Maryland Assistive Technology Program

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES
ABOUT US

Maryland TAP provides statewide access to assistive technology (AT) through equipment demonstrations, loans, reuse, financing, and training.

www.mdtap.org
What We Do

- Run four AT Libraries across the state (Central Baltimore, Southern Maryland, Western Maryland, and Eastern Shore)
- Conduct AT demonstrations with AT Clinicians
- Issue short-term device loans
- Host webinars, trainings, and presentations on AT
- Online equipment reuse exchange (buy, sell, giveaway AT & medical equipment)
- Maryland High-Tech AT Reuse Center (housed in the Loan Closet of Howard County)
- Conduct a low-interest financial loan program
- Run the Central Baltimore, Western Maryland and Southern Maryland adapted telephone evaluation centers and assessment program
More of WhAT We Offer

Virtual AT Library
Home Modifications Directory
Loan Closet Directory
When would you want to wear your technology?

- Convenience
- Safety
- Portability
- Durability
- Health
- Range of Motion limitations
What will work for you?

Assess the Needs

What deficits are you or a loved one facing? Low vision? Communication deficits? Limited range of motion?

What do you want to do that you can’t do easily (or at all)? reading, typing on a keyboard, communicate more effectively, be safe at home?

Let’s dig deeper now!
What have the experts recommended?

It’s important to remember that the experts and professionals in your life will provide important recommendations.

Wearing technology may be ideal for some but be intrusive, uncomfortable, and impractical to others.

Some low-vision wearables are great when sitting down but dangerous if you try to walk while wearing them (e.g. NuEyes) so these are things to keep in mind.

Let’s take a look at wearable AT devices across different disabilities and different applications.
Blind / Low Vision
OrCam MyReader 2

- OCR Device
- Worn on the side of glasses (magnetic)
- Reads text:
  - Including Newspapers, books, menus, signs, product labels and screens
- Easy to use: just tap on the side
- Tiny, wireless, does not need internet connection
- Connect with Bluetooth devices to allow for speaker / headphone use
NuEyes E2

- 3K LCD screen lets you see how clear the world is
- Simple to use (3 buttons)
  - **Button 1:**
    - Select from variable magnification depending on if you want to read, watch TV, or see a loved ones face.
  - **Button 2:**
    - Toggle between 3 different contrast settings
  - **Button 3:**
    - OCR and text to speech
Buzz Clip

- Wearable mobility tool for the blind and vision impaired to complement a cane or a guide dog.
- Vibrates to alert you of head-level which ground-level canes and dogs can not detect.
- Uses ultrasound to detect obstacles that may lie directly in your path to warn you to navigate around them.
- Rechargeable battery lasts up to 10 hours
Sunu Band

- Designed for when you can’t easily use sight or due to a visual impairment.

- Augments your personal awareness and reduces accidents to the body, chest, arms, and head.

- Through the use of sonar and echolocation to detect objects up to 16 feet (5.5 meters) away
Safety / Fall Detection
Sky Angel 911

- Fall detection
- No monthly fees or contracts
- Push the button for instant 2-way speakerphone communication with 911
MyNotifi

- Fall detection
- Can be worn discretely (chest pocket, bra, waistline, or on wrist)
- One time fee with no ongoing contracts, or monthly fees, etc.
- Alert family and friends if a fall occurs.
Communication / AAC
GoTalkGo

- Augmentative and Alternative Communication device
- This specific device can record 9 messages in 3 levels, on 3 buttons
- Rechargeable via USBG
- Great to use for conversations in the cafeteria, at recess, on community outings, and many more places.
- Records and stores 12 messages in 3 levels, on four buttons
- Attaches to a lanyard or clip as a wearable communication device
- Fits in a pocket for easy transport
- Great for on-the-go, cafeteria, recess, field trips, community outings, etc.
www.AttainmentCompany.org
Computer Access
GlassOuse

- Worn like a pair of glasses
- Designed to control the cursor with slight head movements
- “Click” by using the bite-switch, puff switch, finger switch, foot switch, etc.

https://glassouse.com/#banner
Nous

- Another version of a switch to allow for computer access
- Blink-to-Click technology
- Compatible with eye gaze technology or another version of a wearable mouse (hat with sensor, dot etc.
- The only physical need is the ability to blink reliably
HeadMouse Nano

Sensor mounted to display

Reflective tape on cap

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Tap – wearable mouse and keyboard

- Fits around your fingers
- Typing = sequence of finger tapping will signify different letters
  - Typing Video
- Mousing with Tap – video
Smart Watch

Apple Watch has VoiceOver feature for blind/low vision

Also offers: a zoom feature, font size adjustment and an oversized watch face, as well as options to reduce the background transparency of notifications and the animations

Exercise: Wheelchair friendly mode, for example the “stand” goal is now the “roll” goal and for outside there is the outdoor wheelchair walk pace and run pace.

Hearing impaired: The watch is able to send notifications through vibrations and also the Apple OS also supports Mono Bluetooth audio that forgoes the stereo split and sends an equal signal to each ear meaning that nothing is lost in the stereo spread.

You can also add ACC apps i.e. Proloquo2Go app and others for communication needs
Where to go from here

• Contact us to schedule a more thorough consultation and to request to borrow any of our wearable AT

• Want to buy? We can help you locate the items online, so you can make the purchase
CONTACT US

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Eastern Shore Demonstration & Loan Library

Bay Area Center for Independent Living, Inc.

909 Progress Circle, Ste. 300
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443-260-0833 (fax)
http://bayareacil.org/ (web)
Western Maryland Demonstration & Loan Library

Resources for Independence

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