

AT Funding Guidelines

A variety of resources, both public and private, offer assistance for technology devices and services. To increase your chances of getting the funds you seek, learn more about the process, pay attention to the details and be persistent. These guidelines can help:

1. Get an assessment. Many funding sources require documented proof of your need for the equipment or services you are requesting.
2. Keep accurate records. Write down any disability-related services you receive and keep copies of all documents related to your disability. Keep records of phone conversations and contacts.
3. Know the main purpose of the device you need. Is it a medical necessity, a tool for education or a way to find a job? The answer will help determine your best funding source.
4. File your application as soon as possible. If you think you are eligible for services from a program, contact the agency's local office to start the application process.
5. Provide complete information. Gather all necessary information in detail. Answer questions directly and completely. Use the same terms given in explanations and questions to save time and get a quicker response.
6. Pay close attention to the progress of your application. Follow up with phone calls to make sure your application is given prompt attention.
7. Don't hesitate to ask questions along the way. When you are in doubt about something, have your question answered before you go further.
8. Encourage communications between agencies. If you find yourself talking to representatives from different agencies, ask them to talk directly to each other to find out where different policies and procedures can be used to your benefit.
9. If your request is denied, find out why. Strongly consider appealing a negative decision, providing all additional information and making any needed changes to the application.