Assistive Technology and Devices  
(Including Augmentative and Alternative Communication Devices)

Rights for Children with Disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

Requirements to provide Assistive Technology and Devices

The IEP Team must consider whether the child needs assistive technology devices and services

The school district must ensure that assistive technology services and/or devices are made available if required as part of the child’s
--special education
--related services, or
--supplementary aids and services

34 CFR 300.324(a)(2)(v), 300.105(a)

Requirements to Provide Assistive Technology in the Home

On a case-by-case basis, the use of school-purchased assistive technology devices in a child’s home or in other settings is required if the child’s IEP Team determines that the child needs access to those devices in order to receive FAPE

34 CFR 300.105(b)

Assistive Technology Devices are defined to include:

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.

The term does not include a medical device that is surgically implanted, or the replacement of such device.

34 CFR 300.5

Assistive Technology is defined broadly, to include:

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

♦ An evaluation of the needs of a child with a disability, including a functional evaluation of the child in the child’s customary environment;

♦ Purchasing, leasing, or otherwise providing for the acquisition of assistive technology devices by children with disabilities;

♦ Selecting, designing, fitting, customizing, adapting, applying, maintaining, repairing, or replacing assistive technology devices;

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

♦ Training or technical assistance for a child with a disability or, if appropriate, that child’s family; and

♦ 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