



## Provision of Assistive Technology Procedures

### **Assistive Technology (AT)**

Assistive technology devices, assistive technology services, or both, as defined under §300.5 and §300.6, are made available to a child with disabilities as determined on a case-by-case basis by the child's IEP Team, necessary to provide the child access to FAPE. If necessary to ensure the child's needs for devices or services to access FAPE are met, school-purchased assistive technology devices in the child's home or other setting are required as determined by the IEP Team.

### **Routine checking of hearing aids and external components of surgically implanted medical devices**

It is PDE's policy that hearing aids worn in school by children with hearing impairments, including deafness, are functioning properly. Additionally, external components of surgically implanted medical devices are monitored to ensure proper functioning. There is not a public agency responsibility for a child with a surgically implanted medical device who is receiving special education and related services, for the post-surgical maintenance, programming, or replacement of the medical device that has been surgically implanted (or of an external component of the surgically implanted medical device).

### **Guidelines**

If it is determined that the student needs individualized assistive technology, LEA will work to procure the technology, train the student, staff, and parents, and implement the AT throughout the student's school day. Following the AT decision, to ensure access to necessary AT devices, AT devices and services will be promptly written into the student's individualized education plan ("IEP"). Specific devices and services will be identified within the IEP and reviewed annually, or as requested by the IEP team and/or parent. Should the AT device malfunction or break, AT devices will be repaired promptly and an interim device will be provided during the repair process.

### **Definitions**

**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 (34 CFR 300.5). The term AT device may refer to complex devices or software, as well as simple "low-tech" devices and solutions that may be available to many learners, but which the team

decides are required by the student with an IEP as part of a free, appropriate public education (FAPE).

**Assistive Technology Services** - IDEA 2004 and PA Chapters 14 and 711 define AT as both devices and services. The purpose of AT is to improve the functional capabilities of a child with a disability. 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). AT services may include Assessment of AT needs • Providing for the acquisition of AT through purchase, rental, or other means. • Selecting, customizing, or adapting AT devices. • Other services are those that are necessary to enable the student and/or IEP team to use any AT devices specified in the IEP.