

Assistive Technology Partnership

SELDA
July 22, 2020

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Non-Endorsement Statement

Georgia Department of Education

The Georgia Department of Education does not endorse any non-Georgia Department of Education websites or products contained within these pages or through external hyperlinks. These webpages and documents provide only a sampling of available resources and in no way should be considered an exhaustive list of available resources. It is at the discretion of individual districts and schools to determine appropriate resources to serve stakeholders.

Assistive Technology Device

§Section 300.5

- 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 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.

Assistive Technology Service

§ Section 300.6

Assistive technology **service** means any service that directly assists a child with a disability in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device.

- 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;
- b) Purchasing, leasing, or otherwise providing for the acquisition of assistive technology devices by children with disabilities;
- c) Selecting, designing, fitting, customizing, adapting, applying, maintaining, repairing, or replacing assistive technology devices;
- d) Coordinating and using other therapies, interventions, or services with assistive technology devices;
- e) Training or technical assistance for a child with a disability or, if appropriate, that child's family;
- 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.

Why should we use technology?

- Impacts outcomes for students
- Provide access to the general curriculum
- Allows students to demonstrate what they know
- Supports differentiation
- Provides independence
- May provide an essential support for communication

To build capacity and have a sustainable impact on Assistive Technology Services for grades K-12 throughout Georgia.

- Assistive Technology (AT) Consultation Services
- AT/UDL Software Pilot Program (Reading, Writing, Math, Study Skills)
- Assistive Technology Lending Library
- Customized Training Videos (3-7 minutes each)
- EdTrade, Georgia Assistive Technology (AT) School Swap Database
- Assistive Technology Webinar Series
- Discovery Surveys - District Assistive Technology and Accessibility

Assistive Technology Partnership AT Portal (for requests)

- Secure portal for K-12 patrons to submit requests associated with this partnership
- One-stop access to request services
- Registration required
- Portal access limited to special education directors and their designee(s)
- No student personally identifiable information (PII) is collected

AT Portal - Registration



Tools for Life - Georgia Department of Education Portal

Returning Users

If you have already created an account with us please click here to sign in.

New Users

New Users, please fill out and submit the form below.

First Name *	<input type="text"/>	Last Name *	<input type="text"/>
Email *	<input type="text"/>	Work Phone	<input type="text"/>
Title	<input type="text"/>	Grade Level	<input type="text"/>

Profile Information

Organization / Region	<input type="text"/>	District / School	<input type="text"/>
School Name	<input type="text"/>		
Special Education Director *	<input type="text"/>		
Special Education Director Email *	<input type="text"/>		

Submit

https://gatfl.gatech.edu/sri/ga_doe_requests/new_user_registration

AT Portal Log-In



TOOLS
for
LIFE

Georgia's Assistive
Technology Act Program

Login

Username

Password

Login

[Forgot your password?](#)

<https://gatfl.gatech.edu/sri/users/login>

Portal Requests



Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program

REQUEST ACTIVITIES
List My Requests | Add

Assistive Technology Services Request Form

Please complete this form to request service from Georgia Tools For Life.

Request Date 7/9/2020

Profile Information

Agency	
Organization / Region	District / School
School Name	
Special Education Director	
Special Education Director Email	

Contact Information

Name		title	Instructional Technology Specialist
Email		Phone	
Grade Level	All Levels		

Alternate Contact?

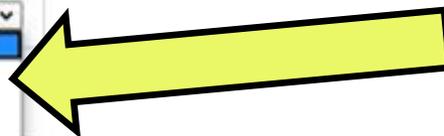
Will you be the primary contact for this request? Yes ▾

Requested Services

You must submit a separate submission for each request:

Type of Service *
Next

- Consulting
- Software
- Product Loan



Portal (7/7/20)

- 192 users registered
 - 126 districts
 - 8 Charter Schools
 - 3 State Schools
 - 1 GNETS

Assistive Technology Consultation Services

The purpose of this partnership is to support district personnel in building their capacity to support students with assistive technology needs.

What it is:

- Consultation services by Tools for Life staff via teleconsulting and/or email.
- Discussion based on information provided by district contact.
- Coaching support for staff on implementation of evidence-based practices for assistive technology.
- May be multiple or on-going “communication sessions” between TFL staff and district staff to provide support
- Engagement with district staff

Assistive Technology Consultation Services

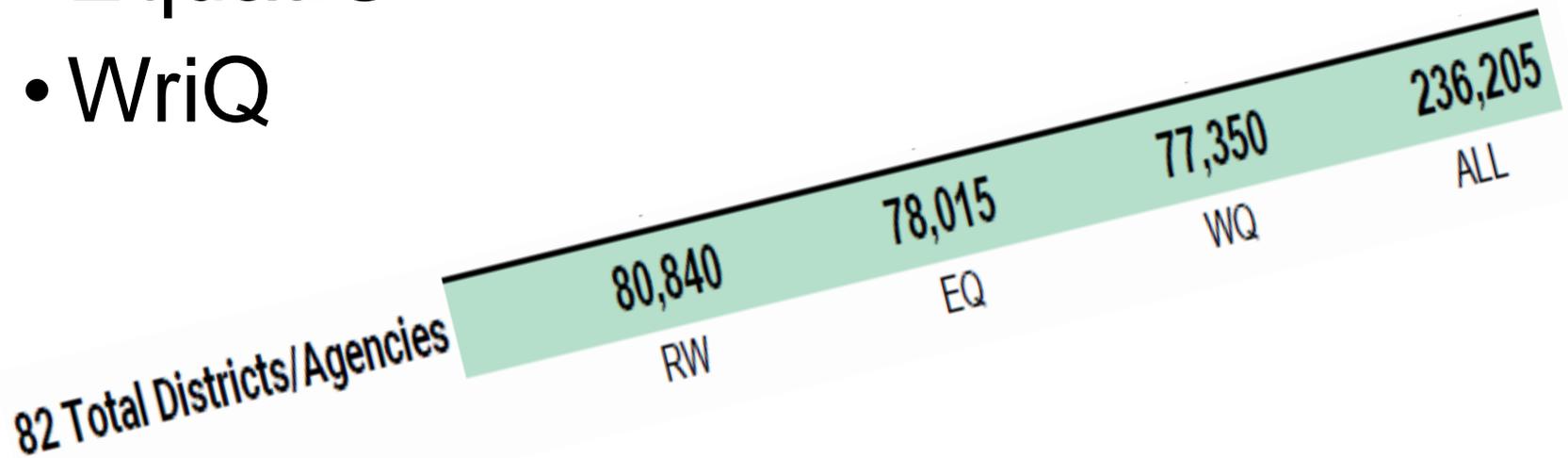
The purpose of this partnership is to support district personnel in building their capacity to support students with assistive technology needs.

What it is NOT:

- It is not direct student intervention.
- It is not assistive technology evaluations.
- It is not onsite consultations or evaluations.
- It is not releasing district staff from being involved and engaged in problem-solving.

AT/UDL Software (Reading, Writing and Math) (7/7/20)

- Read&Write
- EquatIO
- WriQ



Texthelp Software: You have it...Now What?

The AT partnership encourages you to participate in this webinar to better understand how to set up your software accounts for your SWD population.

Topics include:

- what comes with a subscription
- installing extensions and desktop versions
- allowing permissions
- how the PDF reader works
- the student data you need to collect
- using the Texthelp Admin Tool to manage student licenses
- Q&A session

Tuesday July 28, 2020, 11:00am – 11:30am

meet.google.com/nge-eyzw-nam – Join with Google Meet (A google account is not necessary)

AT Partnership Resources



Richard Woods, Georgia's School Superintendent

Search this site

Assistive Technology

Assistive Technology

AT Partnership (Tools for LIFE; Texthelp)

Definition of Assistive Technology

Assistive Technology devices

Legal Mandates for Assistive Technology

Considering Assistive Technology for Students with Disabilities

Documenting Need for Assistive Technology

Implementation and Integration

AT Meetings and Conferences

AT Presentations

Assistive Technology Partnership TOOLS for LIFE, Texthelp

Assistive Technology (AT) Services, Software, Training and Lending Library Program with Tools for Life, Georgia's Technology Act Center

The Division for Special Education Services and Supports wants to build capacity and have a sustainable impact on Assistive Technology Services for grades K-12 throughout Georgia.

1. Consultative Services

The purpose of this partnership is to support district personnel in building their capacity to support students with assistive technology needs.

What it IS:

1. Consultation services by Tools for Life staff via teleconsulting and/or email.
2. Discussion based on information provided by district contact.
3. Coaching support for staff on the implementation of evidence-based practices for assistive technology.

What it is NOT:

1. Direct student intervention.
2. Assistive technology evaluations.
3. Onsite consultations or evaluations.
4. Supplier of assistive technology devices beyond short term loans.

2. AT/UDL Software Pilot Program (Reading, Writing, Math, Study Skills)

Read&Write - Read&Write lets every student read, write, and express themselves more confidently. Read&Write offers support with everyday tasks including reading text out loud, understanding unfamiliar words, researching assignments, writing, and proofing written work. Read&Write works with the following platforms: Chrome, Edge, Windows, Mac OS, iPad, and Android.

EquatIO - EquatIO lets everyone create mathematical equations, formulas, Demos graphs, and more on their computer or Chromebook. Teachers or students can type, handwrite, or dictate any expression, with no tricky coding or math languages to master. There is a huge library of ready-made expressions to save time, from simple formulas to complex functions. EquatIO works with the following platforms: Chrome, Windows, Mac OS, and Web App.

WriQ - WriQ is a writing achievement tool used to easily assess and motivate student writing while providing automated meaningful feedback and delivering a standardized benchmark for grading. It's faster, more accurate, and consistent

General Information

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Paula Gumpman - Program Specialist
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Special Education Questions & Support

Help Desk: (404) 657-9968
Email: SPEDHelpDesk@doe.k12.ga.us

Texthelp Resources

- Teacher Registration - Periodic emails from Texthelp with hints, instructions, and creative ideas.
- Texthelp YouTube Channel

Topics of Interest, using Texthelp software - recorded webinars:

- Math & Science Support
- Empowering Emerging & Struggling Readers
- Tools to Improve Student Writing

Parent Resources

- Using Read&Write for Google Chrome
- Math Resource for EquatIO
- Literacy Resource for Read&Write

AT Portal Information

AT Portal Guide.pdf

<https://gpat.gadoe.org/Georgia-Project-for-Assistive-Technology/Pages/AT-Partnership-Tools-for-Life-Texthelp.aspx>

Assistive Technology Lending Library

Loans that will allow a district:

- To assist in decision-making; make an informed purchasing decision
- To collect data substantiating the device meets the student's needs
- Try a device in a real-life environment
- To serve as a loaner while the student is waiting for repair or ordered device to be delivered (short-term)
- To provide an accommodation on a short-term basis
- To support professional development

Assistive Technology Lending Library

What it is NOT:

- It is not a long-term open-ended loan(s).
- It is not equipment for purchase.
- It is not supplier of assistive technology devices beyond short term loan.

Lending Library

- Augmentative Communication (AAC)
 - Talking Photo Album
 - Put-Em-Around
 - iPad / Apps
 - GoTalk (various models)
- Computer Access
 - Alternative Keyboards
 - Mouse Alternatives
 - Switches
 - Switch Interfaces

Lending Library 2

- Attention, Focus
 - WatchMinder
 - TimeTimer
- Power Link
- Alternate Seating
- Weighted Vests/Blanket
- Scanning Pens
- Adapted Eating
- Adapted Writing Utensils
- Sensory

Customized Training Videos

Training videos to support building level staff short (3-7 minutes) and informative.

- Text-to-Speech
- Speech-to-Text
- Graphic Organizers
- Captioning
- Visual Supports

EdTrade, Georgia Assistive Technology (AT) School Swap Database

- Georgia districts will be able to post their assistive technology needs or available assistive technology for loan, exchange, sell or donation.
- Participating districts can decide whether they want to lend or repurpose their unused assistive technology to a local Georgia district as a cost saving measure through a written memorandum of understanding.
- Responsibility would rest with the participating local educational agency to develop local policies and procedures to address asset sharing and inventory controls.

EdTrade

EdTrade

Home

Equipment

Add Equipment

Regions/Organizations

Districts/Schools

My Assets

Sign Out

Welcome to EdTrade

What is EdTrade?

EdTrade is a Georgia Tools for Life assistive technology (AT) reuse program offered in collaboration with the Georgia Department of Education, Division for Special Education Services and Supports. EdTrade is a secure online AT, K-12 database that allows participating districts to swap, loan, donate, or sell AT to one another. This potentially cost-saving program is part of the state's AT Partnership Program between the Georgia Department of Education and Georgia Tools for Life. This is a "members only" online sharing tool and registration is required as this is limited to Georgia's K-12 public schools.

Each year, Georgia school districts purchase assistive technology for eligible students to use. In some cases, this assistive technology ends up never being used or gently used. It may be that the student graduates, moves away, or needs another type of technology, leaving the purchased technology sitting in the school district. Sometimes the assistive technology can easily be reused with a student within the district. Other times, the assistive technology simply does not fit the needs of any other student within the district, leaving costly, unused AT equipment sitting in the district. With EdTrade, once a device is no longer relevant for student needs in one district, the device can be listed and paired with a student who would truly benefit from the device's use in another district.

What is AT Reuse?

Assistive Technology Webinar Series

Georgia Department of Education in
collaboration with Tools for Life

The webinar series is currently scheduled
for the 2nd Wednesday of the month
(September, October, November, January,
February and March) from 3:00 – 3:30.

More information about registration will be
available on the AT webpage

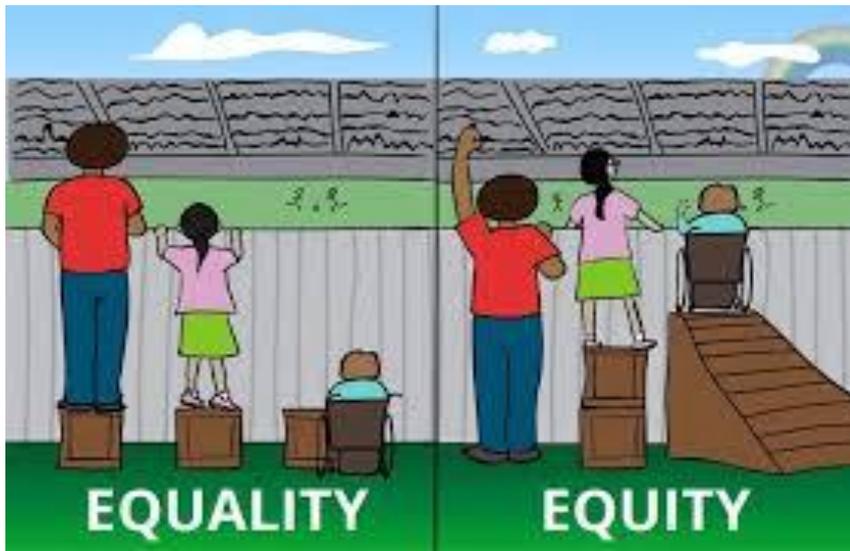
Discovery Surveys – District Assistive Technology and Accessibility



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Supports Differentiation

Differentiation means tailoring instruction to meet individual needs. Teachers **differentiate** content, process, products, or the learning environment, the use of ongoing assessment and flexible grouping makes this a successful approach to instruction.



What does the student need to have, so they can access the content and to be able to show what they have learned?

AT Webpage update

New Videos

[Speech to Text](#) (3 :46)

[Text to Speech](#) (4:33)

[Graphic Organizers](#) (2:53)

New AT Resource Documents:

[AT Assessments](#) – Provides a resource to use when considering the need for an AT assessment.

[AT to consider for transition](#) – Provides a guide for assistive technology and transition planning.

Please review all documents on the right side of the AT webpage including:

[AT Chrome Extensions](#)

[AT for Low Incidence Disabilities](#)

[508 Compliance and Accessibility](#)

[MS word document and accessibility](#)

[PowerPoint and accessibility](#)

[AT research and resources](#)

[Office 365 and computer tools, MAC and One Note](#)

[AT and transition NTACT \(National Technical Assistance Center on Transition\)](#)

Benefits of Assistive Technology

- Productivity
- Independence
- Achievement



Things to Keep in Mind

Technology is no substitute for good instruction



Offering a holistic education to **each and every child** in our state.

Preparing students for life.

www.gadoe.org

   @georgiadeptofed

 youtube.com/georgiadeptofed



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Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program

Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation (formerly AMAC Accessibility)

Georgia Institute of Technology

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[@tools4life_at](https://instagram.com/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.