Parent's Proactive Approach to Assistive Technology Webinar Series

Presented by Gayl Bowser, M.Ed., Independent Consultant

Please join us for these free, family friendly webinars to learn more about assistive technology.
You are welcome to register for just one, two, or all three of the sessions.
Questions? Contact Samantha Conklin (sconklin@ucpnet.org).

My Child might need AT. How do I ask for it? – May 4, 2023 12:00PM-1:00 PM

Sometimes, when kids with disabilities face barriers to learning, someone suggests that they may need assistive technology (AT). In this session, we'll meet some kids who use AT and talk about how they think about and use their AT devices. We will take some time to allow you to brainstorm about the barriers you see your child experiencing and what you think might help.

After that we'll share information about the things that IDEA says schools will do to make sure that your child has AT if they need it. In parts 2 and 3 of the series, we will look at parents' roles in AT assessment and AT implementation. Session 1 is designed to offer a basic understanding of AT.

Learning Objectives: Participants will be able to …

1. Define AT and describe an example of AT that their child might use.
2. Know and understand the IDEA requirements of schools to consider and provide AT.
3. Identify actions to take to request AT if they think their child needs it.

Registration Link: https://tinyurl.com/y3m64dcw

What Part Can I Play in Assistive Technology (AT) Assessment? – June 8, 2023 12:00PM-1:00 PM

You already know that you are an important part of your child's IEP team. But ***don't*** think "I don't know anything about AT. There is no part I can play in the assessment that the school is going to do." AT assessment is not a formal test with correct answers. AT Assessment is a process in which your child's IEP team collects all sorts of information about the barriers they are facing and data about how their performance compares to other kids. They do that to make the best decisions about how to support your child to do new things or do things better with AT.

Session 2 in this 3-part series will focus on ways to think about specific AT that might help your child with the barriers you have identified. To help you understand the process, we'll review some ways that IEP teams think about AT assessment. We'll also give you a chance to brainstorm about the information and data that you can provide to your child's IEP team to help make the best AT decisions.

Learning Objectives: Participants will be able to

1. Contribute to the development of a plan for an AT assessment.
2.   Describe the basic use of the SETT Framework
3. Identify specific information and data that they might provide to help the IEP team make decisions about AT.

Registration Link: https://tinyurl.com/ews2w78k

We have AT. What Now? June 15, 2023 12:00PM-1:00 PM

There is a lot that has happened before your child's IEP that includes AT. Your IEP team has collected information about the barriers you child experiences, looked at performance data and made a decision that there is something (AT) that will help overcome those barriers. So, at this point, the *item or piece of equipment (IDEA words)* is in the classroom. It may even be coming home with them. You have AT. But what do you do now?

Session 3 in this 3-part session will focus on ideas that will help you, and your child begin to use assistive technology. We'll discuss how parents can work with IEP teams to ensure that everyone understands the plan for AT and what parents can do at home to make AT use even more effective.

Learning Objectives: Participants will be able to

1. Use the idea of Re-SETT to work with the child's IEP team to develop an implementation plan.
2. Provide data and information to the IEP team about their child's response to using AT and about using AT at home.
3. Identify effective communication strategies for working with their child's IEP about AT.

Registration Link: https://tinyurl.com/mrynjmhw

This **FREE** professional development opportunity is offered through an ISBE grant.

Questions? Email Samantha Conklin at sconklin@ucpnet.org