

# Office of Developmental Programs




## Supportive Technology Resources

### Assistive Technology Devices

---

Assistive Technology devices been grouped into the following **10 categories** based on functional need. A description of each category along with examples are provided below.

Please note that this is not a comprehensive list.

Category	Description/Examples
<b>Computers and Related</b> 	Computer and associated physical components that constitute a computer system (i.e., monitors, keyboards, printers, modems, scanners, pointing devices). <i>Examples:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Standard software and hardware</li><li>- Computer accessories</li><li>- Alternative keyboards and pointing devices</li><li>- Switches and scanning software used for computer access</li><li>- Touchscreens</li><li>- Voice recognition systems or software</li></ul>
<b>Daily Living</b> 	Computer and associated physical components that constitute a computer system (i.e., monitors, keyboards, printers, modems, scanners, pointing devices). <i>Examples:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Standard software and hardware</li><li>- Computer accessories</li><li>- Alternative keyboards and pointing devices</li><li>- Switches and scanning software used for computer access</li><li>- Touchscreens</li><li>- Voice recognition systems or software</li></ul>
<b>Environmental Adaptation</b> 	Internal/external modification to the residence of a person with disabilities. Modifications are designed to increase a person's independence in their own home while maintaining their health and safety. <i>Examples:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Accessible HVAC controls, accessible plumbing fixtures and controls</li><li>- Alarm and security systems</li><li>- Cabinetry and storage equipment</li><li>- Door/gate openers</li><li>- Electronic systems that enable people to control various appliances, lights, window coverings, security systems, etc.</li><li>- Flooring and surface materials/detectable warning surfaces</li><li>- General environmental access products</li><li>- Stair glides, wheelchair lifts, ramps</li></ul>



# Office of Developmental Programs

## Hearing



Items that help people with hearing impairments live more independently and safely.

*Examples:*

- Personal amplification systems (i.e., hearing aids, personal sound amplifiers)
- Assistive listening systems
- Daily living aids with visual and/or tactile output (i.e., vibrating alarm clock, smoke alarm with strobe light)
- Amplified or text telecommunication devices (i.e., amplified phones, TTYs, captioned telephones, signaling devices)
- Captioning systems and speech-to-text apps and software for computers or mobile devices
- Video systems and apps that support visual communication (i.e., sign language, speech reading) for computers or mobile devices

## Learning, Cognition, and Developmental



Devices/software to improve the experience of learning or going about daily life.

*Examples:*

- Calculators
- Clocks/timers/alarms
- Calendar/reminder systems including apps
- Memory aids including apps
- Educational/instructional software including apps
- Audio recorders
- Digital assistants (i.e., Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Siri, smart watches)
- Text-to-speech and speech-to-text systems
- Noise canceling headsets

## Mobility, Seating, and Positioning



Products that support or improve mobility, and the equipment used to customize mobility alternatives.

*Examples:*

- Ambulatory aids such as canes, walkers, or crutches
- Orthotics and prosthetics
- Non-motorized wheeled mobility products including strollers, transport chairs and manual wheelchairs
- Power mobility products including scooters and power wheelchairs
- Seating and positioning aids including foam wedges, cushions, lift chairs, and specially designed seating systems

## Recreation, Sports, and Leisure



Items to assist with a variety of recreational and leisure activities such as sports, hobbies, and social activities.

*Examples:*

- Toys, adapted toys and games (includes toys used for developmental purposes such as teaching cause and effect)
- Tennis wheelchairs, beach wheelchairs
- Skiing equipment, sled/sledge hockey equipment
- Gardening tools and equipment
- Playing card shuffler
- Adapted camera and other photography equipment
- Adaptive exercise equipment (not used in rehabilitation setting)



# Office of Developmental Programs

- Adaptive equipment for wildlife viewing, fishing, hunting, and camping
- Adaptive musical instruments and accessories (not used in a school setting)
- Entertainment system remote control not used for lights, heat, or other environmental control
- Adapted video gaming systems

## Speech Communication



Items that help people with communication disorders to express themselves.

*Examples:*

- Augmentative and alternative communication (AAC); “Dedicated” speech generating devices; AAC apps
- Talking switches (if used for communication)
- Communication boards/books
- Software and apps that support speech communication on a computer or mobile device
- Artificial larynx
- Voice clarifiers
- Voice amplifiers
- Stuttering aids

## Vehicle Modification and Transportation



Items that promote safe access to transportation and increase independence through vehicle adaptations.

*Examples:*

- Adaptive shoulder and seat belts
- Tie downs and lock downs to secure a wheelchair to the vehicle floor
- Hand controls
- Extended directional mirrors
- Vehicles and vans modified with lifts, ramps, raised roofs, etc.

## Vision



Products for people who are blind or visually impaired.

*Examples:*

- Manual and video magnifiers
- Devices such as talking scales, glucometers, microwave ovens, etc.
- Computers and mobile devices with alternate access options (i.e., text scanning, audio navigation, screen readers and magnifiers, Braille displays)
- Navigation and mobility aids (i.e., wayfinding canes and apps)
- Apps that assist



## Questions and Comments:

Please contact [ra-PWODP\\_Outreach@pa.gov](mailto:ra-PWODP_Outreach@pa.gov).

For more information, please visit - <https://home.myodp.org/resources/supportive-technology>.

