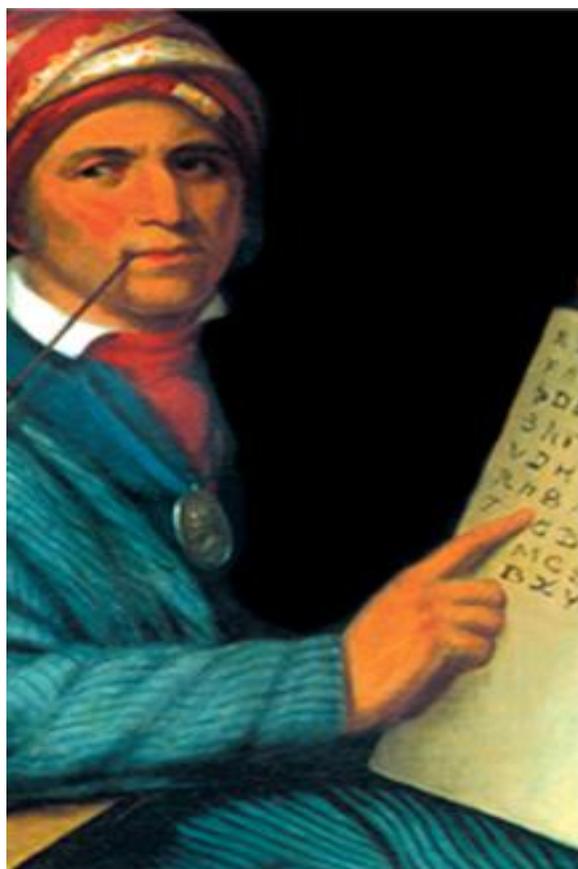


NORTH CAROLINA

Assistive Technology

Resources



NORTH CAROLINA Assistive Technology Resources

Big Keys

PO Box 1888

Huntersville, NC 28078

Phone: (704) 875-3293 (800) 249-5397

Fax: (704) 875-8936

E-mail: sales@bigkeys.com

Website: <http://www.bigkeys.com/>

Organization Type: Private Sector Companies

Disabilities Served: General / Non-disability Specific

Alternative Keyboards for kids and adults. BigKeys keyboards are standard size computer keyboards with very large keys. The keys are one-inch square -- 4 times bigger than the keys on standard computer keyboards.

Murdoch Center

P.O. Box 3000; 1600 East C Street

Butner, NC 27509

Phone: (919) 575-1000

Fax: (919) 575-1007

E-mail: contactDMH@ncmail.net

Website: <http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/mhddsas/murdoch.htm>

Organization Type: Assistive Technology, Disability/Disorder Specific, Schools and School Districts, State and Local Agencies

Disabilities Served: Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Communication and Speech, Deaf / Blind, Developmental Disabilities, Mental Retardation, Multiple Disabilities

Today, Murdoch Center's approximately 1,620 staff positions provide comprehensive residential care for 700 severely/profoundly mentally retarded residents from 16 counties in the North Central Region. Respite care and extensive outreach services are also provided.

National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (NECTAC)

Campus Box 8040, UNC-CH

Chapel Hill, NC 27599-8040

Phone: (919) 962-2001 (919) 843-3269(TDD)

Fax: (919) 966-7463

E-mail: nectac@unc.edu

Website: <http://www.nectac.org/>

Organization Type: General, Assistive Technology, National Organizations and Associations

Disabilities Served: General / Non-disability Specific

The National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center supports the implementation of the early childhood provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Their mission is to strengthen service systems to ensure that children with disabilities (birth through

five) and their families receive and benefit from high quality, culturally appropriate, and family-centered supports and services.

National Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Center

Special Ed. & Child Development; UNC Charlotte; 9201 University City Blvd.
Charlotte, NC 28223

Phone: (704) 687-8606 (704) 687-6327 (TTY)

Fax: (704) 687-2916

E-mail: chfowler@email.uncc.edu

Website: <http://www.nsttac.org/>

Contact Name: Catherine Fowler, Project Coordinator

Organization Type: Assistive Technology, University-Affiliated Programs

Disabilities Served: General / Non-disability Specific

The National Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Center (NSTTAC) is directed by the Special Education Program at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. NSTTAC helps states support and improve transition planning, services, and outcomes for youth with disabilities. They provide information and technical assistance on scientifically-based research practices. The Center also produces methods of assistance for youth with disabilities.

Partnerships in Assistive Technology

1110 Navaho Drive; Suite 100

Raleigh, NC 27609

Phone: (919) 872-2298

Fax: (919) 872-2294

E-mail: assist@pat.org

Website: <http://www.pat.org/>

Organization Type: Assistive Technology, State and Local Organizations

Disabilities Served: General / Non-disability Specific

The Partnerships in Assistive Technology's (PAT) mission is to increase knowledge about the access to assistive technology and information technology for North Carolinians with disabilities. Their AT Exchange Post is available online and allows North Carolinians to either list AT devices for sale or post AT devices they may need. PAT also holds an annual AT Expo that allows people to see various AT devices.

Partners in Assistive Technology Training and Service

Caldwell Community College & Technical Institute; 2855 Hickory Blvd

Hudson, NC 28638

Phone: (828) 726-2241

E-mail: elockhart@cccti.edu

Website: <http://www.patts.org/>

Contact Name: Elaine Lockhart, Vice President of Adult, Corporate and Continuing Education

Organization Type: General

Disabilities Served: General / Non-disability Specific

The Partners in Assistive Technology Training and Service (PATTS) program is designed to address continuing education needs of professional and paraprofessionals in assistive technology related disciplines, including physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech and language pathology, special education, rehabilitation counseling, and others. PATTS is offered by Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute, accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and which offers state and nationally accredited programs in nursing, occupational therapy assistant, physical therapist assistant, and speech language pathology assistant.

TelAbility

1101 Weaver Dairy Road, Suite 202
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Phone: (919) 843-0427

E-mail: jsimpvos@med.unc.edu

Website: <http://www.telability.org/index.pl>

Contact Name: Juliellen Simpson-Vos, Project Director

Organization Type: General

Disabilities Served: General / Non-disability Specific

TelAbility is an innovative, community oriented, interdisciplinary program that uses telecommunications to improve the lives of children with disabilities. Using real time video-conferencing and internet technologies, TelAbility provides comprehensive, coordinated, family centered care to children with disabilities across North Carolina and offers education, training, and peer support for people who care for them.

The Center for Universal Design

College of Design; North Carolina State University; 50 Pullen Road, Brooks Hall, Room 104;
Campus Box 8613

Raleigh, NC 27695-8613

Phone: (800) 647-6777 (919) 515-3082

Fax: (919) 515-8951

E-mail: cud@ncsu.edu

Website: <http://www.design.ncsu.edu/cud/>

Organization Type: General, Assistive Technology, University-Affiliated Programs

Disabilities Served: General / Non-disability Specific

The Center for Universal Design is a national research, information, and technical assistance center that evaluates, develops, and promotes universal design in housing, public and commercial facilities, and related products. The Center's service include Research, Outreach, Education and Training, and Design. The projects they are working on include: Case Studies on Universal Design, Standards for Accessible Design, Promoting the Practice of Universal Design, Universal Design Home Programs, and more.

North Carolina Assistive Technology Project

1110 Navaho Drive, Suite 101

Raleigh, NC 27609

Phone: (919) 850-2787

Fax: (919) 850-2792

E-mail: jmedlicott@ncatp.org

Website: <http://www.ncatp.org/>

Contact Name: Ja Medlicott, AT Consultant

Organization Type: Assistive Technology, State and Local Organizations

Disabilities Served: General / Non-disability Specific

The North Carolina Assistive Technology Program (NCATP) is a state and federally funded program that provides statewide assistive technology services to people of all ages and abilities. NCATP strives to promote the awareness of various types of assistive technology; To educate and empower people regarding their rights to assistive technology accommodations; To share assistive technology resources with professionals, consumers, agencies, businesses, families and friends; and To help People understand how assistive technology can improve an individual's quality of life.

Free Services:

Device demonstration - Various devices are demonstrated and basic information on the features is provided. Consumer can try out equipment through this hands-on approach. Consumers identify their needs and NCATP staff demonstrate the various devices with features and functions that can help meet those needs. Information is provided about State and local vendors, providers and repair services.

Device loan - The device loan program helps individuals try out equipment in the location they will use it: at home, work, school or recreational activities. It's a "try before you buy" approach which helps individuals and funding agencies make wiser choices. A wide range of assistive technology devices are available including augmentative communication (for people with limited speech), computer access, low-vision aids, assistive listening, aids for daily living, switches, environmental controls, adaptive toys and recreational devices. Devices can be borrowed for a two week period. Toys and other AT for young children (birth to 5 years old) may be loaned for longer periods of time.

Device reutilization - [The Technology Exchange Post](#) is intended to facilitate assistive technology device exchanges. North Carolinians may either list devices for sale on the Exchange Post or may post devices they need. Anyone may browse the Exchange Post but registration is required to access contact information for persons

with listings. Once registered, individuals who are interested in an item can contact the current owner about acquiring the device. The Exchange Post is web-based and available via the Internet at www.pat.org. The Exchange Post offers many features making AT equipment exchange efficient for both buyers and sellers. The Exchange Post is updated as new advertisements are received or items are sold. It is always current. Individuals can post "Wanted" items and the system will automatically notify the individual if an item is listed "For Sale" matching the description of the item they have listed. The Exchange Post has search capability: by category, type of listing, zip code proximity, length of time it has been posted and/or keywords. The Technology Exchange Post can also be accessed by going to www.pat.org

Training /Technical Assistance - AT consultants and specialists conduct training, develop and disseminate training materials, and provide technical assistance related to assistive technology. NCATP staff respond to individual requests about the benefits of AT, device options, information on funding resources, and the use of specific devices. Staff research the inquiry and provide the information in person either on-site in the AT Center or in the home, school, work or community setting or via phone, email or U.S. mail. Consumers or family members are not charged for this information. However, if training on a device or form, evaluation is needed, there are fees for these services. Often other public agencies can cover the fee-based services if the individual meets their eligibility requirements. Also, specific skill-building training to groups is fee based.

Public awareness - The NC Assistive Technology Program conducts public-awareness activities on the availability, benefit, appropriateness and cost of assistive technology for the general public and targeted groups. NCATP participates in activities such as fairs and exhibit booths. General overview presentations about the services offered by NCATP are often provided free. More specific skill building training to groups is fee based.

Fee-based services to agencies and schools and other organizations:

Assistive Technology Assessment - NCATP provides an in-depth analysis of devices to assist a person with a disability in achieving an identified task or goal. This assessment is conducted on-site in an Assistive Technology Center in collaboration with the consumer, family and related service professionals. A hands-on approach allows consumers to try out a variety of devices both low tech and high tech. The individual may borrow devices on short term loan to try out at school, work, home or another setting at no additional charge. A comprehensive written report is provided. Recommendations are given for assistive technology devices and related services with equipment specifications and information to help funding sources in their purchase process. *Cost \$475*

Community Based Assessment – NCATP provides assessments in settings other than an Assistive Technology Center. Settings may include: work, home, school, group home or other community site. This assessment can be part of a multi-disciplinary approach in which devices are tailored to meet the needs of a specific setting, task, or situation. A comprehensive written report is provided to the party requesting the assessment. *Cost \$475*

Feature Matching & Device Trial – This service helps match the best AT device to a person's ability. NC Assistive Technology Program staff will work with the referral professionals to determine which devices to try based on a brief in-house assessment with the input of other referral information. A one-page summary of feature matching and summary of devices that meet the individual's requirements is provided to the referral source. *Cost \$200*

Training on Specific Devices/Software - Training includes the use of assistive technology devices, equipment or software packages. This training can be provided to individuals or groups. Potential participants: consumers, family members, professionals, organizations, businesses, school systems, government agencies, etc. Examples of frequently requested training: Speaking Dynamically Pro, Intellitools, Dragon Naturally Speaking. *Cost \$75/hr*

Consultation Services – NCATP staff provide assistive technology expertise to individuals or organizations for a specific need identified by the requesting party. Written reports are not provided for consultations unless the requesting party pays for the report writing time. *Cost \$75/hr*

Workshops/Seminars – NCATP conducts specialized presentations, seminars or workshops regarding assistive technology to meet an organization's needs. *Cost negotiated per training.*

Training – NCATP provides training ranging from an overview of AT to specific AT skills development training at local, regional and statewide levels based upon demand. Regionally, NCATP will work with schools, community colleges and universities, Job Link sites and state agencies to provide training. Topics may include: computer access, environmental controls, augmentative communication, AT related to hearing loss, low vision aids, and low-tech AT for activities of daily living, funding resource information, or other special area identified. *Cost negotiated per training.*

Travel Time – NCATP charges for travel time to conduct community assessments, consultations, device training services, workshops and seminars. (Billable in 30 minute increments.) *Cost \$37.50 per hour*