

**Assistive Technology Domains**

There are thousands of assistive technology (AT) supports that might assist a student to access, participate, and become more independent in a variety of school activities and tasks including both low- and high-tech options. The following is a chart that can help frame the various student needs that might warrant consideration and application of AT. The examples provided are just a small sampling of AT supports that are available within these domains. This chart is not intended to be an exhaustive list of possible solutions and should not be used as a way to select AT for a specific student. A careful assessment of needs which includes a feature-matching process is required for appropriate selection of specific AT to support a student. For more information about the AT assessment and implementation processes contact the [AT & AEM Center](https://ataem.org) at OCALI.

**Areas of AT Consideration:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ❏ Reading | ❏ Writing: Composition | ❏ Writing: Motor Aspects | ❏ Math |
| ❏ Organization and Study Skills | ❏ Communication | ❏ Access to Electronic Devices | ❏ Mobility  |
| ❏ Seating and Positioning | ❏ Vision | ❏ Hearing | ❏ Activities of Daily Living (ADL) |
| ❏ Recreation, Leisure and Play | ❏ Transportation |  |  |

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| **Reading** – Options for adapting reading materials and tools to support all aspects of reading.  |
| * Change in text size, spacing, color, background color
* Picture supported text
* Page turner, fluffer
* Accessible digital text
* Highlighted text
 | * Book stands
* Text-to-speech
* Text summary
* Digital conversion tools - scanners and OCR software, mobile scan-and-read apps
 | * Multimedia presentation formats
* Tape/cd/mp3/digital format books
* Braille books
* Leveled books
* Concept maps
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| **Writing: Composition** - Aids to support writing composition in the areas of grammar, spelling, drafting, composing, editing, and publishing.  |
| * Outlining software
* Concept mapping
* Writing templates
* Electronic graphic organizer
* Talking word processor
* Picture supports to write about
 | * Electronic spell and grammar check
* Word prediction
* Handheld and inline electronic dictionary/thesaurus
* Tools for citations and formats
 | * Word walls and word banks
* Voice recognition or speech-to-text software
* Braille keyboard or notetaker
* Braille printer
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| **Writing: Motor Aspects** - Options to support students who struggle with handwriting and other text generation methods. |
| * Adapted grips for writing utensils
* Adapted paper
* Slant board
* Portable word processor
* Handheld scanners and apps
 | * Word processors
* Specialized keyboards (large, small, programmable
* Word walls/word banks
 | * Weighted writing utensils
* Guided notes
* Writing guides
* Recording devices
* Accessibility features
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| **Math** - Options to support access to math activities.  |
| * Calculator
* Adaptive calculators
* Graph paper
* Physical manipulatives
* Virtual manipulatives
 | * Specially adapted math tools
* Math modeling / graphing software
* Enlarged worksheets
 | * Math processing software
* Voice recognition for math equations
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| **Organization and Study Skills** –Supports to assist with self, time, materials, and information management. |
| * Timers/Alarms
* Schedules
* Color coded folders
* Calendars/Planners
* Checklists
* Highlighting
* Electronic tools to reduce clutter and simplify information
 | * Reminders
* Rubrics
* Outlines
* Guided notes
* Cloud-based tools
* Online formatting
* Chunking / batching
* Notebooks/Binders
 | * Templates
* Sticky notes
* Graphic organizers
* Masking
* Keywords
* Recording devices
* Sensory regulation tools
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| **Communication** - Supports for individuals who have difficulty being understood, and/or using or understanding language.  |
| * Picture communication systems
* Object/Tactile communication systems
* Computer based communication systems
 | * Voice output
* Voice amplification systems
* Talking word processors
* Visual scene communication boards
 | * Communication enhancement software
* Communication wallet
* Eye gaze boards
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| **Access to Electronic Devices** – Options to support the use of personal computing devices and consumer electronics.  |
| * Switch with scanning
* Operating system accessibility features
* Large TV remote
* Voice activated artificial intelligence assistance (Siri, Alexa)
* Alternative keyboards
 | * Mouthstick and headpointer
* Alternative mouse pointer with on-screen keyboard
* Head controlled mouse
* Eye gaze system
* Keyguard
 | * Touch screen
* Voice recognition software (voice-to-text)
* Screen reader
* Screen magnification
* Joystick/Trackball/trackpad
* Sip-and-puff
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| **Mobility** - Equipment that allows individuals to move as independently as possible. |
| * Canes
* Scooters
* Grab bars / rails
 | * Walkers
* Manual or power wheelchairs
 | * Building modifications and adaptations
* GPS mobility devices
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| **Seating and Positioning** - Supports that allow the individual to maintain the best position for learning, work and other functional activities while reducing fatigue. |
| * Non-slip chair surface
* Footrest
* Bolster
* Adapted or alternate chair
 | * Sidelying frames
* Chair insert
* Head supports
* Trays
* Custom wheelchairs
 | * Adjustable bed
* Seat cushions/wedges
* Adapted desk/table
* Standing frame
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| **Vision** - Visual supports including low vision aids or tactile systems such as braille and tactile graphics. |
| * Large-print books
* Tape/cd/mp3/digital format books
* Magnifiers
* Screen enlargers
* Screen Readers
* Beeping ball
* Cane
* Braille materials
* Color filters
* CCTV
 | * Text-to-speech software
* Use of tactile or auditory materials
* Braille keyboard or notetaker
* Braille printer embosser
* Screen magnification software
 | * Large screen/key calculator
* High contrast keyboard
* Talking calculator
* Light box
* Digital conversion tools such as scanners and OCR software
* GPS tools
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| **Hearing** - Amplification, visual and haptic supports for those who are Deaf, hard of hearing or have difficulties with auditory processing.  |
| * Amplifiers
* Closed captioning
* Classroom amplification
 | * Signaling/alerting devices
* Visual signals on the computer
 | * Personal FM systems
* Text messaging
* Vibrating watches /alarms
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| **Activities of Daily Living** - Tools that enable the individual to perform self-care/daily living tasks (i.e. feeding, dressing, toileting, grooming).  |
| * Adaptive cups
* Jar/bottle opener
* Adapted door knobs
* Reachers/grabbers
* Restroom grab bars
* Hook and loop fasteners
 | * Specially designed toilet seats/showers
* Environmental control systems (e.g. keyless entry, voice activated lights, etc.)
 | * Adaptive grooming/dressing/cooking/eating aids
* Home automation (Amazon Echo, Google Home, etc.)
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| **Recreation, Leisure and Play** – Options for accessing toys, sports activities, crafts and other leisure time activities. |
| * Adapted toys and games
* Adapted puzzles
* Switch activated toys
* Computer games
 | * Adapted art tools
* Modified stamps, scissors, paint brushes and drawing tools
* Beeping balls
 | * Adapted sporting equipment
* Adapted bicycle
* Battery operated recreational vehicles
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| **Transportation** - Adaptations to enable more independent travel within a wide range of environments.  |
| * Spinner knobs for car steering wheels
* Ramps
 | * Foot pedal extensions
* Modified vehicle
* Adapted bikes and trikes
 | * Wheelchair lifts
* Adaptive driving controls
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