaptive Technology at 203-392-5799.

## **Mimio Loan Program for Schools and other Agencies**

A Mimio device turns any whiteboard into an interactive digital board creating an interactive environment for learning, meetings and brainstorming sessions. Mimios are available for loan for the length of a school year to any Connecticut school system. Any agency interested in applying for this loan may do so and will be considered on an individual basis. This is a free program and training on how to use the Mimio is provided.

## **Other Connecticut Tech Act Project Programs**

Other Connecticut Tech Act Project programs are operated through our partner agencies, such as the NEAT Center in Hartford, Disability Resource Center of Fairfield County, Vision Dynamics, Windham Regional Community Council & SERC. Programs include AT demonstrations, AT device loans, AT recycling and Trainings.

## **[www.CTtechact.com](http://www.CTtechact.com)**

Log onto the CTTAP website to find out more about our programs, learn about various funding sources and community resources. You can locate AT Demonstration sites in Connecticut, get updates and find links to other Assistive Technology resources.

## **For More Information**

Contact the CT Tech Act Project by phone at 860-424-4881, 860-424-4839 (TTY), or toll free (in state) at 800-537-2549 or via email by going to [www.CTtechact.com](http://www.CTtechact.com), and click the link for Contact Us.

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In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, this information is available in alternate formats upon request.