

## Assistive Technology

Children with disabilities sometimes need and are entitled to special equipment and services to ensure that they have access to a free and appropriate public education (FAPE). Learn more about equipment, funding, consultation and evaluation resources, implementation strategies, best practices and other services available.

Assistive technology includes both devices and services. As defined in IDEA:

- an 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. (34 CFR 300.5)
- an 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. (34 CFR 300.6)

During the IEP process, assistive technology must be considered for every child and then provided by districts if required in a child's IEP to access a free and appropriate public education (FAPE).

Illinois Assistive Technology Program (IATP) now offers school-based evaluations in addition to device loans to school districts through the ISBE grant: The Illinois State Board of Education Assistive Technology Program can be reached by calling toll-free (866) 262-6663 or by going to [www.isbe.net/Pages/Special-Education-Assistive-Technology.aspx](http://www.isbe.net/Pages/Special-Education-Assistive-Technology.aspx).

The IEP Team will discuss whether the child requires Assistive Technology (AT) to receive a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). For additional information regarding assistive technology, please refer to: [Illinois State Board of Education: Assistive Technology](#)