

ABOUT

MISSOURI

ASSISTIVE

TECHNOLOGY

# HELP YOUR STUDENTS LEARN *BETTER!*

FIND OUT WHAT **MoAT** CAN DO FOR MISSOURI'S STUDENTS  
WITH DISABILITIES TO HELP THEM GET THE MOST OUT OF THEIR  
EDUCATION.



## MoAT'S MISSION

To increase access to assistive technology for Missourians with all types of disabilities, of all ages.

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## ABOUT MoAT

In FY 2010, the Missouri Assistive Technology Council (MoAT) touched the lives of 22,593 Missourians with disabilities; over 5,800 people obtained assistive technology through MoAT services and programs last year alone. This guide gives an overview of MoAT to help Missourians of all ages with disabilities receive the assistive technology they need to enhance their daily lives.

## CONTACT

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ATR allows for reimbursement of up to \$5,000 per student for those assistive items identified in the student's IEP.

## ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY REQUEST (ATR) PROGRAM FOR SCHOOLS

**What: Up to \$5,000 assistive technology reimbursement program**

**For: Students with disabilities attending Missouri schools**

In order to receive a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the Office of Special Education at the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education provides funding for Missouri school districts to obtain the assistive technology required by a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP).

ATR allows for reimbursement of up to \$5,000 per student for those assistive items identified in the student's IEP (official IEP item identification is required). Eligible assistive technology includes any adaptive device necessary for delivering the IDEA-mandated appropriate education to students with disabilities. Eligible items must cost at least \$1,000. MoAT administers this program through an easy application process, and assistive technology products can be purchased by the school or long-term loaned by MoAT.

For more information, contact John Effinger by phone at 816-655-6709 or via email at [john.effinger@att.net](mailto:john.effinger@att.net).



ETC is a free, short-term assistive technology device loan program for Missouri schools and organizations.

## EQUIPMENT TECHNOLOGY CONSORTIUM (ETC) LOAN PROGRAM

**What: Free, short-term assistive technology device loan program**

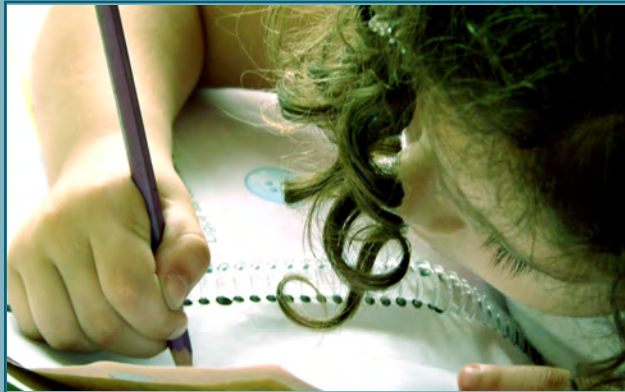
**For: Missouri residents with disabilities of all ages**

Buying assistive technology can be a big decision. Some devices are costly, and there are many different types to choose from. MoAT's ETC program can make these decisions easier. ETC is a free, short-term assistive technology device loan program for Missouri schools and organizations. Borrowers can choose from a pool of over 900 devices including:

- Augmentive communication
- Computer access
- Environmental controls
- Hearing devices
- Visual aids
- Learning aids
- And more!

Equipment may be borrowed through ETC for up to six weeks on a trial period, allowing the user ample time with the device before making a purchasing decision; while other equipment is in for repairs; or to help with any other short-term assistive technology need.

To view the online catalog of available devices, visit [at.mo.gov/etc/catalog.htm](http://at.mo.gov/etc/catalog.htm). For more information on the ETC program, contact Tracy Walker by phone at 816-655-6708 or via email at [tracy.walker6708@att.net](mailto:tracy.walker6708@att.net).



KAT is a last-resort assistive technology funding option for Missouri children under 21 years of age with disabilities.

## KIDS ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY (KAT) PROGRAM

**What: Last-resort assistive technology funding source**

**For: Missouri children with disabilities under 21 years of age**

The KAT program can provide limited assistive technology and vehicle or home- access modification funding to Missouri children under the age of 21 when no other funding options are available. KAT funding can also help when other funding sources are not adequate enough to cover a child's assistive technology and/or modification costs.

Applications received for children in low-income families receive priority. Before completing an application for KAT, contact Eileen Belton by phone at 800-647-8557 or via email at [eileen.belton@att.net](mailto:eileen.belton@att.net) to ensure funding is currently available. For more information regarding the types of assistive technology and modifications the KAT program may cover, visit [at.mo.gov/kat.html](http://at.mo.gov/kat.html).

## ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY CONSULTATIONS FOR SCHOOLS

**What: Consultation and Staff Training for Missouri Schools**

**For: Assistive Technology Needed by Special Education Students**

MoAT offers limited consultation services to Missouri school staff in the selection and implementation of assistive technology for students with disabilities. MoAT staff does not conduct evaluations, but rather, MoAT can work with the school's team to help develop assistive technology options and implement selections. Training and consultations can occur over the phone, via the Web or on-site (a fee may apply depending on the level of assistance required). For more information, contact John Effinger by phone at 816-655-6709 or via email at [john.effinger@att.net](mailto:john.effinger@att.net).



AIM allows students with disabilities to access instructional materials in a wide range of formats.

## ACCESSIBLE INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS (AIM)

**What: State-wide accessible instructional materials resource**

**For: Students with disabilities**

While many classroom materials are print-based (such as textbooks and handouts), many students with disabilities require instructional materials in various other formats in order to succeed. Under IDEA, public schools are required to supply students with disabilities access to these other formats which include audio, Braille, e-text, large print and more. MoAT can assist schools in locating alternative formats as well as provide staff consultations in developing alternative text programs for students. In addition, MoAT has four AIM DVDs available for check-out through the ETC program (see page 3). For more information on IDEA AIM requirements, free electronic source file eligibility, text-to-speech technology and more, visit [at.mo.gov/aim/aim.html](http://at.mo.gov/aim/aim.html) or contact John Effinger by phone at 816-655-6709 or via email at [john.effinger@att.net](mailto:john.effinger@att.net).

## FREE AIM TEACHER RESOURCES

NIMAC has also released "AIM across the Curriculum," a free online resource where instructors can learn about planning considerations, products and solutions for student access to the general curriculum. Categorized by content area, the three main sections covered are "Reading for Meaning," "Learning Math" and "Math and Science Resources." These sources can help teachers find ways to design their instruction using AIM and to make instruction more accessible to students with disabilities. The online resource is available at [aim.cast.org/experience/acrosscurriculum](http://aim.cast.org/experience/acrosscurriculum).



Through the Show Me Loans program, Missourians can apply for up to \$15,000 to purchase assistive technology for a person with disabilities.

## SHOW ME LOANS PROGRAM

**What: Low-interest loan program**

**For: Missourians who need financing for assistive technology and vehicle and home-access modifications**

MoAT offers Missouri residents of all ages with disabilities a low-interest financing option to purchase assistive technology. Through the Show Me Loans program, Missourians can apply for up to \$15,000 to purchase many other assistive technology devices and services, such as:

- Learning aids
- Home-access modifications
- Vehicle modifications
- Hearing aids
- Visual aids
- And more!

Interest rates are income-based and vary between 2-4 percent. An application with instructions may be accessed at [at.mo.gov/loans.html](http://at.mo.gov/loans.html).

For more information on the Show Me Loans program or for answers to questions about the loan application process, contact Eileen Belton by phone at 800-647-8557 or via email at [eileen.belton@att.net](mailto:eileen.belton@att.net).



TAP provides the basic equipment needed by persons with disabilities for telephone and Internet access.

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACCESS PROGRAM (TAP)

MoAT administers the TAP program to enable Missourians with disabilities reasonable access to telephone and internet communication. Although both programs are administered similarly, the qualifications for each are slightly different.

### TAP FOR TELEPHONE

**What: Provides adaptive telephone equipment**

**For: Missourians with disabilities who have difficulties using traditional phones**

The TAP for Telephone Program provides basic voice telephone access equipment for people with disabilities in Missouri. Examples of equipment provided under this program include TTYs, voice carry-over phones, amplified phones, large-button phones, hands-free phones, and phone-signaling devices.

### TAP FOR INTERNET

**What: Provides adaptive computer equipment and software**

**For: Missourians who have difficulties using the Internet or receiving email due to a disability**

The TAP for Internet Program provides adaptive computer equipment to Missourians with disabilities who cannot use traditional computer equipment to access basic Internet and e-mail. This program also includes consumer support during the selection and initial use of the new equipment. Examples of adaptive computer equipment provided include screen-enlargement software, screen readers, adaptive keyboards and alternative pointing devices such as a trackball mouse.



TAP helps Missourians with disabilities receive vital access to telecommunications.

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACCESS PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants must be certified by a licensed physician, audiologist, speech pathologist, hearing instrument specialist or other qualified agency official as unable to use traditional telecommunications equipment due to disability.
- Applicants must have access to basic telephone service for TAP for Telephone or have a computer and Internet service for TAP for Internet.
- Applicants must meet financial income guidelines.
- Applicants must be Missouri residents.

For more information on these TAP programs, visit [at.mo.gov/tap.html](http://at.mo.gov/tap.html) or contact MoAT by phone at 816-655-6700 (V) or 816-655-6711 (TTY).



Demonstration centers and recycling programs give people with disabilities more low-cost assistive technology options.

## MISSOURI REGIONAL DEVICE DEMONSTRATION CENTERS

**What: Eight assistive technology demonstration sites across Missouri**

**For: Missourians of all ages with disabilities**

The MoAT device demonstration centers allow Missourians of all ages with disabilities, their family members and their professional support the opportunity to try out different assistive technology devices for free. Available demonstration equipment includes computer adaptations, communication, vision and hearing, daily living aids, recreation, and more. Devices vary from site to site, so please contact your area's demonstration site prior to your visit to determine what's available. A complete list of demonstration site contact information is available at [at.mo.gov/device\\_demo.html](http://at.mo.gov/device_demo.html). For general program information, contact David Baker by phone at 816-655-6703 or via email at [david.bkr@att.net](mailto:david.bkr@att.net).

## MISSOURI DEVICE RECYCLING AND EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

**What: Low-cost opportunity to acquire assistive technology**

**For: Missourians of all ages with disabilities**

MoAT contracts with nine recycling centers throughout Missouri that provide refurbished medical equipment to residents of all ages with disabilities. Available equipment varies from location to location, and several centers may transfer items among locations to better serve client needs. In addition, Swap 'n Shop is a "classified ads" style program that connects people across the state with adaptive devices and assistive technology to buy, sell, trade or donate. More information on these programs is available at [at.mo.gov/recycling.html](http://at.mo.gov/recycling.html).



The MoAT Power Up Conference provides up-to-date sessions and exhibitors each year to help ensure the provision of assistive technology in Missouri.

## POWER UP CONFERENCE AND EXPO

**What: Annual assistive technology conference**

**For: Special education administrators and teachers, service providers, and people with disabilities**

Each year, MoAT hosts the Power Up Conference and Expo with the mission of strengthening the capacity of educators, service providers and people with disabilities in ensuring the provision of assistive technology. Power Up features a variety of sessions and exhibitors that provide up-to-date information on:

- Disability related policies
- Assistive technology devices
- Assistive technology services
- And more!
- Independent living issues
- Educational policy and practices
- Information technology accessibility

For more information on Power Up, visit [at.mo.gov/powerup/index.html](http://at.mo.gov/powerup/index.html).

## ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY TRAINING AND INFORMATION

MoAT regularly sponsors training programs, coordination training, and the production and distribution of training and informational materials related to assistive technology. Visit [at.mo.gov/pubs/index.html](http://at.mo.gov/pubs/index.html) to access electronic copies of the most recent publications. For more information, contact MoAT within Missouri by phone at 800-647-8557 (V) or 800-647-8558 (TTY) or via email at [moat1501@att.net](mailto:moat1501@att.net).



 **Missouri**  
DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY  
**EDUCATION**

*Office of Special Education*

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