Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program

Tools for Life: Your Assistive Technology Act Program

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Welcome to the Assistive Technology Revolution!

The world around us is evolving at an astounding rate. Assistive Technology (AT) developments have been foundational in this evolution and a catalyst for producing positive life-changing results for individuals with disabilities.

This session will take a closer look at:

- AMAC | Tools for Life – AT Act Program
- Understanding Assistive Technology
- Defining “Low/Light Tech” to “Mid/High Tech Solutions”
- Guiding Principles

…all in about 45 minutes!

For Handouts: Visit the Tools for Life Wiki Page

AMAC

AMAC Accessibility is a social change organization on a mission to create affordable services for governmental, private, and non-profit organizations working with individuals with disabilities. Services include E-text, braille, captioning, assistive technology, office management software, and consulting.

Accessibility Made Smart

AMAC creates practical solutions that work, with a focus on utility, ease of use, and high quality.

- **Accessibility Consulting** focuses on organizational accessibility needs with evaluation, technical assistance, customer support, and website accessibility solutions.
- **Braille Services** produces customized projects from both print materials and electronic text including partial books and chapters or graphics only using cutting-edge technology.
- **Captioning Services** makes classrooms, meetings, labs and other audio environments fully accessible for deaf or hard-of-hearing.
- **Professional E-Text Producers** provide high-quality e-text in many formats such as PDF, DOC, DAISY, and HTML.
- **Certified Assistive Technology team** provides on-site and remote assessments, demonstrations, training and technical assistance for education, work, and daily living environments.

For more information, please visit our website at www.amacusg.org

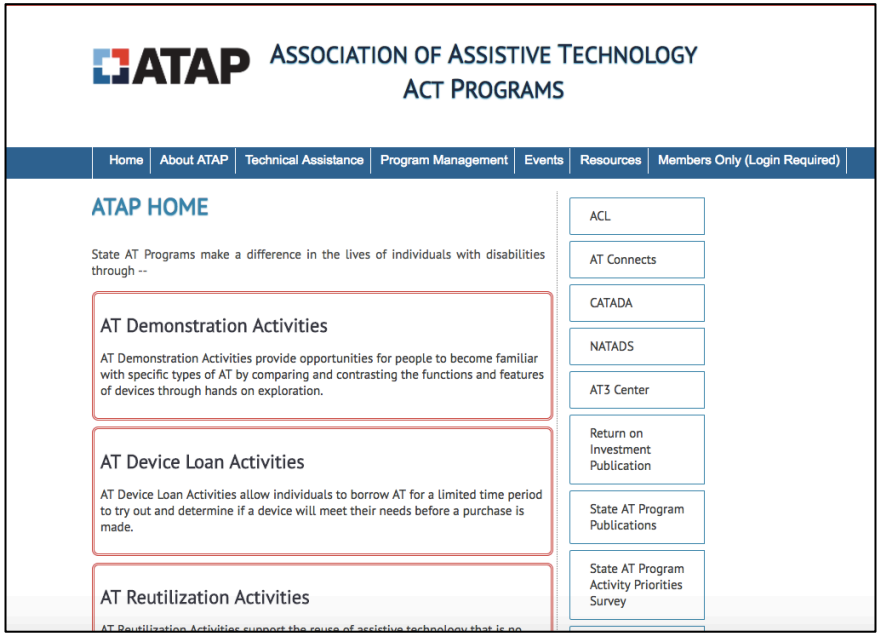
Tools for Life

We're here to help Georgians with disabilities gain access to and acquisition of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services so they can live, learn, work, and play independently in the communities of their choice.

Get to Know Your AT Act Program

AMAC ACCESSIBILITY

Association of Assitive Technology Act Programs



Tools for Life Website

Your TFL AppFinder

Search by:

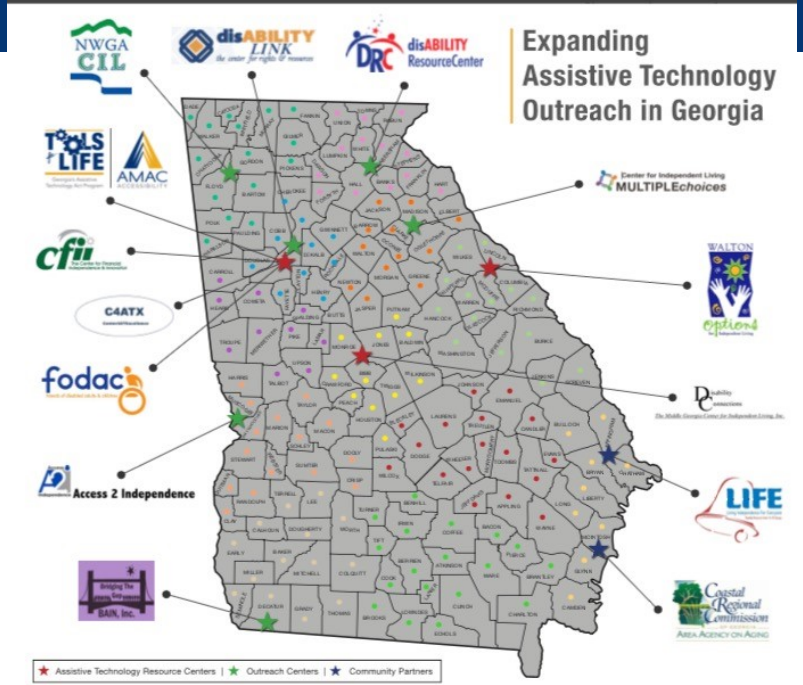
✓App Name

✓Categories

- Book
- Education
- Environmental Adaptations
- Hearing
- Cognition, Learning, Developmental
- Navigation
- Personal Care and Safety
- Productivity
- Communication
- Therapeutic Aids
- Vision

Tools for Life Network

Assistive Technology Resource Centers, Outreach Centers, Community Partners and Affiliates



GEORGIA'S AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTERS

Atlanta Regional Commission Aging Division
Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Rockdale

Coastal Georgia Area Agency on Aging
Bryan, Bulloch, Camden, Chatham, Effingham, Glynn, Liberty, Long, McIntosh

CSRA Area Agency on Aging
Burke, Columbia, Glascock, Hancock, Jefferson, Jenkins, Lincoln, McDuffie, Richmond, Screven, Taliaferro, Warren, Washington, Wilkes

Heart of Georgia Area Agency on Aging
Appling, Bleckley, Candler, Dodge, Emanuel, Evans, Jeff Davis, Johnson, Laurens, Montgomery, Tattnall, Telfair, Toombs, Treutlen, Wayne, Wheeler, Wilcox

Legacy Link Georgia Mountains Area Agency on Aging
Banks, Dawson, Forsyth, Franklin, Habersham, Hall, Hart, Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union, White

Middle Georgia Area Agency on Aging
Baldwin, Bibb, Crawford, Houston, Jones, Monroe, Peach, Pulaski, Putnam, Twiggs, Wilkinson

Northeast Georgia Area Agency on Aging
Barrow, Clarke, Elbert, Greene, Jackson, Jasper, Madison, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Walton

Northwest Georgia Area Agency on Aging
Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk, Walker, Whitfield

River Valley Area Agency on Aging
Chattahoochee, Clay, Crisp, Dooly, Harris, Macon, Marion, Muscogee, Quitman, Randolph, Schley, Stewart, Sumter, Taylor, Webster

Southern Georgia Area Agency on Aging
Atkinson, Berrien, Brantley, Brooks, Charlton, Clinch, Coffee, Cook, Echols, Irwin, Lanier, Lowndes, Pierce, Tift, Turner, Ware

SOWEGA Council on Aging Southwest Georgia Area Agency on Aging
Baker, Calhoun, Colquitt, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Grady, Lee, Miller, Mitchell, Seminole, Terrell, Thomas, Worth

Three Rivers Area Agency on Aging
Butts, Carroll, Coweta, Heard, Lamar, Meriwether, Pike, Spalding, Talbot, Troup, Upson

Guiding Principle and Public Law

…disability is a natural part of the human experience and in no way diminishes the right of individuals to:

(A) live independently;

(B) enjoy self-determination and make choices;

(C) benefit from an education;

(D) pursue meaningful careers; and

(E) enjoy full inclusion and integration in the economic, political, social, cultural, and educations mainstream of society in the United States.

Public Law 108-364

What is Assistive Technology?

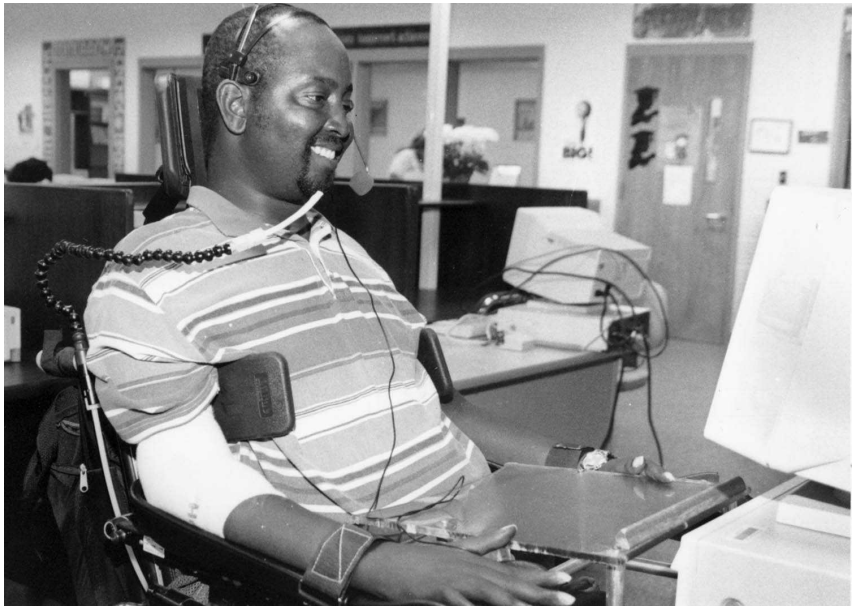
Assistive Technology (AT) is any item or piece of equipment that is used to increase, maintain or improve the functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities in all aspects of life, including at school, at work, at home and in the community.

- Assistive Technology ranges from no/low/light tech to high tech devices or equipment.

Why Assistive Technology?

- For a person without a disability, assistive technology makes life easier.
- For a person with a disability, assistive technology makes life possible.

Tip: USE AT! We have yet to meet a successful person who doesn't use any AT.



Assistive Technology Services

Assistive Technology Services are any services that directly assists an individual with a disability in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device. These services include:

- Evaluating
- Providing devices
- Selecting, Designing, Customizing
- Maintaining, Repairing
- Coordinating
- Training/Technical Assistance – student, family, and school service providers

Public Law 105-394 [29 USC 2201]

The “FAST” Track

F*rustration*

A*nxiety*

S*tress*

T*ension*

Effective AT Assessment

- Uses a feature-match approach
- Incorporates on-going educational/life planning
- Hanging out with Intent
- Targets natural environments
- Utilizes the competencies of multiple team member
- Demands meaningful follow-through

AT Helps!

Assistive Technology strategies and solutions can help support those living with disabilities, the aging population and those who have problems with:

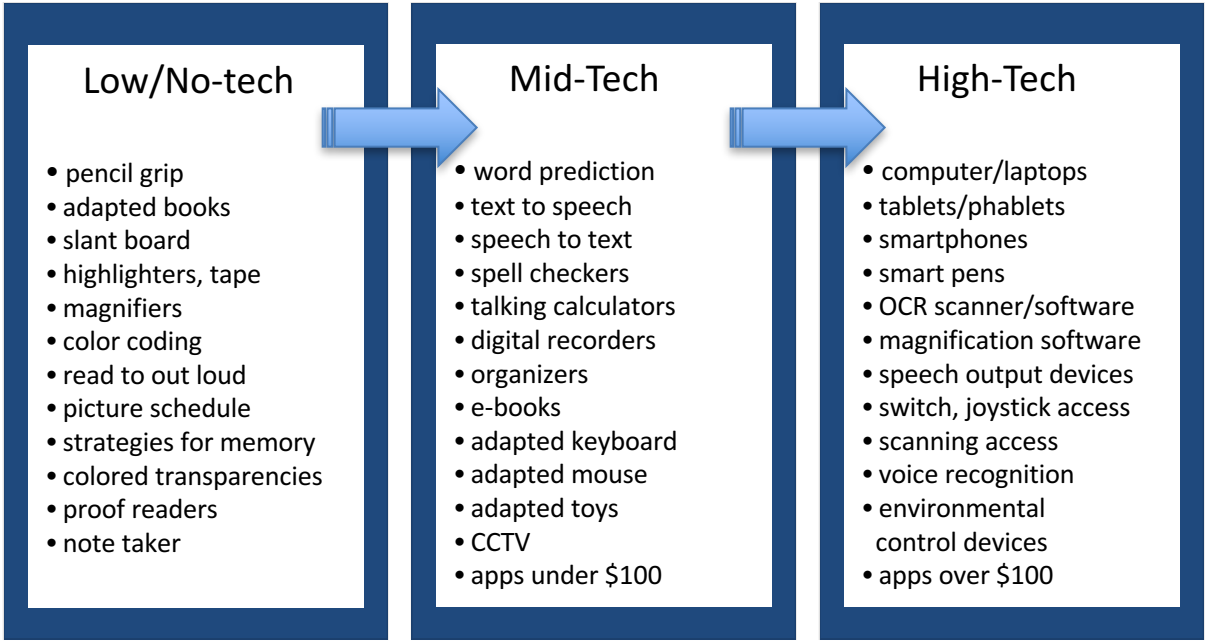
- speaking
- hearing
- seeing
- moving around
- getting places
- memory
- cognition (thought processes and understanding)
- daily living activities, such as dressing and preparing meals
- socializing.

Assistive Technology Continuum

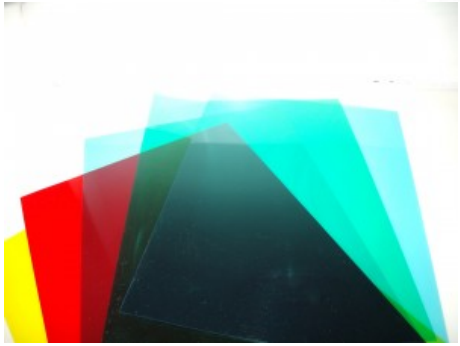
AMAC ACCESSIBILITY

Observations and "Hanging out with Intent"

Assistive Technology is a ***continuum of tools, strategies, and services*** that match a person's needs, abilities, and tasks.

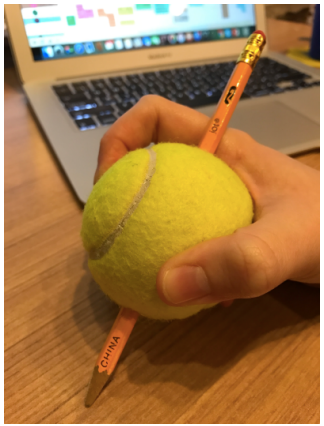


Low Tech AT Solutions



Low Tech AT Solution for Writing

- Built-in pen and pencil grips
  - Variety
  - Can build your own with a tennis ball or ping-pong ball
- Wide barrel pens and pencils
  - More surface area to grip



Communication Tools

Low Tech
- Symbols
- Comm boards, wallets, rings etc.

Mid Tech
- Single Message
- Sequenced Messages
- Static Display Devices

High Tech
- Dynamic Display
- Icon Sequencing

Assistive Listening Devices

- Audio/Hearing Loop
- Infrared System
- FM System
- Wearable device

Visual Alerts

- Visual doorbells
- Flash on your cellphone
- Smoke/carbon monoxide detectors
- Flashing computer screen

Physical Alerts

- Haptic alerts on phone and wearables
- Vibrating alerts
- Bed shaker

AT for Daily Living

Non-slip Placemat

- Keeps plates and other items from moving
- Use for roller walkers
- Cut to fit

Freedom Dinnerware

- Low vision, Alzheimer's, arthritis, stroke
- Suction keeps plate from moving
- Helps in getting food onto utensils

Freedom Wand

- Toileting, grooming, and hygiene aid
- Extension of arm
- Less strain on back

Health and Wellness

AMAC ACCESSIBILITY

Epic ID Emergency Band

- Easy for first responders to access
- Saltwater safe
- No subscription or internet connection needed to access information
- Mac and PC compatible

Reminder Rosie

- Alarm clock
- Personal voice reminder
- Easy to use

Medication Solutions

MedCenter

- Organizer with reminder system
- Monthly display
- Talking alarm

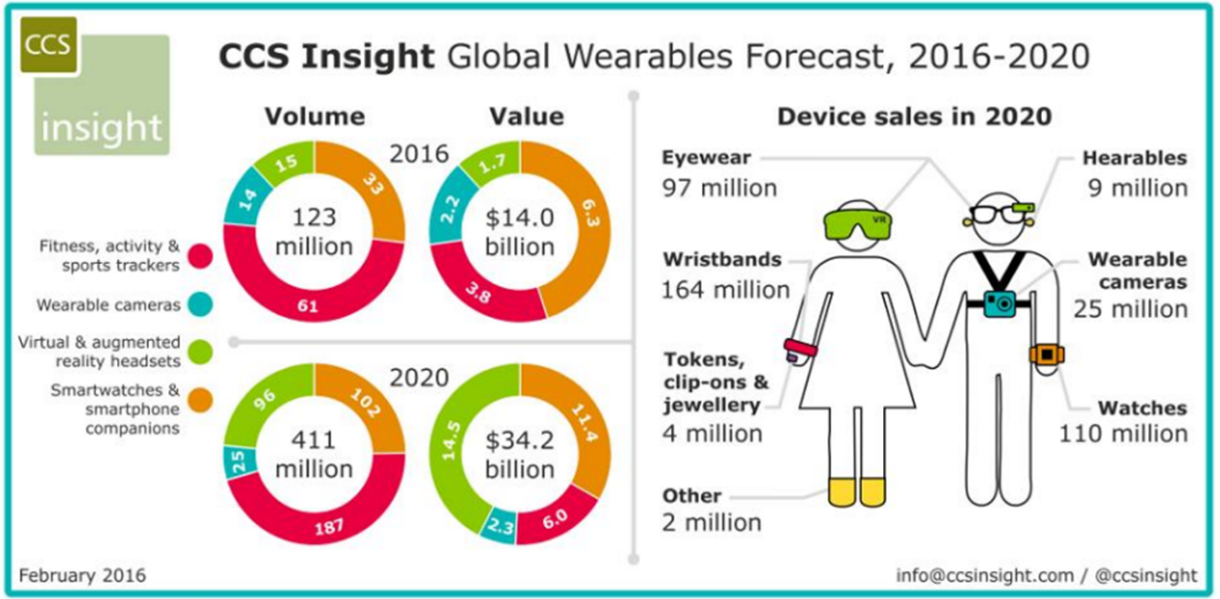
Pillpac.com

- Organized pills packaged by pharmacy
- Sealed pouches for each day
- Time stamped
- Lessen medication errors

MedReady

- Automatic pill dispenser
- Holds 28 doses
- Set up to four (4) daily alarms
- www.alzstore.com

CCS Wearables Forecast



Wearables

- Lechal haptic shoe inserts
- Smart watches
  - Apple Watch
  - Android Wear
  - FitBit
- Orcam
- Google Glass
  - Back to the drawing board

GlassOuse

- Helps people control electronics without using their hands
- Moves the cursor onscreen with head movements
- Bite on a blue extension to click
- GlassOuse Demo Video Here

Amazon Echo

- Speech-controlled speaker system
- Environmental control
  - Lights
  - Thermostat
  - personal security
  - TV
- Informative services
  - Traffic
  - Weather
  - News
  - Conversions
  - Alarms and Reminders
- Entertainment
  - Live radio
  - Audible and Kindle Books
  - Pandora and Amazon Music
- Full Size Echo - $179.99
- Echo Dot - $49.99

More Access with Voice and Amazon

Echo Show

- Video calling
- Touchscreen Display
- View weather
- Recipes
- Smart home devices
- $229

Echo Look

- Hands free camera
- Style assistant
- $199

Google Home

- Google's answer to Amazon's Echo
- Environmental Control
- Entertainment Control – "Watch Stranger Things on TV" "Watch videos of puppies on TV."
- Information Services
- Call anyone using your voice
- Google Home - $129
- ChromeCast - $35

Philips Hue Light Bulbs

- Wifi Connected
- Dimmable
- Displays Over 16 Million Colors
- Compatible with Amazon Echo
- Color Starter Kit $174.99

Recreational AT

- Recreation is a necessity
- Numerous benefits – Cognitive, Mood, Physical, etc.
- Recreation comes in many forms – Video Games, Card Games, Board Games, Playing Music, Sports, Exercising, Crafts, etc.
- There are options and technologies to make each of these activities accessible.

TFL Gaming Initiative

Tools for Life has recognized the importance of play and is starting an initiative dedicated to gaming with disabilities. Some objectives of the program are:

- Demonstrate the accessibility of gaming
- Build relationships with developers and aid in creating more accessible games
- Increase public awareness of the importance of accessibility in games

There are many benefits to playing games

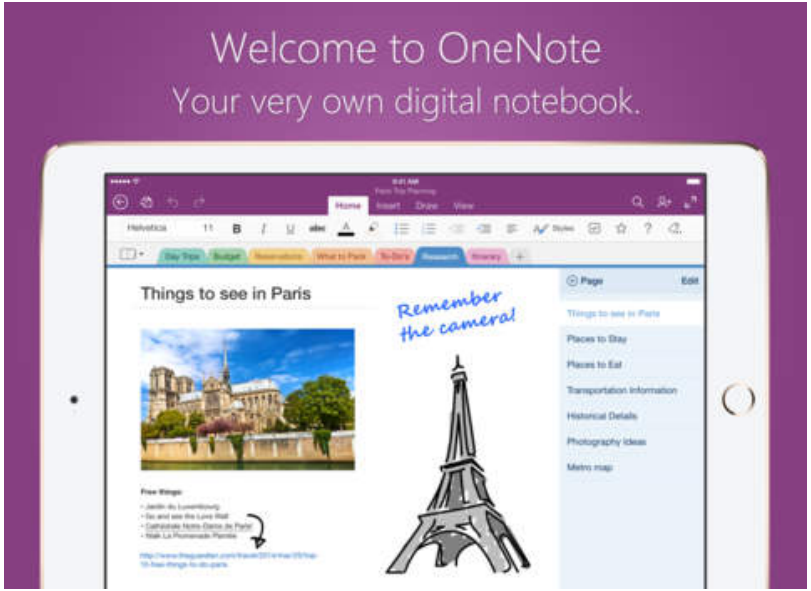
- Improved Hand/Eye coordination
- Increased problem solving and cognitive function
- Better handle stressful environments
- Social outlet

Xbox One Elite Wireless Controller

- First party controller with accessibility features
- Modular construction includes multiple thumb sticks, directional pads, and paddle buttons
- Remap any input to any button
- Highly customizable

Microsoft OneNote

- Crosses all platforms
- Type, write, or draw with the free form feel of pen and paper
  - Use stylus or finger
- Search and clip from the web to picture ideas
- Brings students together in a collaborative space or can give individual support in private notebooks

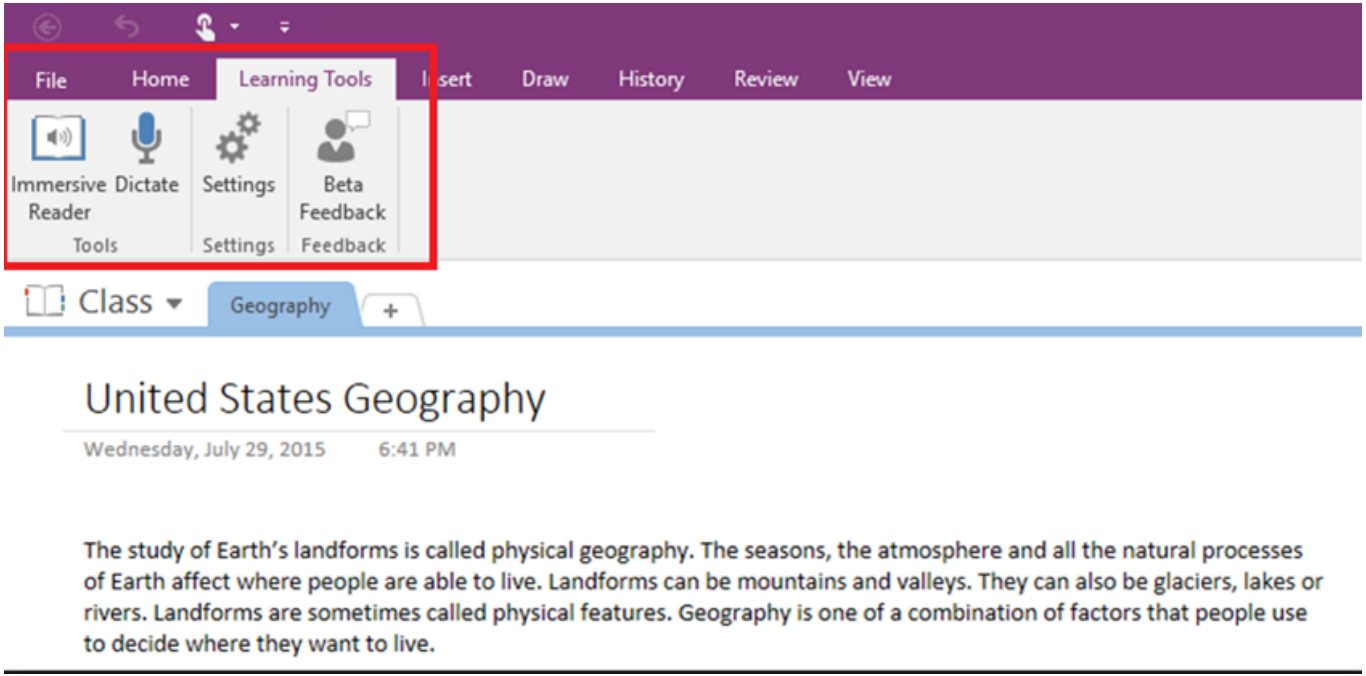


OneNote Learning Tools

AMAC ACCESSIBILITY

Feature	Proven Benefit
Enhanced dictation	Improves authoring text
Focus mode	Sustains attention and improves reading speed
Immersive reading	Improves comprehension and sustains attention
Font spacing and short lines	Improve reading speed by addressing "visual crowding"
Parts of speech	Supports instruction and improves writing quality
Syllabification	Improves word recognition
Comprehension mode	Improves comprehension by an average of 10%

Learning Tools Toolbar

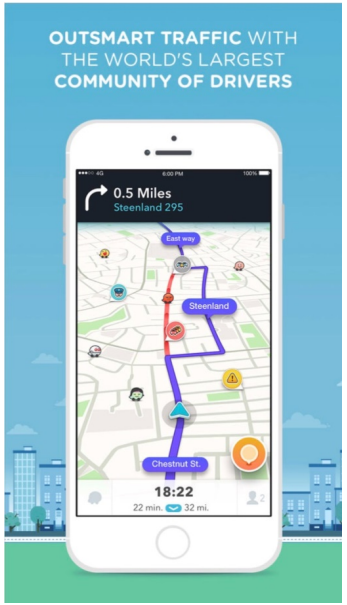


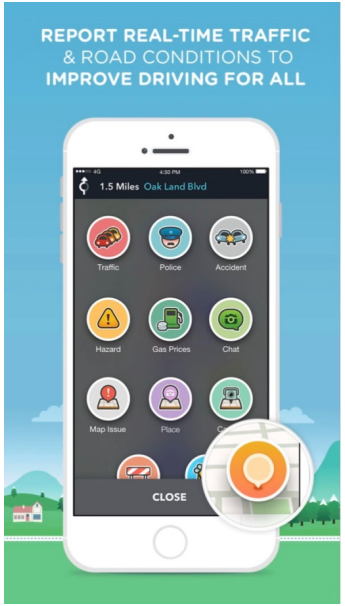
Genius Scan

- Scan documents or handwritten notes
- Email the scans as JPEG or PDF
- Free for iOS and Android
- Genius Scan Plus ($2.99)
  - allows upload to Dropbox, Skydrive or Evernote

Waze

- World's largest community-based traffic and navigation app.
- Share real-time traffic and road info to save time, gas money, and improve daily commuting for all
- Free on iOS and Android

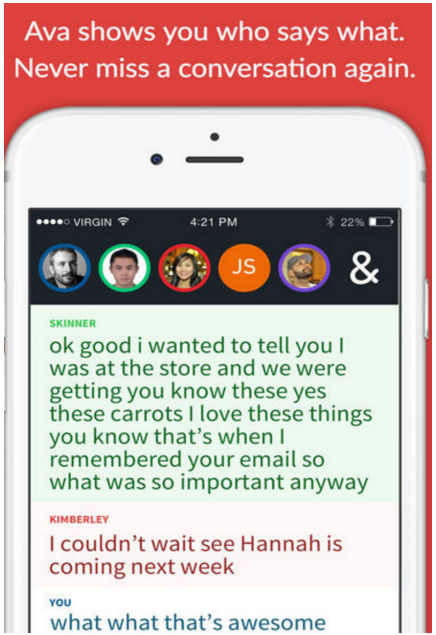




waze
OUTSMARTING TRAFFIC, TOGETHER

AVA

- Uses microphone to hear and shows word by word what is said
- Instant captions
- Basic Plan – Free for 5hr/month
- $29.99



Acquisition and Funding for AT

Credit-Able

- Alternative financing program for Georgia
- Small low-interest loans
  - $250 to $10,000
  - Interest rate of 2-5%
- Used for
  - Equipment
  - Software
  - Home modifications
  - Vehicle modifications

Why Credit-Able?

- Flexibility
- Personal
- More accessible
- Helps to build or rebuild credit
- Save money!

Eligibility Criteria

AMAC ACCESSIBILITY

Be a resident of Georgia

AND

A person with a disability

or

A family member/guardian of a person with a disability

or

An employer of a person with a disability

AND

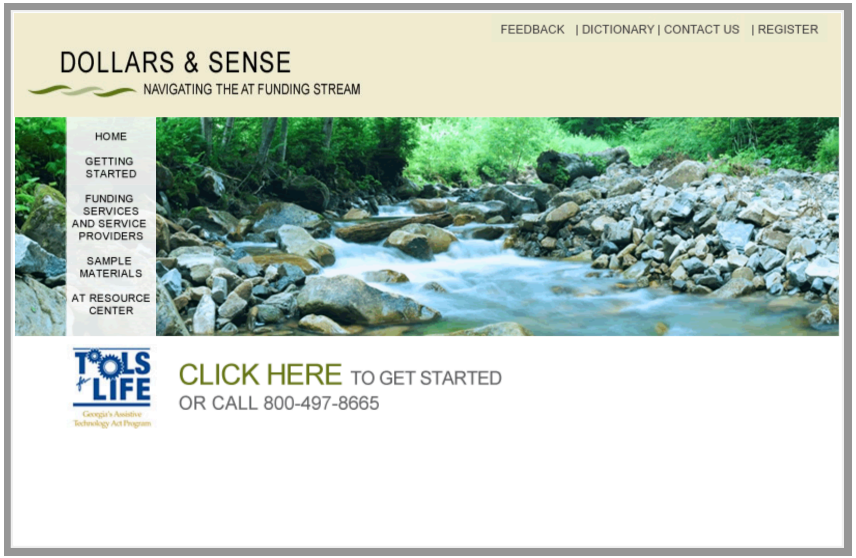
Be able to pay back the loan

&

Using the loan for AT

Dollars & Sense

- Online funding guide
- Create and add resources not listed
- Local, statewide, and national
- [Dollars & Sense Website Here]



AMAC ACCESSIBILITY

RERC TechSAge

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Technologies to Support Successful Aging with Disability

TechSAge research is funded by the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR grant number 90RE5016-01-00). NIDILRR is a Center within the Administration for Community Living (ACL), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES · USA

ACL Administration for Community Living

TOOLS for LIFE Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program

Mission of TechSAge

- to **support** people with chronic conditions and long-term impairments who are at risk of disability or increased disability due to comorbid age-related losses;
- by **empowering** these individuals to sustain independence; maintain health; engage safely in activities at home and in the community; and fully participate in society;
- through increasing knowledge about, availability of, and **access** to effective, universally-designed technologies.

GATE 2017

Georgia Assistive Technology in Education (GATE) Annual Seminar

- Friday, December 8, 2017
- Georgia Tech Student Center
- This event is open to all Georgia educators, parents, students with disabilities, family members and anyone else interested in learning more about assistive technology in education!

The Tools for Life Team

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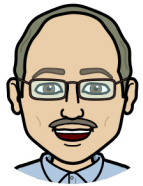

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Disclaimer

Disclaimer: Produced by Tools for Life (TFL), which is a result of the Assistive Technology Act of 1998, as amended in 2004. TFL is a program of the Georgia Institute of Technology, College of Design, AMAC Accessibility Solutions and Research Center and was made possible by Grant Number H224C030009 from the Administration for Community Living. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of HHS.