



Assistive technology devices and services defined -- with examples of each

As part of the IEP process, the IDEA requires teams to consider whether a student with a disability needs assistive technology devices or services. 34 CFR 300.324(v).

IDEA's definition of AT devices and services encompasses a wide range of tools and activities. Below, review the language used in the regulations and see examples for each.

<p><i>Assistive technology device means:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● "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 the functional capabilities of a child with a disability. <p>The term does not include a medical device that is surgically implanted, or the replacement of such device."</p> <p>34 CFR 300.5</p>	<p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● FM system. ● Access to a computer with word prediction software. ● Fidget spinners. ● Color overlays. ● Tablet loaded with an augmentative communication app. ● Device to record class lectures. ● Audiobooks. ● Dictation software. ● Large print books. ● Positioning devices. ● Magnification devices. ● Head mouse. ● Alternative keyboards. ● Graphic organizers. ● Closed captioning.
<p><i>Assistive technology service means:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● "any service that directly assists a child with a disability in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device. <p>The term includes--</p> <p>(a) The evaluation of the needs of a child with a disability, including a functional evaluation of the child in the child's customary environment;</p> <p>(b) Purchasing, leasing, or otherwise providing for the acquisition of assistive technology devices by children with disabilities;</p> <p>(c) Selecting, designing, fitting, customizing, adapting, applying, maintaining, repairing, or replacing assistive technology devices;</p>	<p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Evaluating a student's need for assistive technology. ● Teaching a student how to use an online dictation tool to write essays. ● Training a teacher on how to create closed captions for videos she sends home to a student with a hearing impairment. ● Training a student's teachers on how to operate an FM system in the classroom. ● Purchasing a student license for word prediction software. ● Training a parent on how to access a digital library of accessible eBooks for a student at home. ● An occupational therapist training a student's teacher on how to model the use of an augmentative

(d) Coordinating and using other therapies, interventions, or services with assistive technology devices, such as those associated with existing education and rehabilitation plans and programs;

(e) Training or technical assistance for a child with a disability or, if appropriate, that child's family; and

(f) Training or technical assistance for professionals (including individuals providing education or rehabilitation services), employers, or other individuals who provide services to, employ, or are otherwise substantially involved in the major life functions of that child."

34 CFR 300.6

communication device with a student.

- Coordinating with district IT staff to ensure school cybersecurity settings will not block a student from using his assistive technology on his school-issued laptop.

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