



Tools for Life: Your Assistive Technology Act Program

Presented by:

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Welcome to the Assistive Technology Revolution!

The world around us is evolving at an astounding rate. Assistive Technology (AT) developments have been foundational in this evolution and a catalyst for producing positive life-changing results for individuals with disabilities.

This session will take a closer look at:

- AMAC Services
- Tools for Life – AT Act Program
- Understanding Assistive Technology
- Defining “Low/Light Tech” to “Mid/High Tech Solutions”
- Funding Resources

...all in about 30 minutes!

For Handouts: [Visit the Tools for Life Wiki Page – www.gatfl.gatech.edu/tflwiki](http://www.gatfl.gatech.edu/tflwiki)

AMAC Accessibility

- AMAC Accessibility is a social change organization on a mission to create affordable services for governmental, private, and nonprofit organizations working with individuals with disabilities.
- Services include E-text, Braille, live captioning, assistive technology, office management software, and accessibility consulting.



Accessibility Made Smart

AMAC creates practical solutions that work, with a focus on utility, ease of use, and high quality.

- **Accessibility Consulting** focuses on organizational accessibility needs with evaluation, technical assistance, customer support, and website accessibility solutions.
- **Braille Services** produces customized projects from both print materials and electronic text including partial books and chapters or graphics only using cutting-edge technology.
- **Captioning and Described Audio Services** makes classrooms, meetings, labs and other audio environments fully accessible for deaf or hard-of-hearing and providing audio descriptions of videos and other visual media for those who are blind or have low-vision.
- **Professional E-Text Producers** provide high-quality e-text in many formats such as PDF, DOC, DAISY, and HTML.
- **Certified Assistive Technology team** provides on-site and remote assessments, demonstrations, training and technical assistance for education, work, and daily living environments.

For more information, please visit our website at <http://www.amacusg.org/>



Tools for Life

We're here to help Georgians with disabilities gain access to and acquisition of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services so they can live, learn, work, and play independently in the communities of their choice.



Guiding Principle and Public Law

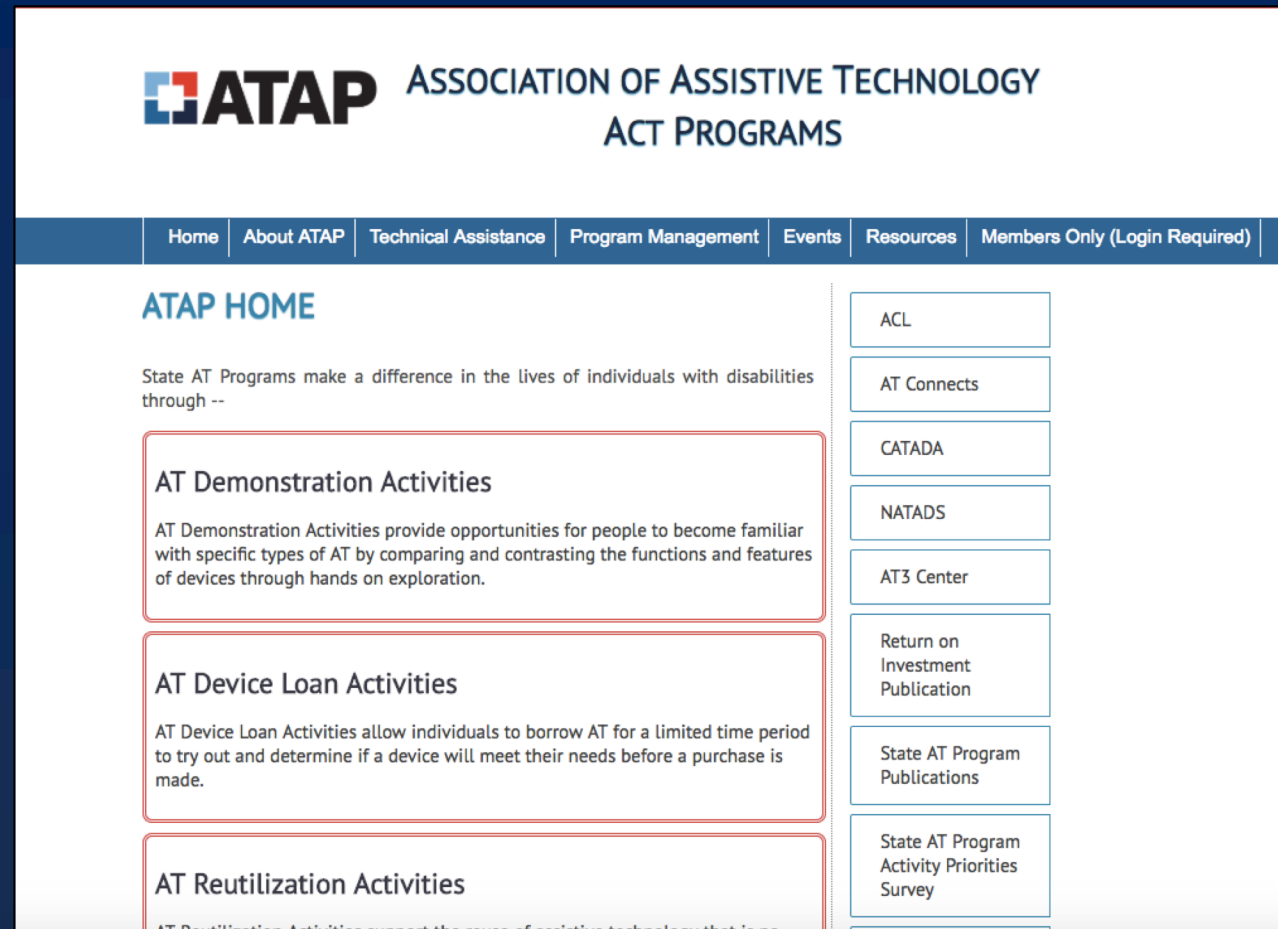
...disability is a natural part of the human experience and in no way diminishes the right of individuals to:

- (A) live independently;
- (B) enjoy self-determination and make choices;
- (C) benefit from an education;
- (D) pursue meaningful careers; and
- (E) enjoy full inclusion and integration in the economic, political, social, cultural, and education mainstream of society in the United States.

Public Law 108-364

Get to Know Your AT Act Program

Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs – www.ataporg.org



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs (ATAP). The header features the ATAP logo and the full name of the organization. A navigation bar includes links to Home, About ATAP, Technical Assistance, Program Management, Events, Resources, and Members Only (Login Required). The main content area is titled 'ATAP HOME' and includes a brief statement about the impact of state AT programs. Below this, there are three highlighted boxes for 'AT Demonstration Activities', 'AT Device Loan Activities', and 'AT Reutilization Activities', each with a short description. To the right of these boxes is a vertical list of links to various resources and publications.

ATAP ASSOCIATION OF ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY
ACT PROGRAMS

Home | About ATAP | Technical Assistance | Program Management | Events | Resources | Members Only (Login Required)

ATAP HOME

State AT Programs make a difference in the lives of individuals with disabilities through --

AT Demonstration Activities

AT Demonstration Activities provide opportunities for people to become familiar with specific types of AT by comparing and contrasting the functions and features of devices through hands on exploration.

AT Device Loan Activities

AT Device Loan Activities allow individuals to borrow AT for a limited time period to try out and determine if a device will meet their needs before a purchase is made.

AT Reutilization Activities

AT Reutilization Activities support the reuse of assistive technology that is no

- ACL
- AT Connects
- CATADA
- NATADS
- AT3 Center
- Return on Investment Publication
- State AT Program Publications
- State AT Program Activity Priorities Survey

Tools for Life Website

Georgia Tech **TOOLS for LIFE**
Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program

HOME ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY TFL NETWORK CALENDAR OF EVENTS YouTube Facebook Twitter Search our Site Go

TRAINING
FUNDING
PUBLICATIONS
TFL WIKI
MEET THE TFL TEAM
MEET THE ADVISORY COUNCIL
DIRECTIONS/MAP
JOIN OUR MAILING LIST
SCHEDULE A TOUR
AT REFERRALS

Welcome AT Services Try AT Get AT AT Guides Research

Discover Your AT Solutions!

WEBINARS

- Current Webinar Schedule
- Webinar Archives

TOOLS FOR LIFE APPFINDER

...for Living, Learning, Working, and Playing.

AT ONLINE EXCHANGE

gTRADE

AT FUNDING GUIDE

DOLLARS & SENSE
NAVIGATING THE AT FUNDING STREAM

Welcome to Tools for Life

Your TFL AppFinder



Search by:

✓ App Name

✓ Categories

- Books/Reading
- Education
- Environmental Adaptations
- Hearing
- Vision
- Navigation
- Cognition, Learning, and Development
- Personal Care and Safety
- Productivity
- Communication
- Therapeutic Aids

Assistive Technology Resource Centers, Outreach Centers, Community Partners and Affiliates

Expanding Assistive Technology Outreach in Georgia



● **Three Rivers Area Agency on Aging**
Butts, Carroll, Cowata, Heard, Lamar, Meriwether, Pike, Spalding,
Talbot, Troup, Upson



Assistive Technology Services

Assistive Technology Services are any services that directly assists an individual with a disability in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device.

These services include:

- Evaluating
- Providing devices
- Selecting, Designing, Customizing
- Maintaining, Repairing
- Coordinating
- Training/Technical Assistance – student, family, and school service providers

Public Law 105-394 [29 USC 2201]

What is Assistive Technology?

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 ranges from no/low/light tech to high tech devices or equipment



Assistive Technology Continuum

Observations and “Hanging out with Intent”

Assistive Technology is a *continuum of tools, strategies, and services* that match a person's needs, abilities, and tasks.

Low/No-tech

- pencil grip
- adapted books
- slant board
- highlighters
- magnifiers
- color coding
- read to out loud
- picture schedule
- strategies for memory
- colored transparencies
- proof readers
- note taker
- tape

Mid-Tech

- word prediction
- text to speech
- speech to text
- spell checkers
- talking calculators
- digital recorders
- organizers
- e-books
- adapted keyboard
- adapted mouse
- adapted toys
- CCTV
- apps under \$100

High-Tech

- computer/laptops
- tablets/phablets
- smartphones
- smart pens
- OCR scanner/software
- magnifying software
- speech output devices
- switch, joystick access
- scanning access
- voice recognition
- environmental control devices
- apps over \$100

The “FAST” Track

Frustration

Anxiety

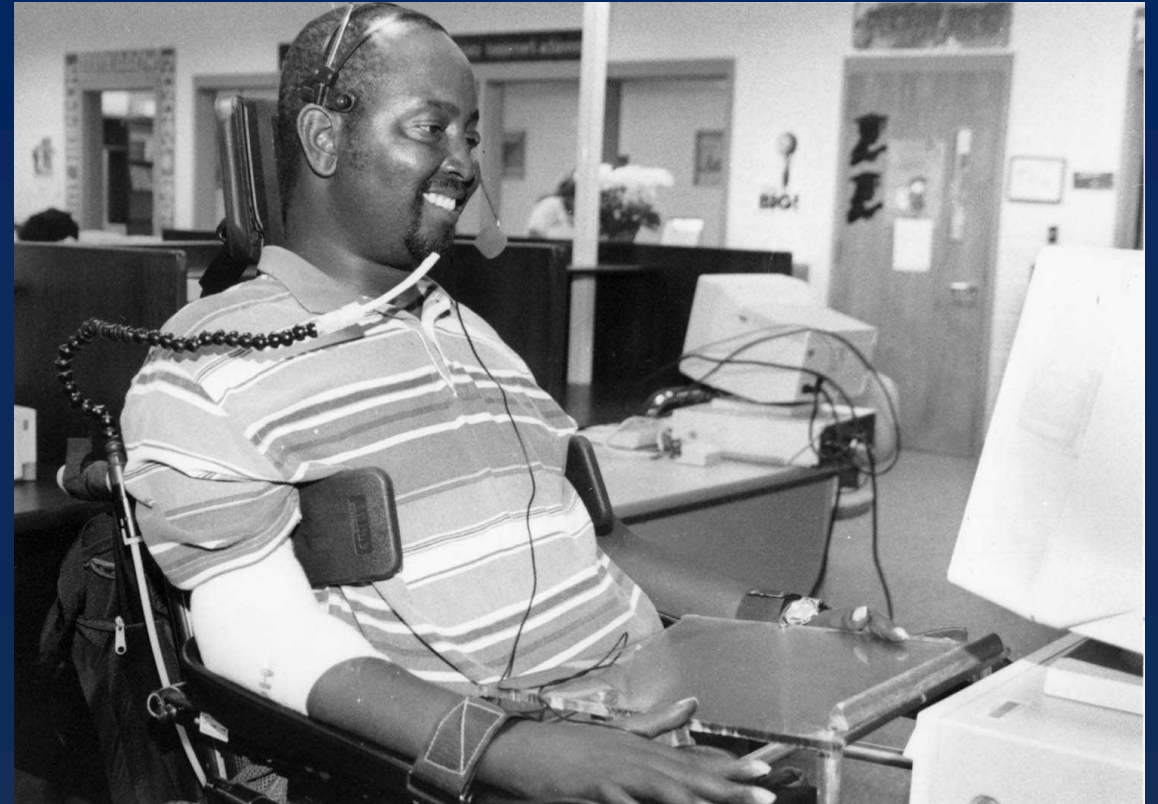
Stress

Tension

Why Assistive Technology?

- For a person without a disability, assistive technology makes life easier.
- For a person with a disability, assistive technology makes life possible.

Tip: USE AT! We have yet to meet a successful person who doesn't use any AT.



Acquisition and Funding for AT



Credit-Able

- Alternative financing program for Georgia
- Small low-interest loans
 - \$250 to \$10,000
 - Interest rate of 3-8%
- Used for
 - Equipment
 - Software
 - Home modifications
 - Vehicle modifications



Why Credit-Able?

- Flexibility
- Personal
- More accessible
- Helps to build or rebuild credit
- Save money!



Eligibility Criteria

Be a resident of Georgia

AND

A person with
a disability

or

A family
member/guardian
of a person with a
disability

or

An employer of
a person with a
disability

AND

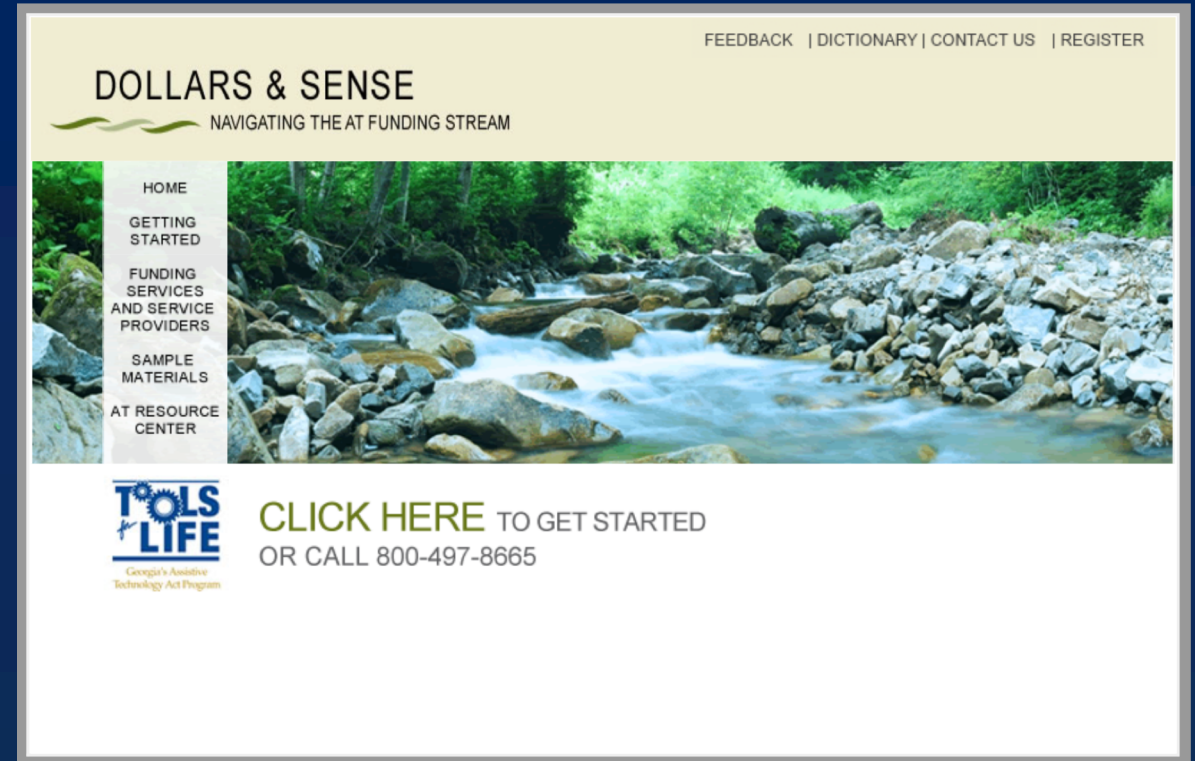
Be able to pay
back the loan

&

Using the loan for
AT

Dollars & Sense

- Online funding guide
- Create and add resources not listed
- Local, statewide, and national
- [Dollars & Sense Website Here – gatfl.gatech.edu/ds](http://gatfl.gatech.edu/ds)

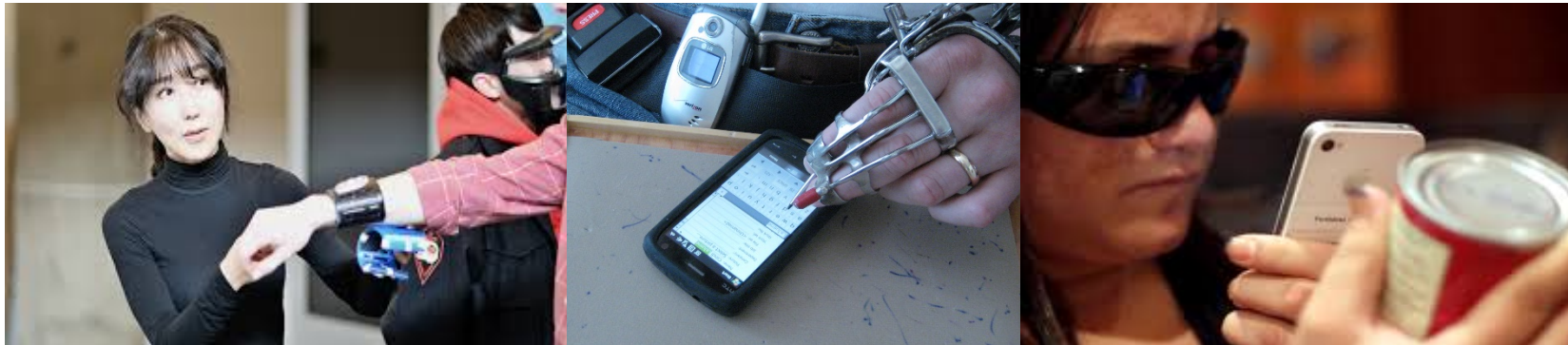




Our Mission

Promote a transformative future where individuals with disabilities achieve independence, improved quality of life, and enhanced community participation.

User-Centered R&D • Accessible Solutions • Policy & Outreach



Contact & Connect

www.wirelessrerc.org



@CACPGT_wRERC



Accessible Technology
Policy Group



Wireless RERC

The Wireless RERC is funded through a grant for the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR grant #90RE5025). NIDILRR is a Center within the Administration for Community Living (ACL), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The contents of this presentation do not necessarily represent the policy of NIDILRR, ACL, HHS, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.

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TOOLS *for* LIFE

Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program



Disclaimer

Disclaimer: Produced by Tools for Life (TFL), which is a result of the Assistive Technology Act of 1998, as amended in 2004. TFL is a program of the Georgia Institute of Technology, College of Design, AMAC Accessibility Solutions and Research Center and was made possible by Grant Number H224C030009 from the Administration for Community Living. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of HHS