

WHERE TO FIND A.T.

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY DEVICES AND SERVICES

Ability Tools Tip Sheet

What is Assistive Technology?

Assistive Technology (AT) includes both devices and services.

- An assistive technology device is any item that directly assists an individual with a disability to increase, maintain, or improve their capabilities.
- An assistive technology service is any service that directly assists an individual with a disability in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device.

Independent Living Centers:

An independent living center is a consumer controlled, community based, cross disability,

nonresidential private nonprofit agency that is designed and operated within a local community by individuals with disabilities. Independent living services maximize the ability to live independently in the environment of their own choosing. Within each ILC in California there are Assistive Technology Advocates that assist the community in connecting with local assistive technology services.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



Device Lending Libraries (DLL)

Ability Tools operates a Device Lending Library program throughout California. The following agencies contracts with Ability Tools to provide short-term loans of assistive devices and gadgets that can help you live independently. Whether your need is temporary or you would just like to try out some devices before you buy, our Device Lending Libraries can provide free, short-term loans for up to 30 days of equipment such as portable ramps, AAC devices, magnifiers, computer software and more.

AT Centers

These agencies provide a wide array of assistive devices and gadgets that can help you live independently. These organizations often do evaluations and assessments and allow consumers to try out different devices to find the solution that works best for them. If you are looking for help to determine what assistive devices may work best for you, contact the AT center in your community.

Department of Rehabilitation (DOR)

DOR provides AT evaluation and funding to help individuals with disabilities gain employment. An individual must have a disability that limits their functional capacity in terms of employment such as mobility, communication, self-care, self-direction, interpersonal skills, and work tolerance.

California AgrAbility Project

The California AgrAbility Project provides bilingual (English & Spanish) education, assistance and support to farmers, ranchers, workers and their families who have an injury, disability, or illness that limits their ability to perform farm tasks. Even though funds cannot be given directly to agricultural families, they help find solutions to challenges.

Staff helps locate resources including low-cost modifications to the farm, home, equipment and work site operations. Other resources include:

- Assistive technologies research,
- Health care and rehabilitation services
- Advocacy with government agencies and non-profit organizations for farmers and workers.

