

**State Grants for Assistive Technology Program**  
**Washington State Plan for Assistive Technology**  
**Federal Fiscal Years 2018-2020**

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*Expiration Date: March 31, 2021*

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**Assistive Technology State Grant Program**

**State Plan for FY 2018-2020**

**Section A: Identification and Description of Lead Agency and Implementing Entity; Change in Lead Agency or Implementing Entity**

Section 4(d)(2) of the AT Act requires that the State Plan contain information identifying and describing the Lead Agency and Implementing Entity (if applicable) designated by the state’s governor. A state either has a Lead Agency alone or has both a Lead Agency and an Implementing Entity. The Implementing Entity is a subcontractor separate from the Lead Agency who is responsible for implementing the State AT Program activities. The Lead Agency does not also name itself or a unit within the agency as the Implementing Entity.

If there is an Implementing Entity, section 4(d)(4)(B) requires that the State Plan include a description of the mechanisms established to ensure coordination of activities and collaboration between the Implementing Entity and the Lead Agency. If the governor chooses to re-designate the Lead Agency or Implementing Entity, section 4(c)(1)(C) requires that good cause for this change be shown in the State Plan, including why that previously designated agency or entity no longer should serve. If the Lead Agency or Implementing Entity is changing, the information provided in this State Plan should pertain to how the new agency or entity will conduct the Statewide AT Program. The following items are intended to satisfy the requirements just described.

**Identification & Description of Lead Agency and Implementing Entity**

<b>Statewide AT Program (Information to be listed in national State AT Program Directory)</b>	
1. State Program Title: <b>Washington Assistive Technology Act Program</b>	
2. State AT Program URL (home page for State AT Program): <b>http://watap.org</b>	
3. Mailing address: <b>UW Box 357920</b>	5. State: <b>WA</b>
4. City: <b>Seattle</b>	6. Zip code: <b>98195-7920</b>
7. Main email address (for general public to use to contact State AT Program): <b>watap@uw.edu</b>	
8. Main phone number (for general public to use to contact State AT Program): <b>800-214-8731</b>	
9. Separate TTY number (for general public to use to contact State AT Program): <b>866-866-0126</b>	
<b>Lead Agency</b>	
10. Agency name: <b>University of Washington Center for Technology and Disability Studies</b>	
11. Mailing address: <b>UW Box 357920</b>	13. State: <b>WA</b>
12. City: <b>Seattle</b>	14. Zip code: <b>98195-7920</b>

15. Lead Agency URL: <b>https://uwctds.washington.edu</b>	
<b>Implementing Entity</b>	
16. Does your Lead Agency contract with an Implementing Entity to carry out the Statewide AT Program on its behalf? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>If yes, complete Items 17–22.</i>	
17. Name of Implementing Entity	
18. Mailing address	20. State
19. City	21. Zip code
22. Implementing Entity URL	
<b>Program director and other contacts</b>	
23. Program Director for State AT Program (last, first): <b>Knue, Alan</b>	
24. Title: <b>Director</b>	
25. Phone: <b>206-685-6836</b>	
26. E-mail: <b>aknue@uw.edu</b>	
27. Primary Contact at the Lead Agency (last, first): <b>Knue, Alan</b>	
28. Title: <b>Director</b>	
29. Phone: <b>206-685-6836</b>	
30. E-mail: <b>aknue@uw.edu</b>	
31. Primary Contact at Implementing Entity (last, first) – If applicable	
32. Title	
33. Phone	
34. E-mail	
<b>Person Responsible for completing this form if other than State AT Program Director</b>	
34. Name (last, first)	
35. Title	
36. Phone	

37. E-mail
<b>Certifying Representative</b>
38. Name (last, first): <b>Rhodes, Carol</b>
39. Title: <b>Director, Office of Sponsored Programs</b>
40. Phone: <b>206-543-4043</b>
41. E-mail: <b>osp@uw.edu</b>

**Change in Lead Agency or Implementing Entity**

**1. Describe the mechanisms established to ensure coordination of activities and collaboration between the Implementing Entity and the state if you have a designated Implementing Entity identified above. N/A**

**2. Is the Lead Agency named in this State Plan a new or different Lead Agency from the one designated by the Governor in your previous State Plan? No**

**If you answered no to this question, and you do not use an Implementing Entity, you may skip ahead to the next section. Otherwise, you must answer the following questions.**

**3. Explain why the Lead Agency previously designated by the Governor should not serve as the Lead Agency. Answer only if Question 2 above is yes.**

**4. Explain why the Lead Agency newly designated by the Governor should serve as the Lead Agency. Answer only if Question 2 above is yes.**

**5. Is the Implementing Entity named in this State Plan a new or different Implementing Entity from the one designated by the Governor in the previous State Plan?**

**If you answered no to this question, you may skip ahead to the next section. Otherwise, you must respond to Items 6 and 7 below.**

**6. Explain why the Implementing Entity previously designated by the Governor should not serve as the Implementing Entity. Answer only if Question 5 above is yes.**

**7. Explain why the Implementing Entity newly designated by the Governor should serve as the Implementing Entity. Answer only if Question 5 above is yes.**

## Section B: Advisory Council, Budget Allocations and Actual Expenditures, and Identification of Activities Conducted

Section 4(c)(2) of the AT Act requires the Statewide AT Program to establish a consumer-majority advisory council that provides consumer-responsive, consumer-driven advice to the state for planning of, implementation of, and evaluation of the activities carried out through the grant, including setting measurable goals. Exceptions to these requirements are allowed under section 4(c)(2)(E) if the requirements will affect existing state statutes, rules, or official policies relating to advisory bodies or require changes to existing governing bodies of incorporated agencies. The following items provide assurances related to and identify compliance with the requirements of section 4(c)(2).

### Screen 1: Advisory Council

1. In accordance with section 4(c)(2) of the AT Act of 1998, as amended our state has a consumer-majority advisory council that provides consumer-responsive, consumer-driven advice to the state for planning of, implementation of, and evaluation of the activities carried out through the grant, including setting measurable goals. This advisory council is geographically representative of the State and reflects the diversity of the State with respect to race, ethnicity, and types of disabilities across the age span, and users of types of services that an individual with a disability may receive. Yes
2. The advisory council includes a representative of the designated State agency, as defined in section 7 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 705). Yes
3. The advisory council includes a representative of the State agency for individuals who are blind (within the meaning of section 101 of that Act (29 U.S.C. 721)). Yes
4. The advisory council includes a representative of a State center for independent living described in part C of title VII of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 796f et seq.). Yes
5. The advisory council includes a representative of the State workforce development board established under section 101 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act). Yes
6. The advisory council includes a representative of the State educational agency, as defined in section 9101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 as reauthorized. Yes
7. The advisory council includes other representatives (list below). None
8. The advisory council includes a majority of individuals with disabilities that use assistive technology or their family members or guardians:
  - A. Enter the number of individuals with disabilities that use AT or their family members or guardians on the advisory council - 6
  - B. Enter the total number of individuals on the advisory council - 11
  - C. Calculate the percentage (divide A/B) - 54.5%

If the ratio is less than 51% you must provide explanation of why advisory council does not include a consumer majority in Item 9 below.

**9. If the Statewide AT Program does not have the composition and representation required under section 4(c)(2)(B), explain here. N/A**

**Actual Expenditures and Budgeted Allocations**

**10. Actual Expenditures Carryover Year Close-out (annual update required-table reset)**

In the following table provide the actual expenditure data for the closed-out carryover fiscal year AT grant award (liquidated the previous December 31). Please note, this data is for a specific year AT Act grant award amount, NOT any specific 12- month period of time as funds from a grant award can be obligated over a 24-month period. (For a State Plan submitted in the spring of 2018, the most recent closed-out carryover year grant award will be the FY16 grant award that began 10/1/2015 with the first year ending on 9/30/2016 and the second carryover year ending on 9/30/2017 with 3-month liquidation period ending 12/31/2017).

<b>Actual Expenditures for Closed-out Carryover Year Award</b>	<b>Final Expenditures</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>A. All State Level Activities</b>	<b>\$ 367,482</b>	<b>70.5%</b>
<b>B. All State Leadership Activities</b>	<b>\$ 153,629</b>	<b>29.5% less than 40/30% required</b>
<b>C. Transition Training &amp; Technical Assistance</b>	<b>\$ 28,338</b>	<b>18.4% at least 5% required</b>
<b>D. Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 521,111</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>E. Total Award</b>	<b>\$ 521,111</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>F. Lapsed Amount</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>0</b>

Section 4(e)(6) of the AT Act allows a state to carry out any two or more of the required state-level activities, meaning a state can choose not to conduct up to two activities. If the state has claimed flexibility for a state level activity in a given fiscal year, the state does not report data for that activity during that fiscal year and the grant award for that fiscal year would be subject to a maximum 30% of total expenditures for state leadership activities.

States must have a mechanism in place to accurately track all AT Act expenditures by grant award FY and by the state level and state leadership categories. Most direct expenditures like salaries and benefits, contractual expenses, etc. will be clearly attributable to a state level or state leadership activity. For example, expenditures for purchasing equipment for a device loan program will be state level expenses while staff salaries and travel expenses to deliver training will be state leadership. A helpful way of determining state level or state leadership will be to identify where the data reported in the annual progress report for an expenditure activity will be

reported. Since most all activities should have associated data reported, if the data is state level (state financing, reuse, device loan or device demonstration) then the activity and associated expenditure is state level. Most staff salaries and benefits can be assigned in total or in portions to state level or state leadership depending on staff job responsibilities and any time and effort logs they are required to keep for federal reporting purposes.

For very generic administrative and operational expenditures, like paper or similar general office supplies, an arbitrary ratio allocation can be used such as a 50/50 split. These very generic expenditures should not be a large portion of the total fiscal year AT Act expenses especially if an indirect rate is used to cover overhead costs. The same arbitrary ratio allocation can be applied to any indirect costs claimed.

**11. Actual YTD Expenditures and Budgeted Allocations for Immediately Preceding Year Award (annual update required-table reset)**

In the following table provide year-to-date (YTD) obligated and liquidated expenditure data for the immediately preceding fiscal year AT grant award along with planned budget allocations for the unobligated remainder of that award. Please note, this data is for a specific year AT Act grant award amount, NOT any specific 12-month period of time as funds from a grant award can be obligated over a 24-month period. (For a State Plan submitted in the spring of 2018, the immediately preceding fiscal year award will be the FY17 grant award that began 10/1/2016 with the first year ending 9/30/2017 and the second carryover year ending 9/30/18).

<b>Actual &amp; Planned Immediately Preceding Year Award Expenditures</b>	<b>YTD Obligated not Liquidated Expenditures</b>	<b>YTD Liquidated Expenditures</b>	<b>Planned not yet Obligated Expenditures</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>All State Level Activities</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$376,494</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$376,494</b>
<b>All State Leadership Activities</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$144,690</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$144,690</b>
<b>Transition Training &amp; Technical Assistance</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$29,245</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$29,245</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>Total: 521,184 Award: \$521,184</b>

**Activities Conducted**

**12. State Level Activities Conducted and Program Structure**

Using the table below, identify all types of state level activities that will be conducted by the Statewide AT Program, who is conducting the activity, from where it is conducted and if a fee is

charged. Please remember that annual progress report data is required for any activity identified as conducted in this State Plan.

AT Act State Level Activities	Activity Conducted?	Who conducts? State	Who conducts? Other	Who conducts? Both	Where conducted? Central	Where conducted? Regional	Where conducted? Both	Fee Charged
State Financing-Financial Loan	Yes		Yes		Yes			Yes
State Financing-Other that Directly Provides AT	Yes			Yes	Yes			Yes
State Financing-Other that Creates Savings for AT	No							
Reuse-Device Exchange	Yes	Yes			Yes			No
Reuse-Device Open Ended Loan or Reassign	Yes			Yes			Yes	Yes
Device short-term loan	Yes			Yes			Yes	Yes
Device demonstration	Yes	Yes					Yes	No

For each activity conducted, select the one option that best describes who conducts each state level activity from the choices of:

- *The Statewide AT Program (State AT)*
- *Other entities e.g. contractors (Others)*

- *Both the Statewide AT Program and other entities/contractors (Both)*

For each activity conducted, select the one option that best describes from where each activity is conducted from the choices of:

- *One central location (Central)*
- *Regional sites (Regional)*
- *A combination of a central location and regional sites (Combination)*

For each activity you conduct, identify if a fee is charged.

### 13. Comparability and Flexibility

For any of the four State Level Activities that are not conducted, the Statewide AT Program must claim comparability or flexibility in the table below. The table below repeats the yes/no from the previous table identifying the activities the state is conducting and requires identification of flexibility or comparability for those activities the Statewide AT Program is not conducting.

<b>Comparability &amp; Flexibility</b>	<b>Yes/No</b>	<b>State Level Activities</b>	<b>Not Performed Claiming --</b>
<b>Financial Loan</b>	Yes	State Financing	N/A
<b>Other State Financing that Directly Provides AT</b>	Yes	State Financing	N/A
<b>Other State Financing that Creates Savings for AT</b>	No	State Financing	N/A
<b>Device Exchange</b>	Yes	Reuse	N/A
<b>Device Reassignment or Open-Ended Loan</b>	Yes	Reuse	N/A
<b>Device short-term loan</b>	Yes	Short-term Loan	N/A
<b>Device demonstration</b>	Yes	Demonstration	N/A

*Flexibility* - Section 4(e)(6) of the AT Act allows a state to carry out any two or more of the required state-level activities, meaning a state can choose not to conduct up to two activities. If the state claims flexibility in a given fiscal year, do not report data for that activity during that fiscal year and the grant award for that fiscal year will be subject to a maximum 30% of total expenditures for state leadership activities.

*Comparability* - Section 4 (e)(1)(B) of the AT Act provides that a state shall not be required to carry out a required state-level activity if the amount of financial support provided from the state

or other nonfederal resources or entities for that activity is comparable or greater than the amount that the state would have expended for the activity. When a Statewide AT Program claims comparability; the state will not report data for any state-level activities for which the state claimed comparability.

For any activity for which the Statewide AT Program is claiming comparability, describe the comparable activity and comparable financial support. In the text box, explain in the simplest terms possible what the comparable activity is, who conducts the activity, who supports the activity, and what makes it comparable both in terms of resources supporting the activity and how the activity is related to the purposes of the AT Act. **N/A**

### **Multiple Activity Item Instructions**

Section 4(d)(5) of the AT Act requires that the State Plan include a description of how the Statewide AT Program will implement its State-level and State Leadership activities. For the purposes of the following portions of the State Plan, there is no distinction between a Lead Agency or Implementing Entity in terms of implementation. If an Implementing Entity is used, the State Plan reports on how that entity is implementing the Act.

Section 4(d)(4) requires that the State Plan describe how various public and private entities will be involved in the implementation of those activities, including a description of the nature and extent of resources that will be committed by public and private collaborators. Section 4(d)(7) also requires that the State Plan include a description of the State-level and State Leadership Activities the state will support with state funds. Section 4(e)(3)(B)(iii) requires that states coordinate and collaborate their State-level and State Leadership activities among public and private entities.

Sections C-G of this State Plan contains items intended to meet these requirements for each AT Act authorized activity. While Sections do request unique information about specific activities, each begins with the same request for information regarding collaboration.

## Section C: State Financing Activities

The AT Act describes state financing activities as activities that increase:

“access to, and funding for, assistive technology devices and assistive technology services (which shall not include direct payment for such a device or service for an individual with a disability but may include support and administration of a program to provide such payment), including development of systems to provide and pay for such devices and services, for targeted individuals and entities described in section 3(16)(A), including—

- (i) support for the development of systems for the purchase, lease, or other acquisition of, or payment for, assistive technology devices and assistive technology services; or
- (ii) support for the development of State-financed or privately financed alternative financing systems of subsidies (which may include conducting an initial 1-year feasibility study of, improving, administering, operating, providing capital for, or collaborating with an entity with respect to, such a system) for the provision of assistive technology devices, such as—
  - (I) a low-interest loan fund;
  - (II) an interest buy-down program;
  - (III) a revolving loan fund;
  - (IV) a loan guarantee or insurance program;
  - (V) a program providing for the purchase, lease, or other acquisition of assistive technology devices or assistive technology services; or
  - (VI) another mechanism that is approved by the Secretary.”

For the purposes of this State Plan, state financing activities include financial loan programs, programs that directly provide AT such as home modification programs, telecommunications distribution programs, and last resort funds, and programs that create savings for AT acquisition such as cooperative buying programs and AT leasing programs. Each of these activities is defined in the corresponding section of this State Plan.

Section 4(d)(5) of the AT Act requires that the State Plan include a description of how the Statewide AT Program will implement its State-level and State Leadership activities. Further, section 4(d)(4) requires that the State Plan describe how various public and private entities will be involved in the implementation of those activities, including a description of the nature and extent of resources that will be committed by public and private collaborators. Section 4(d)(7) also requires that the State Plan include a description of the State-level and State Leadership Activities the state will support with state funds. Section 4(e)(3)(B)(iii) requires that states coordinate and collaborate their State-level and State Leadership activities among public and private entities. The following items are intended to meet these requirements for State Financing Activities. Respond only to the items that correspond with the State Financing Activities selected in Section B of this Plan.

**Financial Loan Program -**

A financial loan program provides financial loans for purchase of AT devices and services. A financial loan program may make loans directly (revolving loans) or may make partnership loans using dollars from another source, usually a financial institution.

- 1. If you conduct this activity through a formal written agreement, by providing financial support to other entities or by receiving financial support from other entities please identify that coordination and collaboration in the table below.**

<b>Collaborating organizations conducting this activity</b>	<b>Have written agreement with this entity</b>	<b>Provide financial support to this entity</b>	<b>Receive financial support from this entity</b>
<b>Banks/financial institution</b>			
<b>Independent Living Center</b>			
<b>Easter Seals</b>			
<b>Disability/AT Organizations</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
<b>Federal Entities/Agencies</b>			
<b>State Entities/Agencies</b>			
<b>Local/Community Entities</b>			
<b>Private Entities</b>			
<b>Other (describe)</b>			

- 2. This activity offers the following types of assistance: Revolving loans**
- 3. The lowest interest amount for loans as established by the policies of the activity: 00.00%**
- 4. The highest interest amount for loans as established by the policies of the activity: 5.00%**
- 5. The lowest loan amount provided as established by the policies of the activity: \$250**
- 6. The highest loan amount provided as established by the policies of the activity \$40,000**
- 7. Describe the activity.**

**WATAP provides financial support to the Northwest Access Fund for the purposes of the management, operation, and other appropriate needs of its Assistive Technology Financial Loan program. This program provides loans up to \$40,000 for modified vehicles, \$35,000 for home**

modifications, and up to \$25,000 for other forms of Assistive Technology with requests for higher amounts can be considered by the Board of Directors. Terms are from one to five years (ten for home modifications) depending on the expected life of the assistive technology purchased and the borrower's budget. Loan interest rate is 5.0% (0% for Washington Council of the Blind (WCB) members in good standing). Washington residents of all ages with disabilities of all types, including seniors with age-related functional limitations, are eligible for participating in this loan program.

8. The online page for this specific activity can be found at:

<http://www.nwaccessfund.org>

**Other State Financing Activities Directly Provide AT**

1. If other state financing activities that directly provide AT are conducted through a formal written agreement, by providing financial support to other entities or by receiving financial support from other entities please identify that coordination and collaboration in the table below.

Collaborating organizations conducting this activity	Have written agreement with this entity	Provide financial support to this entity	Receive financial support from this entity
Banks/financial institution			
Independent Living Center			
Easter Seals			
Disability/AT Organizations	Yes	Yes	
Federal Entities/Agencies			
State Entities/Agencies			
Local/Community Entities			
Private Entities	Yes	Yes	Yes
Other (describe)			

2. The following activities are conducted

Activities	Check if Conducted
Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (EDP)-State	

Activities	Check if Conducted
Deaf/Blind Telecommunications EDP-Federal	X
Last Resort Fund	
Home Modification Program	
Other (describe) <u>IDA-Matched Savings Program</u>	X

**3. Describe the activity or activities.**

Through partnership with the Perkins School for the Blind, WATAP administers the iCanConnect WA (iCC), the National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program (NDBEDP) in Washington state. Funded through the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), iCC has a goal to provide distance communications technology and training for people with combined hearing and vision disabilities, and to increase opportunities for independence for this underserved population to stay connected with family, friends, service providers, and their communities. This program was mandated by the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010 (CVAA).

To be eligible for the program, a Washington resident must complete an application that documents that s/he:

Has combined vision and hearing loss to be considered "deaf-blind" as that term "deaf-blind" is defined as any individual with a combination of the disabilities described below for whom it is extremely difficult to attain independence in daily life activities, achieve psychosocial adjustment or obtain a vocation. A practicing professional who has direct knowledge of the applicant's vision and hearing loss must verify that they meet the definition of deaf-blind.

Has a household income that does not exceed 400 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG). Applicants who are enrolled in federal subsidy programs with income thresholds lower than 400 percent of the FPG are automatically deemed income eligible for the program. Applicants who are not enrolled in a qualifying federal low-income program must be deemed eligible by review of documentation of their income.

Key tasks performed by WATAP staff and/or consultants and sub-contractors include:

- Establishing and maintaining sub-contractor agreements for the purposes of conducting in-depth evaluation of client needs to match appropriate technologies and/or training on technologies to clients.
- Conducting in-take and initial assessment of client's current skills and experience with technology including device usage history.

- Conducting in-depth client evaluation, or refer when appropriate to qualified sub-contractor, to assess skills and to match and make recommendations for technology and equipment for the purposes of telecommunication access.
- Providing a short-term loan of appropriate technologies and equipment to clients to make an informed decision as to whether the device will work for them to meet their telecommunication access goals and to ensure the equipment is a good fit before the equipment is purchased by Perkins. WATAP will arrange for, insure, and ship all devices as necessary. Devices will also be maintained and updated as necessary.
- Providing or make referral to appropriate sub-contractor for training on the equipment to ensure that client's telecommunication access goals will be met.
- Collecting and report data to Perkins for reporting to the FCC according to established policies and procedures.
- Conducting follow-up assessment/evaluation and client satisfaction surveys to ensure equipment is effectively being used by the client and to improve program procedures and service delivery.

WATAP provides financial support to the Northwest Access Fund to support the Assistive Technology Individual Development Account (IDA) Program. IDAs are matched savings accounts that are matched dollar for dollar. The IDA program allows low-income households to earn up to \$2,000 through consistent monthly saving. IDAs can be used to purchase all types of assistive technology, which is broadly defined to include any program or device that maintains or enhances the functional capabilities and/or quality of life of an individual with a disability. To participate in this program, an applicant must schedule and participate in a financial coaching appointment with Northwest Access Fund. The coach will determine whether the applicant would be a good fit for the program and can help develop achievable savings goals.

To be eligible, an applicant must demonstrate that they (1) are a Washington state resident with a disability and/or caring for a child or other family member with a disability; (2) have a household income at the start of the savings program equal to or less than 80% of the county median income, adjusted for household size; (3) have household net assets at the time of application must be at or below \$20,000; (4) are at least 18 years old if applying as the person opening the IDA; and (5) the items to be purchased qualify as assistive technology.

4. The online page (or pages) for this specific activity can be found at:

<http://watap.org/icanconnect-faq-application>

<http://www.nwaccessfund.org/idas/>

**Section D: Device Reutilization Activities**

The AT Act describes the State-level activity of device reutilization as follows:

“DEVICE REUTILIZATION PROGRAMS. —The State shall directly, or in collaboration with public or private entities, carry out assistive technology device reutilization programs that provide for the exchange, repair, recycling, or other reutilization of assistive technology devices, which may include redistribution through device sales, loans, rentals, or donations.”

For the purposes of this State Plan, device reutilization activities are categorized as either device exchange activities, device refurbish and reassign activities or open-ended loan activities. Device exchange activities are those in which the Statewide AT Program facilitates the transfer of a device from a consumer who does not need the device to a consumer who could use the device without the organization taking possession of the device at any time. Devices are listed in a “want ad” or other type of posting and consumers can contact and arrange to obtain the device (either by purchasing it or obtaining it for free) from the current owner. Exchange activities do not involve warehousing inventory and do not include repair, sanitization or refurbishing of used devices. In some cases, a Statewide AT Program serves as an intermediary directly involved in making this exchange; in others the consumer and current owner make this exchange without the involvement of the Statewide AT Program.

Section 4(d)(5) of the AT Act requires the State Plan include a description of how the Statewide AT Program will implement State-level and State Leadership activities. Further, section 4(d)(4) requires that the State Plan describe how various public and private entities will be involved in the implementation of those activities, including a description of the nature and extent of resources that will be committed by public and private collaborators. Section 4(d)(7) requires that the State Plan include a description of the State-level and State Leadership Activities the state will support with state funds. Section 4(e)(3)(B)(iii) requires that states coordinate and collaborate their State-level and State Leadership activities among public and private entities.

**Device Exchange**

- 1. If device exchange activities are conducted through a formal written agreement, by providing financial support to other entities and/or by receiving financial support from other entities please identify that coordination and collaboration in the table below.**

<b>Collaborating organizations conducting this activity</b>	<b>Have written agreement with this entity</b>	<b>Provide financial support to this entity</b>	<b>Receive financial support from this entity</b>
<b>Banks/financial institution</b>			
<b>Independent Living Center</b>			
<b>Easter Seals</b>			
<b>Disability/AT Organizations</b>			

Collaborating organizations conducting this activity	Have written agreement with this entity	Provide financial support to this entity	Receive financial support from this entity
Federal Entities/Agencies			
State Entities/Agencies			
Local/Community Entities			
Private Entities			
Other (describe)			

2. Select the option that best describes what happens when a device is exchanged. Identify only one: The transaction is direct consumer-to-consumer

3. Describe the activity.

WATAP uses NATADS—Assistive Technology Classifieds, an online database for the exchange, sale, and donation of assistive technology devices, for device exchange. The purpose of this electronic marketplace is to link a person or an agency that has an assistive technology device that they no longer need with someone who can use it to increase their independence, quality of life or level of participation in work, school, or community living. Although it is difficult to collect the data associated with this activity, this activity fills a community need and WATAP offers the service regardless.

4. The online page for this specific activity can be found at:

<https://www.myatprogram.org/Default.aspx?state=53>

**Device Refurbish and Reassignment and/or Open-ended Loan**

1. If device refurbish and reassignment and/or open-ended loan activities are conducted through a formal written agreement, by providing financial support to other entities and/or by receiving financial support from other entities please identify that coordination and collaboration in the table below.

Collaborating organizations conducting this activity	Have written agreement with this entity	Provide financial support to this entity	Receive financial support from this entity
Banks/financial institution			
Independent Living Center			

Collaborating organizations conducting this activity	Have written agreement with this entity	Provide financial support to this entity	Receive financial support from this entity
Easter Seals			
Disability/AT Organizations	Yes	Yes	
Federal Entities/Agencies			
State Entities/Agencies			
Local/Community Entities			
Private Entities			
Other <i>(describe)</i>			

2. Select the option(s) that describe how a reutilized device is provided to a recipient. Identify as many as apply.

Device ownership is transferred to the recipient

Device is loaned for as long as the recipient needs it with no ownership transfer.

3. Describe the activity.

WATAP has negotiated contracts with 2 organizations to increase the capacity of existing device reuse programs which already accept donated AT devices for refurbishment, reassignment, and/or redistribution to children and adults with disabilities in Washington State.

WATAP contracts to Bridge Disability Ministries - Meyer Mobility Center to increase its capacity and contribute to the sustainability of their durable medical equipment (DME) reuse program. The mobility center has been serving Washington for nearly 30 years, and provides reused mobility and durable medical equipment and daily living aids at no cost to those of low income or without sufficient resources to meet their equipment needs.

WATAP also contracts with the Hearing, Speech and Deafness Center (HSDC) to support Access Sound, HSDC's hearing aid reuse program. Access Sound provides refurbished hearing aids and other necessary services including fitting of hearing aids, follow-up appointments for adjustments, counseling, and orientation to the technology, custom earmolds to accompany the hearing aids as needed, and free hearing evaluations for those with no means to pay. HSDC is an important community resource and over 50% of their clients are low-income families or individuals needing hearing assistance.

Both contractors have appropriate means and procedures in place to evaluate the need of consumers. The minimal requirements the consumer must meet are: (1) reside in Washington state;

(2) have a demonstrated need for the AT, as prescribed by a professional, or other qualified person describing the applicant's need and qualification for the device; (3) need AT in order to participate in employment, education or community living; and (4) have access to resources and supports for setup and training with the technology.

Both also have the means for evaluating and matching individuals with devices to ensure that appropriate devices are provided that address and meet consumer's needs. Specifically, Bridge works with qualified medical professionals who recommend the equipment needed and are available for consultation to help match and fit an individual's needs. Similarly, HSDC employs audiologists and medical technicians to provide comprehensive audiological diagnostic evaluations, and hearing aid assessments, fitting, dispensing, service and repair.

Lastly, WATAP coordinates the Evergreen Reuse Coalition, a Washington State reuse network, which seeks to make a positive impact to the environment, quality of life of consumers, and cost savings to consumers through effective reuse of assistive devices.

4. The online page (or pages) for this specific activity can be found at:

<http://watap.org/device-reuse>

**Section E: Device Short-term Loan Activity**

The AT Act indicates that Statewide AT Programs are to “directly or in collaboration with public or private entities, carry out device loan programs that provide short-term loans of assistive technology devices to individuals, employers, public agencies, or others seeking to meet the needs of targeted individuals and entities, including others seeking to comply with IDEA, ADA and Section 504.” The purpose of a device loan may be -- (1) to assist in decision making, (2) to serve as a loaner while the consumer is waiting for device repair or funding, (3) to provide an accommodation on a short-term basis for a time limited event or situation or (4) to conduct training, self-education or other professional development activity.

Section 4(d)(5) of the AT Act requires that the State Plan include a description of how the Statewide AT Program will implement its State-level and State Leadership activities. Further, section 4(d)(4) requires that the State Plan describe how various public and private entities will be involved in the implementation of those activities, including a description of the nature and extent of resources that will be committed by public and private collaborators. Section 4(d)(7) also requires that the State Plan include a description of the State-level and State Leadership Activities the state will support with state funds. Section 4(e)(3)(B)(iii) requires that states coordinate and collaborate their State-level and State Leadership activities among public and private entities. The following items are items intended to meet these requirements for device loan activities.

**Short-term Device Loan**

- 1. If short-term device loan activities are conducted through a formal written agreement, by providing financial support to other entities and/or by receiving financial support from other entities please identify that coordination and collaboration in the table below.**

<b>Collaborating organizations conducting this activity</b>	<b>Have written agreement with this entity</b>	<b>Provide financial support to this entity</b>	<b>Receive financial support from this entity</b>
<b>Banks/financial institution</b>			
<b>Independent Living Center</b>			
<b>Easter Seals</b>			
<b>Disability/AT Organizations</b>			
<b>Federal Entities/Agencies</b>			
<b>State Entities/Agencies</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Local/Community Entities</b>			
<b>Private Entities</b>			

Collaborating organizations conducting this activity	Have written agreement with this entity	Provide financial support to this entity	Receive financial support from this entity
Other (describe)			

2. Select the option that describes how the majority of devices loaned are delivered to and returned from a borrower. Identify only one.

The majority of devices are shipped via mail or other delivery service.

3. Describe the activity.

Through a device lending, individuals with disabilities and seniors aging with functional limitations, family members, and professionals are provided with the opportunity to try AT in their employment, education, or community living setting to identify effective AT solutions to maintain or increase independence and inclusion and enhance quality of life.

WATAP's Demonstration and Lending Library of AT has been in operation for nearly 15 years with a centralized maintained inventory at our Seattle location. WATAP accepts requests for AT device loans from a person with a disability, family members, advocates, or service providers (e.g. therapist, teacher, rehabilitation counselor). WATAP will not deny a loan based on the age, race, type of disability, income, or location in the state of the borrower. However if the borrower does not have sufficient knowledge or resources to support the device, a loan request may be denied. WATAP staff will ship any device available in its inventory to any location within the state using commercial shipping companies. If the device is currently checked out, the borrower will be put on a wait list. If an individual requests a device that WATAP does not have in its inventory, the individual will be referred to appropriate resources if available.

WATAP charges a sliding scale lending fee which is based on the initial cost of the device. The fees not only help cover shipping as well as maintenance and insurance costs for the device but help sustain the device lending program and provide some funds to update the inventory as needed.

Through interagency agreements and memorandums of understanding, WATAP collaborates with several partners around the state around device lending activities.

WATAP partners with regional and local libraries on an Aids for Better Living program which enables library patrons to checkout and try devices directly from their local library branch.

WATAP and the Timberland Regional Library System partner to offer library patrons in 5 counties (Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, and Thurston) in southwest Washington with the opportunity to try AT from a small collection of assistive devices to help with a variety of daily tasks. These devices are organized into categories of dressing, kitchen tasks, household management, reading and writing, leisure, communication, and computer access and are available to check out at the library branches and using the online Timberland Regional Library System Catalog. Devices are delivered to a local library branch for pick up. The purpose of this small collection is to offer the consumer a selection of devices that are available to stimulate decision making, but is not meant to

be comprehensive. The program reaches individuals who commonly do not commonly self identify as having a disability.

This relatively low cost activity has the great potential to reach very rural portions in Washington State as well as underserved populations especially seniors. However, significant challenges remain in collecting performance data from this activity, which hinders further expansion of this program. WATAP has established a new process to increase data survey response returns requiring Timberland library staff to directly check in the devices and to make sure the data cards are filled out and returned. If this new process has good success, WATAP will explore further partnerships with other regional library systems.

WATAP also has a small collection of devices with the San Juan Island Library with similar scope and purpose as the partnership with TRL.

WATAP supports K-12 students statewide through a partnership with the Special Education Technology Center (SETC) by supplementing their inventory to provide short-term loans of assistive technology to professionals in the school districts. SETC reimburses WATAP all loan fee for school districts referred from that program.

WATAP supplements AT services within the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), Department of Services for the Blind (DSB), and other with device lending. These agencies provide funds to reimburse the device loan fees for device loans by agency counselors and providers, as well as, clients. DVR additionally provides funds to supplement WATAP's library inventory for devices that have direct benefits for its clients.

WATAP often initiates a device loan through a device demonstration; in these cases, WATAP staff ensures that the consumer has appropriate supports for setting up and maintaining the device during the loan. If the device requires technical support, this can be provided by WATAP staff or by an appropriate local service provider. Some devices available for loan may require specialized support for their use, therefore, the person requesting the loan will be asked to identify who recommended the device and who will provide support during the loan period. Support persons may include centers for independent living staff, vocational rehabilitation counselors, teachers, OTs, PTs, Home Health staff, caregivers, etc.

4. The online page for this specific activity can be found at:

<http://watap.org/loan>

**Section F: Device Demonstration Activity**

The AT Act describes device demonstrations as activities to “directly, or in collaboration with public and private entities, such as one-stop partners, as defined in section 101 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2801), demonstrate a variety of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services (including assisting individuals in making informed choices regarding, and providing experiences with, the devices and services), using personnel who are familiar with such devices and services and their applications.” Section 4(e)(2)(D)

Device demonstrations compare the features and benefits of AT devices to enable informed decision-making. In a device demonstration, guided experience with the device(s) is provided to the participant with the assistance of someone who has technical expertise related to the device(s). This expert may be in the same location as the participant or may assist the participant through Internet or distance learning mechanism that provides real-time, effective communication to deliver the necessary device exploration.

A demonstration is characterized by its interactive nature whereby the participant can interact with the device and an expert to increase their knowledge and understanding about the details and functions of a device; the participant drives the demonstration and has the ability to interact and have their individual questions about the device addressed. If the demonstration is conducted via the internet or distance learning mechanism it must be a real-time, interactive demonstration that provides one-on-one assistance to the participant. A web-based demonstration that is archived or is a static presentation without interaction is considered an awareness activity, not a demonstration.

Section 4(d)(5) of the AT Act requires that the State Plan include a description of how the Statewide AT Program will implement its State-level and State Leadership activities. Further, section 4(d)(4) requires that the State Plan describe how various public and private entities will be involved in the implementation of those activities, including a description of the nature and extent of resources that will be committed by public and private collaborators. Section 4(d)(7) also requires that the State Plan include a description of the State-level and State Leadership Activities the state will support with state funds. Section 4(e)(3)(B)(iii) requires that states coordinate and collaborate their State-level and State Leadership activities among public and private entities. The following items are items intended to meet these requirements for device demonstration activities.

**Device Demonstration**

- 1. If device demonstration activities are conducted through a formal written agreement, by providing financial support to other entities and/or by receiving financial support from other entities please identify that coordination and collaboration in the table below.**

<b>Collaborating organizations conducting this activity</b>	<b>Have written agreement with this entity</b>	<b>Provide financial support to this entity</b>	<b>Receive financial support from this entity</b>
<b>Banks/financial institution</b>			
<b>Independent Living Center</b>			

Collaborating organizations conducting this activity	Have written agreement with this entity	Provide financial support to this entity	Receive financial support from this entity
Easter Seals			
Disability/AT Organizations			
Federal Entities/Agencies			
State Entities/Agencies	Yes		
Local/Community Entities			
Private Entities			
Other <i>(describe)</i>			

**2. Describe the activity.**

**WATAP provides AT device demonstrations in person at our central location in Seattle and through hands-on opportunities at conferences, exhibits, trainings, and other targeted outreach events. All of the devices available in WATAP’s Demonstration and Lending Library of AT are available for hands-on demonstration with one of WATAP’s assistive technology specialists.**

**Through a device demonstration, guidance and consultation is offer to individuals with disabilities and seniors aging with functional limitations, family members, and professionals to provide meaningful information and expertise to support independence and inclusion in employment, education, and community living and enhance quality of life. Individuals can make an appointment during weekdays to visit our Seattle office. Time for individualized consultation and guided exploration of the devices is also provided at targeted community events, conferences, and in other settings. Whenever possible, these consultations will be conducted in collaboration with local service providers who can assist in meeting the ongoing AT needs of the consumer.**

**Regardless of the method for delivering, an AT device demonstration is designed to offer the opportunity to experience a number of different devices while being guided by experts allowing them to compare and contrast different devices will help them to make an informed decision about what device to purchase or whether to purchase a device at all. WATAP’s specialists also discuss how to go about selecting and using the various options and will identify possible next steps in the process in order for the individual to obtain those devices and services. WATAP staff will provide appropriate referrals to service providers, vendors, and possible funding sources for the AT devices they have chosen, including referral to NW Access Fund to learn about the Assistive Technology Loan and other state financing programs.**

Additionally, WATAP manages and assigns a small collection of devices to DVR assistive technology providers (ATPs) for use in demonstrations in employment and transition services provided through DVR. The ATPs report the required demonstration data to WATAP quarterly.

Many individuals who receive a device demonstration will also borrow devices for further exploration and to try the devices in the setting where the AT would be used. In these cases, WATAP staff ensures that the consumer has appropriate supports for setting up and maintaining the device during the loan. If the device requires technical support, this can be provided by WATAP staff or by an appropriate local service provider. Some devices available for loan may require specialized support for their use, therefore, the person requesting the loan will be asked to identify who recommended the device and who will provide support during the loan period. Support persons may include centers for independent living staff, vocational rehabilitation counselors, teachers, OTs, PTs, Home Health staff, caregivers, etc.

3. The online page for this specific activity can be found at:

<http://watap.org/device-demonstration>

## Section G: State Leadership Activities

### Training Activities

The AT Act describes training as follows:

“(i) TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. —

(I) IN GENERAL. —The State shall directly, or provide support to public or private entities with demonstrated expertise in collaborating with public or private agencies that serve individuals with disabilities, to develop and disseminate training materials, conduct training, and provide technical assistance, for individuals from local settings statewide, including representatives of State and local educational agencies, other State and local agencies, early intervention programs, adult service programs, hospitals and other health care facilities, institutions of higher education, and businesses.

(II) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES. —In carrying out activities under sub clause (I), the State shall carry out activities that enhance the knowledge, skills, and competencies of individuals from local settings described in sub clause (I), which may include—

(aa) general awareness training on the benefits of assistive technology and the Federal, State, and private funding sources available to assist targeted individuals and entities in acquiring assistive technology;

(bb) skills-development training in assessing the need for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services;

(cc) training to ensure the appropriate application and use of assistive technology devices, assistive technology services, and accessible technology for e-government functions;

(dd) training in the importance of multiple approaches to assessment and implementation necessary to meet the individualized needs of individuals with disabilities; and

(ee) technical training on integrating assistive technology into the development and implementation of service plans, including any education, health, discharge, Olmstead, employment, or other plan required under Federal or State law.”

Training activities are instructional events, usually planned in advance for a specific purpose or audience, and are designed to increase participants’ knowledge, skills, and competencies regarding AT. Such events can be delivered to large or small groups, in-person, or via telecommunications or other distance education mechanisms. In general, participants in training can be individually identified and could complete an evaluation of the training. Examples of training include classes, workshops, and presentations that have a goal of increasing skills, knowledge, and competency, as opposed to training intended only to increase general awareness of AT. Training activities have more depth and breadth than public awareness activities and are focused on skill building and competency development.

Section 4(d)(5) of the AT Act requires that the State Plan include a description of how the Statewide AT Program will implement its State-level and State Leadership activities. Further, section 4(d)(4) requires that the State Plan describe how various public and private entities will be involved in the implementation of those activities, including a description of the nature and extent of resources that

will be committed by public and private collaborators. Section 4(d)(7) also requires that the State Plan include a description of the State-level and State Leadership Activities the state will support with state funds. Section 4(e)(3)(B)(iii) requires that states coordinate and collaborate their State-level and State Leadership activities among public and private entities. The following items are items intended to meet these requirements for training activities.

**Training**

- 1. If training activities are conducted through a formal written agreement, by providing financial support to other entities and/or by receiving financial support from other entities please identify that coordination and collaboration in the table below.**

<b>Collaborating organizations conducting this activity</b>	<b>Have written agreement with this entity</b>	<b>Provide financial support to this entity</b>	<b>Receive financial support from this entity</b>
<b>Banks/financial institution</b>			
<b>Independent Living Center</b>			
<b>Easter Seals</b>			
<b>Disability/AT Organizations</b>			
<b>Federal Entities/Agencies</b>			
<b>State Entities/Agencies</b>	<b>Yes</b>		<b>Yes</b>
<b>Local/Community Entities</b>	<b>Yes</b>		<b>Yes</b>
<b>Private Entities</b>			
<b>Other (describe)</b>			

- 2. Provide a short description of at least one and no more than three planned training activities. One of the activities described must be planned Information and Communication Technology (ICT) accessibility training that will provide the required ICT Training performance measures. If the Statewide AT Program is meeting the transition requirements of the AT Act through training, please describe that planned activity. If the Statewide AT Program sponsors or co-sponsors a statewide conference please include that event as one you describe.**

**Planned ICT Accessibility Training (required)**

**WATAP offers by request training designed to affect policy, practice, and procurement around accessible information and communication technology throughout the state. We have been in discussion with several state, county and city agencies and entities and plan to**

deliver training around accessible document creation and how to create accessible content on various social media platforms.

**Planned Transition Training or Other Training Activity (optional)**

WATAP provides targeted outcome driven training designed to increase knowledge, skills, and competencies in AT devices and service delivery for the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. One of our current offerings addresses AT and Transition, which has the following objectives for participants: improve understanding of process to identifying appropriate AT in the transition process; identify assistive technology solutions that can benefit client's function in school, transition to work, post-secondary education and community living; and improve understanding on how to access AT services to support decision making.

As part of a new project and partnership with King County, WATAP will be developing and delivering curricula for professionals serving seniors and unpaid caregivers. WATAP will be providing a minimum of 2 in-depth trainings on AT per year. Depending on identified needs and interests, trainings may include but are not limited to the following topics: (1) Off the shelf customization and low-cost solutions; (2) How to select AT; (3) How to set up your smart home systems, (4) Home safety and emergency preparedness, (5) Medication management, (6) AT for self-care and independent living; and AT for communication; and (7) AT for remote care and monitoring.

**Planned Statewide Conference or Other Training Activity**

Beginning in FY2020, WATAP will be part of a newly awarded 4-year AgrAbility grant through the US Department of Agriculture to support assistive technology services and resources to farmers and agricultural workers across the state. The other key partners on this project, Washington AgrAbility, are the WSU Skagit County Extension, the NW Access Fund, WA DVR, and WA Department of Labor and Industries. WATAP will be providing expertise for the development of and delivery of 6 trainings throughout the state each year. The curriculum of these trainings will focus on matching functional need with the selection of appropriate technologies, the utilization of everyday off-the-shelf materials to customize and improvise low-cost solutions, and providing appropriate examples of various assistive technologies and available resources and services.

**3. The online page for this specific activity can be found at:**

[http://watap.org/training\\_for\\_service\\_providers](http://watap.org/training_for_service_providers)

**Technical Assistance Activities**

The AT Act describes training as follows:

“(i) TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. —

(I) IN GENERAL. —The State shall directly, or provide support to public or private entities with demonstrated expertise in collaborating with public or private agencies that serve individuals with disabilities, to develop and disseminate training materials, conduct training, and provide technical

assistance, for individuals from local settings statewide, including representatives of State and local educational agencies, other State and local agencies, early intervention programs, adult service programs, hospitals and other health care facilities, institutions of higher education, and businesses.

(II) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES. —In carrying out activities under sub clause (I), the State shall carry out activities that enhance the knowledge, skills, and competencies of individuals from local settings described in sub clause (I), which may include—

(aa) general awareness training on the benefits of assistive technology and the Federal, State, and private funding sources available to assist targeted individuals and entities in acquiring assistive technology;

(bb) skills-development training in assessing the need for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services;

(cc) training to ensure the appropriate application and use of assistive technology devices, assistive technology services, and accessible technology for e-government functions;

(dd) training in the importance of multiple approaches to assessment and implementation necessary to meet the individualized needs of individuals with disabilities; and

(ee) technical training on integrating assistive technology into the development and implementation of service plans, including any education, health, discharge, Olmstead, employment, or other plan required under Federal or State law.”

Technical Assistance (TA) is direct problem-solving services provided by Statewide AT Program staff to assist programs and agencies in improving their services, management, policies and/or outcomes. TA may be provided in person, by electronic media such as telephone, video or e-mail and by other means. The following are examples of technical assistance: needs assessment, program planning or development, curriculum or materials development, administrative or management consultation, program evaluation and site reviews of external organizations, and policy development.

Section 4(d)(5) of the AT Act requires that the State Plan include a description of how the Statewide AT Program will implement its State-level and State Leadership activities. Further, section 4(d)(4) requires that the State Plan describe how various public and private entities will be involved in the implementation of those activities, including a description of the nature and extent of resources that will be committed by public and private collaborators. Section 4(d)(7) also requires that the State Plan include a description of the State-level and State Leadership Activities the state will support with state funds. Section 4(e)(3)(B)(iii) requires that states coordinate and collaborate their State-level and State Leadership activities among public and private entities. The following items are items intended to meet these requirements for technical assistance activities.

### Technical Assistance

- 1. If technical assistance activities are conducted through a formal written agreement, by providing financial support to other entities and/or by receiving financial support from other entities please identify that coordination and collaboration in the table below.**

Collaborating organizations conducting this activity	Have written agreement with this entity	Provide financial support to this entity	Receive financial support from this entity
Banks/financial institution			
Independent Living Center			
Easter Seals			
Disability/AT Organizations			
Federal Entities/Agencies			
State Entities/Agencies	Yes		Yes
Local/Community Entities			
Private Entities			
Other (describe)			

2. Provide a short description of at least one and no more than two planned technical assistance activities. If the Statewide AT Program is meeting the transition requirements of the AT Act through technical assistance, please describe that planned activity.

**Planned Transition Technical Assistance or Other Technical Assistance Activity (required)**

The Washington Assistive Technology Act Program (WATAP) is providing assistance and expertise to the Washington Department of Social and Health Service/ Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (DSHS/AL TSA) and Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation Georgia Tech (CIDI/GT) on the project titled “Washington AT Aging Concerns, Challenges and Everyday Solution Strategies (ACCESS) Project.” The goal of this project is to map the Georgia Aging AT ACCESS Tool to the CARE Needs Assessment to assist with the identification of AT Solutions and Strategies in the identified pilot area of Spokane WA. This project seeks to support individuals with disabilities and those seniors aging with functional limitations to age in place and to maintain or increase independence, inclusion, and quality of life in community living. Specifically,

WATAP will provide assistance and expertise:

(1) To identify and map nine (9) priority ADL areas for Assistive Technology strategies and solutions and the development of a Decision Support tool in a format that best meets the needs of DSHS/AL TSA.

(2) To identify and assist with the development of 2 of the priority areas to apply customized predictive analytics to assist individuals with disabilities and individuals with functional

needs as they age in determining appropriate AT solutions and strategies in a person-centered approach.

#### **Planned Other Technical Assistance Activity (optional)**

WATAP provides technical assistance to agencies and organizations mostly by request.

WATAP will continue to support and administer the Evergreen Reuse Coalition, which is comprised of community reuse organizations and other interested parties whose goal is to increase the capacity within Washington State to provide reuse services statewide. The Coalition continues to tackle issues around forming a network of collection and distribution centers, transportation of equipment between member organizations, coordination and leveraging of resources, and implementation of best practices.

WATAP also supports the Assistive Technology Provider Network (ATPN) to connect service providers across WA from multiple disciplines who are isolated geographically and/or in the scope of their work. In the near future, we will be exploring and establishing an online forum and in-person meetings, providers are able to share their knowledge and assist their peers with problem solving difficult cases. Providers also have the opportunity to learn about and experience AT products and services to help broaden their knowledge of the field and provide more comprehensive services to their clients.

#### **Public Awareness Activities**

The AT Act says the following about Public Awareness:

“The State shall conduct public-awareness activities designed to provide information to targeted individuals and entities relating to the availability, benefits, appropriateness, and costs of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services, including—

(aa) the development of procedures for providing direct communication between providers of assistive technology and targeted individuals and entities, which may include partnerships with entities in the statewide and local workforce investment systems established under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.), State vocational rehabilitation centers, public and private employers, or elementary and secondary public schools;

(bb) the development and dissemination, to targeted individuals and entities, of information about State efforts related to assistive technology; and

(cc) the distribution of materials to appropriate public and private agencies that provide social, medical, educational, employment, and transportation services to individuals with disabilities.”

Public awareness activities are designed to reach large numbers of people, including activities such as public service announcements, radio talk shows and news reports, newspaper stories and columns, newsletters, brochures, and public forums.

Section 4(d)(5) of the AT Act requires that the State Plan include a description of how the Statewide AT Program will implement its State-level and State Leadership activities. Further, section 4(d)(4) requires that the State Plan describe how various public and private entities will be involved in the

implementation of those activities, including a description of the nature and extent of resources that will be committed by public and private collaborators. Section 4(d)(7) also requires that the State Plan include a description of the State-level and State Leadership Activities the state will support with state funds. Section 4(e)(3)(B)(iii) requires that states coordinate and collaborate their State-level and State Leadership activities among public and private entities. The following items are items intended to meet these requirements for public awareness activities.

**Public Awareness**

- 1. If public awareness activities are conducted through a formal written agreement, by providing financial support to other entities and/or by receiving financial support from other entities please identify that coordination and collaboration in the table below.**

<b>Collaborating organizations conducting this activity</b>	<b>Have written agreement with this entity</b>	<b>Provide financial support to this entity</b>	<b>Receive financial support from this entity</b>
<b>Banks/financial institution</b>			
<b>Independent Living Center</b>			
<b>Easter Seals</b>			
<b>Disability/AT Organizations</b>			
<b>Federal Entities/Agencies</b>			
<b>State Entities/Agencies</b>	<b>Yes</b>		<b>Yes</b>
<b>Local/Community Entities</b>	<b>Yes</b>		<b>Yes</b>
<b>Private Entities</b>			
<b>Other (describe)</b>			

- 2. Provide a short description of at least one and no more than two planned major public awareness activities. If the Statewide AT Program conducts a major ongoing public awareness activity such as an annual AT awareness day with a Governor’s Proclamation, please include that activity.**

**Major Annual Planned or Other Public Awareness Activity (required)**

**WATAP will implement a project “Enriching Services and Building Supports Around Assistive Technology for Seniors in King County”, which will focus on supporting seniors with a spectrum of ability and disability, family or unpaid caregivers, and other support professionals in King County to be part of a truly inclusive, diverse, and integrated society through the use of assistive technology. Among other beneficial impacts, a major goal of this**

project is to provide greater access to assistive technology to help sustain seniors' ability to live in their homes and communities of choice by supporting greater self-determination and increased possibilities for adaption to different home environments. Part of this effort will be to create and implement a strategic outreach plan. Outreach activities in the plan will include: identifying specific areas, communities, and organizations to target for outreach – for example: senior hubs, tribal governments, local libraries, adult day centers, senior centers, retirement homes, 4H clubs, local Granges, the County Fair, and Master gardening clubs; identifying community partners and venues for trainings, public awareness events, and printed and electronic information distribution; identifying community-specific barriers, needs, and interests related to AT; identifying goals and opportunities for social media outreach; and leveraging WATAP's ongoing outreach work including its iCanConnect WA program.

#### **Planned Other Public Awareness Activity (optional)**

As part of the WA AgrAbility Project, WATAP will be taking part in community outreach events to promote and provide resoruces around assistive technology to support farmers and agricultural workers across the state. The goal of outreach will be to contribute to the sustainability of the AgrAbility Project in cultivating and supporting a community of practice and expertise throughout WA and to provide ongoing service and support to the agricultural community. Initial outreach for the project will include the Farm Food Expo and NW Ag Expo, both taking place annually in Spokane in eastern WA, and the annual Skagit Farm Expo in western WA.

#### **Information and Assistance Activities**

The AT Act says the following about information and referral activities, which for the purpose of this State Plan are called information and assistance activities:

“(aa) IN GENERAL. — The State shall directly, or in collaboration with public or private (such as nonprofit) entities, provide for the continuation and enhancement of a statewide information and referral system designed to meet the needs of targeted individuals and entities.

(bb) CONTENT. — The system shall deliver information on assistive technology devices, assistive technology services (with specific data regarding provider availability within the State), and the availability of resources, including funding through public and private sources, to obtain assistive technology devices and assistive technology services. The system shall also deliver information on the benefits of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services with respect to enhancing the capacity of individuals with disabilities of all ages to perform activities of daily living.”

Section 4(d)(5) of the AT Act requires that the State Plan include a description of how the Statewide AT Program will implement its State-level and State Leadership activities. Further, section 4(d)(4) requires that the State Plan describe how various public and private entities will be involved in the implementation of those activities, including a description of the nature and extent of resources that will be committed by public and private collaborators. Section 4(d)(7) also requires that the State Plan include a description of the State-level and State Leadership Activities the state will support with state funds. Section 4(e)(3)(B)(iii) requires that states coordinate and collaborate their State-level and State Leadership activities among public and private entities. The following items are items intended to meet these requirements for information and assistance activities.

**Information & Assistance**

1. If information and assistance activities are conducted through a formal written agreement, by providing financial support to other entities and/or by receiving financial support from other entities please identify that coordination and collaboration in the table below.

Collaborating organizations conducting this activity	Have written agreement with this entity	Provide financial support to this entity	Receive financial support from this entity
Banks/financial institution			
Independent Living Center			
Easter Seals			
Disability/AT Organizations			
Federal Entities/Agencies			
State Entities/Agencies			
Local/Community Entities			
Private Entities			
Other <i>(describe)</i>			

2. Describe the activity.

WATAP and its partners and collaborators offer information and referral both as a first step in the continuum of services, as well as, a critical component in the other services offered. People of all ages with all disabilities, as well as, family members, service providers and the general public can access information on the availability, benefits, appropriateness and cost of AT devices and services through WATAP’s toll free number and email address are answered by knowledgeable program staff. Additionally, WATAP’s FaceBook page and Twitter feed have been re-booted with a goal to link experts and consumers statewide to provide timely and pertinent information, referral, and technical assistance. The WATAP web site highlights alternative financing, device reuse, device demonstration, and short-term device lending programs, and includes additional information on WATAP’s other programs, services, and resources.

## **Section H: Assurances & Measurable Goals**

Section 4(d) of the AT Act prescribes the duties of the Lead Agency receiving a grant under section 4 of the AT Act and requires the State to provide a number of assurances in its application for funds. 34 CFR part 76 also requires that any State Plan include certain assurances. The Statewide AT Program certifying representative will attest to these assurances and other requirements below and by submitting the State Plan, will affirm that to the best of his or her knowledge and belief all information provided in the State Plan is true and correct and the State Plan fully discloses all known weaknesses concerning the accuracy, reliability, and completeness of the information.

### **Assurances**

**As the Certifying Representative of the Lead Agency for the State of Washington, I hereby assure the following:**

- 1. The Lead Agency prepared and submitted this State Plan on behalf of the State of Washington.**
- 2. The Lead Agency submitting this plan is the State agency that is eligible to submit this plan and if an Implementing Entity is identified it is designated to implement the required AT Act activities.**
- 3. The State agency has authority under State law to perform the functions of the State under this program.**
- 4. The State legally may carry out each provision of this plan.**
- 5. All provisions of this plan are consistent with State law.**
- 6. A State officer, specified by title in this certification, has authority under State law to receive, hold, and disburse Federal funds made available under the plan.**
- 7. The State officer who submits this plan, specified by title in this certification, has authority to submit this plan.**
- 8. The agency that submits this plan has adopted or otherwise formally approved this plan.**
- 9. The plan is the basis for State operation and administration of the program.**
- 10. The Lead Agency will maintain and evaluate the program under this State Plan.**
- 11. The State will annually collect data related to the required activities implemented by the State under this section in order to prepare the progress reports required under subsection 4(f) of the Act.**
- 12. The Lead Agency will submit the annual progress report on behalf of the State.**
- 13. The State will prepare reports to the Secretary in such form and containing such information as the Secretary may require to carry out the Secretary's functions under this Act and keep such records and allow access to such records as the Secretary may require to ensure the correctness and verification of information provided to the Secretary.**

- 14. The Lead Agency will control and administer the funds received through the grant.**
- 15. The Lead Agency will make programmatic and resource allocation decisions necessary to implement the State Plan.**
- 16. Funds received through the grant will be expended in accordance with Section 4 of the Act, and will be used to supplement, and not supplant, funds available from other sources for technology-related assistance, including the provision of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services.**
- 17. The Lead Agency will ensure conformance with all applicable Federal and State accounting requirements.**
- 18. The State will adopt such fiscal control and accounting procedures as may be necessary to ensure proper disbursement of and accounting for the funds received through the grant.**
- 19. Funds made available through a grant to a State under this Act will not be used for direct payment for an assistive technology device for an individual with a disability.**
- 20. A public agency or an individual with a disability holds title to any property purchased with funds received under the grant and administers that property.**
- 21. The physical facility of the Lead Agency and Implementing Entity, if any, meets the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) regarding accessibility for individuals with disabilities. Section 4(d)(6)(E)**
- 22. Activities carried out in the State that are authorized under this Act, and supported by Federal funds received under this Act, will comply with the standards established by the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board under section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (20 U.S.C. 794d). Section 4(d)(6)(G)**
- 23. The Lead Agency will coordinate the activities of the State Plan among public and private entities, including coordinating efforts related to entering into interagency agreements.**
- 24. The Lead Agency will coordinate efforts related to the active, timely, and meaningful participation by individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives, and other appropriate individuals, with respect to activities carried out through the grant.**

### **General Description of Measurable Goals:**

Section 4(d)(3) of the AT Act requires that the State include information on the measurable goals, and a timeline for meeting those goals, that the State, with the advice of the Advisory Council required in section 4(c)(2), has set for addressing the assistive technology needs of individuals with disabilities in the State related to education, employment, community living, and telecommunications and information technology ).

- Section 4(d)(3)(A)(i) of the AT Act states that education goals include goals involving the provision of assistive technology to individuals who receive services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.). This includes infants and toddlers receiving early intervention services under Part C.
- Education also includes the provision of assistive technology to individuals who receive services under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 720 et seq.) and individuals in institutions of higher education and vocational education, including community colleges.
- Section 4(d)(3)(A)(ii) of the AT Act states that employment goals include goals involving the State vocational rehabilitation program carried out under title I of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 720 et seq.).

ACL has established three types of measurable goals for Section 4 grantees:

- *Access to AT Goals* relate to the activities of device loan for a decision-making purpose and device demonstration. The State will show that it has improved access to AT by reaching or exceeding the ACL set target percentage of individuals and entities who accessed device demonstration programs or device loan programs and made a decision about an AT device or service as a result of the assistance they received. The Access Goal performance measure data is found in the Annual Progress Report (APR) for State Assistive Technology Programs.
- *Acquisition of AT Goals* relate to the activities of state financing, device reutilization, and device loan for purposes other than decision-making. The State will show that it has improved acquisition by reaching or exceeding the ACL set target percentage of individuals and entities who obtained devices or services from State financing activities or reutilization programs who would not have obtained that AT device or service. The Acquisition Goal performance measure data is found in the APR for State Assistive Technology Programs.
- *Information and Communication (ICT) Accessibility Goal* is focused on obtaining an outcome/result from information and communication technology accessibility training including improvement of policies procedures or practices in the areas of website and software development and procurement. The State will show that it has improved ICT training results by reaching or exceeding the ACL set target percentage of participants reporting a targeted outcome. The ICT Training performance measure data is found in the APR for State Assistive Technology Programs.