
WHAT IS A.T.?

There are some exceptions, but generally....

A.T. is: equipment, devices, software, or services that assists the individual to function in daily life.

A.T. is: no-tech, low-tech or high-tech and often used to complement or expand other services.

A.T. is: 'Access' to instructional technology, learning or daily life tasks.

A.T. is: 'Adaptations' to technology or the learning environment

A.T. is not: a magic-cure-all nor is it technology in which the individual is "learning" or that "teaches" a skill.



Plainfield Community Consolidated School
District 202 – Assistive Technology Team:

MaryLou Hatley, M.Ed- A.T. Specialist

Bridget Nolan, M.A. - A.T. Specialist

*note- the A.T.Team collaborates with support personnel (such as Occupational Therapists and Speech/Language Pathologists) as needed per assessment.

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PLAINFIELD COMMUNITY
CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL
DISTRICT 202

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Considering the Possibilities



District 202 Assistive Technology:
helping students and adults reach
those otherwise unreachable
places.

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY BASICS

FEDERAL DEFINITIONS*

“Assistive Technology Device” means 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 Tech Service” means any service that directly assists an individual with a disability in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device.”

*For complete definition:
www.learningcommunity202.org



WHO USES ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY IN DISTRICT 202?

All students and employees of District 202 with disabilities are considered for A.T.

HOW DOES AN INDIVIDUAL ACQUIRE A.T.?

Every student with an IEP is considered for A.T. during the IEP process. An A.T. referral can be initiated at anytime during the school year. Anyone can refer a student with an IEP anytime throughout the school year by contacting the student’s case manager or by contacting a member of the A.T. Team. A.T. is also available for district employees with disabilities through the district’s A.T. Team.



WHY WOULD ANYONE NEED A.T.?

A.T. gives the individual the chance to control his/her environment and become a participant of everyday life activities. A.T. can give individuals with disabilities the tools to lead more independent lives.

FAQ

Who pays for the A.T.? ...specific funds are allocated for A.T. through a combination of federal, state and local sources.

Is A.T. only for individuals with physical handicaps? No, any student or district employee of PCSD 202 with a disability can be assessed for A.T.

Will the individual be dependent upon A.T. forever? In some cases, yes, but the A.T. services and devices may change in direct correlation to the individual’s needs.

Will A.T. help with deficits? A.T. does not try to improve deficits, but rather provides a strategy that "works around" deficits while focusing more on strengths. This does not mean that remediation should be halted, but A.T. becomes a supplement to remediation.

