

Tools for Life: Your Assistive Technology Act Program

Tori Holder, Outreach Specialist

Tools for Life | Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation | College of Design |
Georgia Tech CREATING THE NEXT*

Accessibility Made Smart



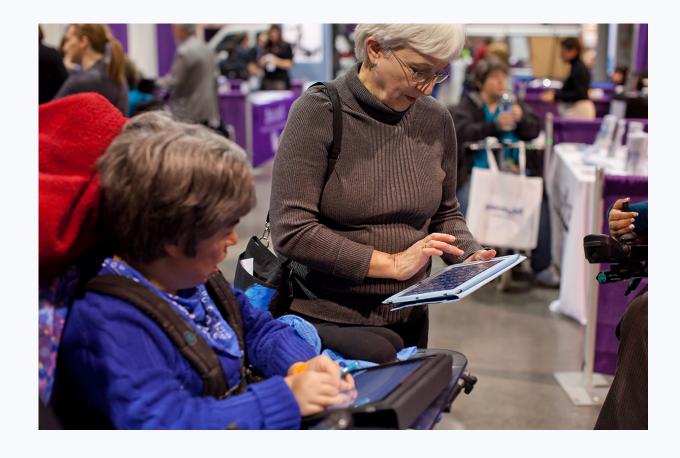
The Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation (CIDI) is committed to the promotion of technological innovation and the development of user-centered research, products, and services for individuals with disabilities.

- 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.

Tools for Life (TFL)



Tools for Life (TFL), Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program, provides Georgians of all ages and disabilities the opportunity to gain access to and acquisition of assistive technology devices and service so they can live, learn, work, and play independently in the communities of their choice.



Tools for Life Core Services

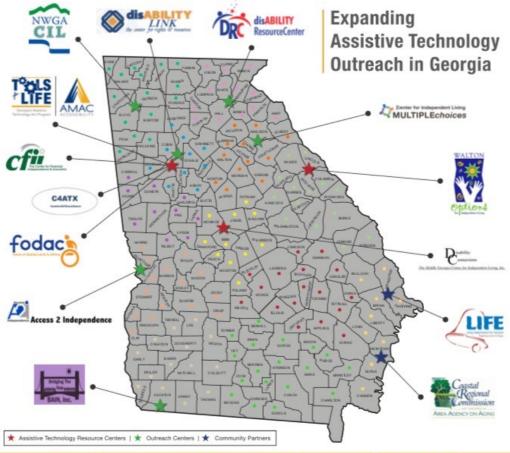


As the Assistive Technology Program in Georgia, we are charged with core activities:

- 1. Information & Assistance
- 2. AT Assessments
- 3. AT Demonstrations
- 4. AT Equipment Lending
- 5. Training (Individuals and Groups)
- 6. Funding Education & Solutions
- 7. AT Reuse

Tools for Life Network

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



GEORGIA'S AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTERS

- Atlanta Regional Commission Aging Division

 Otherstee, Claytor, Gotts, Devalt, Dougle, Payette, Futon, Germen
- Coastal Georgia Area Agency on Aging 5 Bryan, Bullick, Conden, Challesin, Effinghan, Gynn, Liberty, Lon Mid-Hash
- CSRA Area Agency on Aging

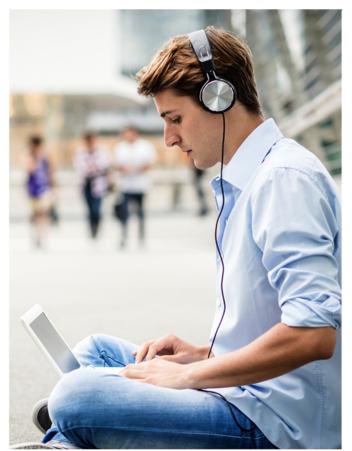
 Burke, Columbia, Gascock, Hercock, Jefferson, Jeffers, Lincoln, McCuffe, Richmond, Screwer, Salaters, Warsen, Washington, William
- Heart of Georgia Area Agency on Aging
 Applied Besties Cander, Dodge, Brazuel Evers, Jeff Davis, John-
- Legacy Link Georgia Mountains Area Agency on Aging Bisho, Dawner, Fornyth, Franklin, Hoberstein, Hall, Hart, Langkon,
- Middle Georgia Area Agency on Aging
 Dathers, Bits, Craeford, Plaston, Jones, Morros, Peach, Pulseli
 Putrers, Tergas, Wildren
- Northeast Georgia Area Agency on Aging
 Bisros, Clarks, Ebert, Greens, Jackson, Jasper, Medicin, Morgan
 Needon, Occores, Optothorps, Walton
- Northwest Georgia Area Agency on Aging

 Barton, Catoma, Chattega, Dade, Farvin, Playd, Gilver, Gordor Haration, Murray, Paulding Pickers, Polk, Walker, Withfield
- River Malley Area Agency on Aging
 Ostfahoodes, Oay Ostp. Dody, Harts, Micon, Marion, Masocges,
 Datron, Destrict, Science Science Softer Material
- Southern Georgia Area Agency on Aging
 Aktrison, Boon, Berlintill, Berlint, Erantiny Brooks, Charlon, Clinch,
 Cothe, Cook, Echels, Invin, Jamie, Lawdes, Percs, Tift, Turner Was
- SOWEOA Council on Aging Southwest Georgia Area
 Agency on Aging
 Solor, Colour, Colguit, Decelur, Douglerly, Sarly, Gody, Lee, Wile
- Three Rivers Area Agency on Aging Butts, Carrol, Cowins, Heard, Larror, Menterthie, Flox, Spoid Total, Toup, Upon











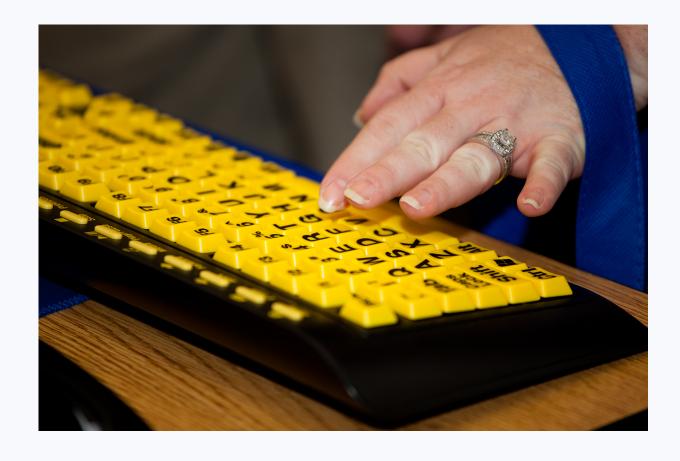
Assistive Technology Services and Strategies



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 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, tape
- magnifiers
- color coding
- read to out loud
- picture schedule
- strategies for memory
- colored transparencies
- proof readers
- note taker
- dry erase board

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
- magnification software
- speech output devices
- switch, joystick access
- scanning access
- voice recognition
- environmental control devices
- apps over \$100

Team Approach



Person with the disability

Circle of support/Family of choice

Teachers

Case Managers

Technologist

Occupational Therapist

Speech-Language Pathologist

Physical Therapist

Engineer

Neighbors

Bus drivers



AT Assessments



Comprehensive AT assessment

Certified AT team

\$450

Written report and recommendations

Area of focus:

- Workplace
- Ergonomics
- Hardware/Software
- Strategies



AT Demonstrations and Loan Library



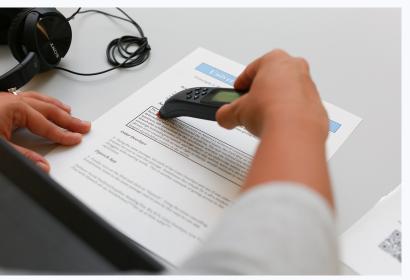
Demos

- Free of charge!
- Learn about devices
- What will work best?
- Assist in making informed choices
- Consumer's choice in devices

Loans

- Try before you buy!
- Loans are usually for 3 to 4 weeks
- Training on items before borrowed, if needed





TFL AT Solution and Access Labs



Tablets

Vision items

Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

Communication devices

Gaming solutions

Software

Switches and Keyboards

Aids for daily living

Environmental Control/Internet of Things

3D printed technology







Why Assistive Technology?

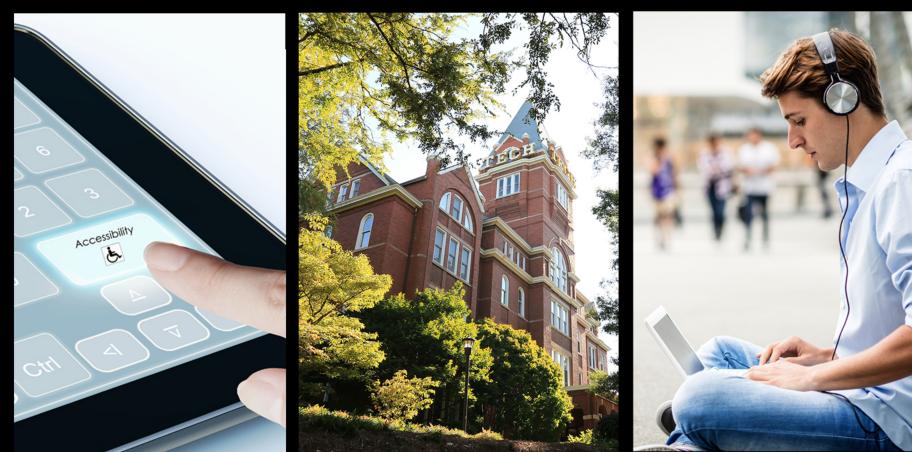


For a person without a disability, assistive technology makes life easier.

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.









Funding Solutions and Resources



Credit-Able



Georgia's alternative financing program for assistive technology (AT)

Thanks to a partnership between Center for Financial Independence and Innovation (CFII) and Tools for Life



Why Credit-Able?



Flexibility

Personal

More accessible

Build/re-build credit

You save money



Eligibility Criteria



Be a resident of Georgia

AND

A person with a disability

or

A <u>family</u>
<u>member/</u>
<u>guardian</u> of a
person with a
disability

or

An <u>employer</u> of a person with a disability

Able to pay back the loan

AND

Using the loan for AT

First \$TEP Program





For Georgians with disabilities

Small low interest loans to establish or repair credit

Can be used for anything

4% interest

\$1,000 max

Max term of 18 months

Funding Resources

Georgia's Assistive Technology and Funding Guide

- Centers for Independent Living (CIL)
- Aging & Disability Resource Centers (ADRC)
- Area Agencies on Aging (AAA)



The Tools for Life Team





Carolyn Phillips
Director, Tools for Life
carolyn.phillips@gatfl.gatech.edu



Liz Persaud
Program and Outreach Manager
liz.persaud@gatfl.gatech.edu



Martha Rust
AT Access Team Manager
martha.rust@gatfl.gatech.edu



Danny Housley
AT Acquisition Manager
danny.housley@gatfl.gatech.edu



Gina Gelinas
Educational Outreach Manager
ggelinas3@gatech.edu



Ben Jacobs
Accommodations Specialist
ben.jacobs@gatfl.gatech.edu



Sarah Endicott
Research Scientist
sarah.endicott@design.gatech.edu



Annabel Joyner
Graphic Design Intern
ajoyner8@gatech.edu



Rachel Wilson
AT Specialist
rachel.wilson@gatfl.gatech.edu



Tori Holder
Outreach Specialist
tori.holder@gatfl.gatech.edu



DeeDee Bunn
Speech-Language Pathologist
dbunn6@gatech.edu



Sam Peters
Program Specialist
speters37@gatech.edu



Ciara Montes
AT Specialist
ciara.montes@gatfl.gatech.edu



Ben Satterfield
Research Associate
rsatterfield8@gatech.edu

Contact Us



Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program

Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation (formerly AMAC Accessibility)

Georgia Institute of Technology

1-800-497-8665

www.gatfl.gatech.edu

info@gatfl.gatech.edu



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@tools4life at



@tools4life_at

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, Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation (formerly AMAC Accessibility) 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.