



**National Assistive Technology Act Data System**  
**State Plan - Full Report**  
**Puerto Rico 2021**

**General Information**

**Statewide AT Program (Information to be listed in national State AT Program Directory)**

<b>State AT Program Title</b>	Puerto Rico Assistive Technology Program (PRATP)
<b>State AT Program URL</b>	www.pratp.upr.edu
<b>Mailing Address</b>	Jardin Botanico Sur, 1187 Calle Flamboyán
<b>City</b>	San Juan
<b>State</b>	Puerto Rico
<b>Zip Code</b>	00926
<b>Program Email</b>	asistencia.tecnologica@upr.edu
<b>Phone</b>	787-474-9999
<b>TTY</b>	

**Lead Agency**

<b>Agency Name</b>	University of Puerto Rico (UPR)
<b>Mailing Address</b>	Jardin Botanico Sur, 1187 Calle Flamboyán
<b>City</b>	San Juan
<b>State</b>	Puerto Rico
<b>Zip Code</b>	00926
<b>Program URL</b>	www.pratp.upr.edu

**Implementing Entity**

Does your Lead Agency contract with an Implementing Entity to carry out the Statewide AT Program on its behalf? N/A	
<b>Name of Implementing Agency</b>	
<b>Mailing Address</b>	

<b>City</b>	
<b>State</b>	
<b>Zip Code</b>	
<b>Program URL</b>	

**General Information (Continued...)**

**Program Director and Other Contacts**

<b>Program Director for State AT Program (last, first)</b>	Hernandez Maldonado, Maria M
<b>Title</b>	Program Director
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<b>Program Director at Lead Agency (last, first)</b>	Hernandez Maldonado, Maria M
<b>Title</b>	Program Director
<b>Phone</b>	787-474-7292
<b>E-mail</b>	maria.hernandez17@upr.edu
<b>Primary Contact at Implementing Agency (last, first) - If applicable</b>	
<b>Title</b>	
<b>Phone</b>	
<b>E-mail</b>	

**Person Responsible for completing this form if other than Program Director**

<b>Name (last, first)</b>	
<b>Title</b>	
<b>Phone</b>	
<b>E-mail</b>	

**Certifying Representative**

<b>Name (last, first)</b>	Hernandez Maldonado, Maria M
<b>Title</b>	Program Director
<b>Phone</b>	787-474-7292
<b>E-mail</b>	maria.hernandez17@upr.edu

**Module A: Change in Lead Agency or Implementing Entity**

- Does your Lead Agency contract with an Implementing Entity to carry out the Statewide AT Program on its behalf (From General Information)?** No
- 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
- 3. 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?** No

## Module B: Advisory Council

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. How many representatives of the designated State agency for Vocational Rehabilitation are members of the advisory council?   | 1 |
| 2. How many representatives of the designated State agency for Vocational Rehabilitation for individuals who are blind are members of the advisory council (when there is such a separate VR agency for individuals who are blind)? | 0 |
| 3. How many representatives of a state Center for Independent Living are members of the advisory council?.  | 1 |
| 4. How many representatives of the State workforce development board established under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act are members of the advisory council?  | 1 |
| 5. How many representatives of the State educational agency are members of the advisory council?  | 1 |
| 6. How many additional representatives of other agencies and/or organizations are members of the advisory council?  | 0 |
| 7. How many individuals with disabilities who use assistive technology or their family members or guardians are members of the advisory council?  | 5 |

### Advisory Council Calculation

Description	Number
Individuals with disabilities that use AT or their family members or guardians on the advisory council	5
Total number of individuals on the advisory council	9
Percentage	55.56%

8. 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

## Module C: Actual Expenditures and Budgeted Allocations

### 1. Actual Expenditures Carryover Year Close-out

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 more than that initial 12 month period.

For the State Plan submitted in the spring of 2022, you will report the closed-out grant award for FY19. The grant began 10/1/2018 with the first year ending on 9/30/2019, the first carryover year ended on 9/30/2020 and the second carryover year ended on 9/30/2021 with the 3 month liquidation period ending 12/31/2021.

<b>Actual Expenditures for Closed-out Carryover Year Award</b>	<b>Final Expenditures</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Requirements</b>
<b>a. All State Level Activities</b>	\$265,524.43	59.13%	The AT Act required state level expenditures to be at least 60% of grant award. If flexibility is claimed, at least 70% is required.
<b>b. All State Leadership Activities</b>	\$183,495.57	40.87%	
<b>c. Total Expenditures</b>	\$449,020.00		
<b>d. Total Award</b>	\$449,020.00		
<b>e. Lapsed Amount</b>	\$0.00	0.00%	
<b>f. Transition Training &amp; Technical Assistance Set Aside</b>	<b>\$9,294.53</b>	5.07%	The AT Act requires at least 5% of state leadership expenditures to be spent on transition activities.

## Module C: Actual Expenditures and Budgeted Allocations (Continued...)

### 2. Actual YTD Expenditures and Budgeted Allocations for Preceding Year Award

In the following table provide year-to-date (YTD) obligated and liquidated expenditure data for the 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 the State Plan submitted in the spring of 2022, you will report the closed-out grant award for FY20. The grant began 10/1/2019 with the first year ending on 9/30/2020, the first carryover year ended on 9/30/2021 and the second carryover year ended on 9/30/2022 with the 3 month liquidation period ending 12/31/2022.

The total grant award for was **\$461,005.00**

<b>Actual &amp; Planned Immediate 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>	\$0.00	\$193,829.32	\$104,591.96	\$298,421.28
<b>All State Leadership Activities</b>	\$0.00	\$162,583.72	\$0.00	\$162,583.72
<b>Total</b>	\$0.00	\$356,413.04	\$104,591.96	\$461,005.00
<b>Transition Training &amp; Technical Assistance</b>	\$0.00	\$7,328.39	\$0.00	\$7,328.39

## Module D: State Level Activity Summary

### 1. Which State Financing Activities do you conduct?

- Other State Financing that directly provides AT (telecommunications programs, etc.)
- Other State Financing that creates AT savings (cooperative buying programs, etc.)

### 2. Which Reutilization Activities do you conduct?

- Device Exchange
- Device Reassignment or Open Ended Loan

### 3. Do you conduct Short-term Device Loans?

Yes

### 4. Do you conduct Device Demonstrations?

Yes





## Module F: Other State Financing Activities that Directly Provides AT

### 1. Which of the following activity/activities are conducted? (select all that apply)

Identify all types of other state financing programs that directly provide AT that are conducted.

- Deaf/Blind Telecommunications EDP-Federal

### 2. Select the one option that best describes who conducts this activity/activities.

The Statewide AT Program (State AT)

### 3. Select the one option that best describes from where this activity/activities is conducted.

One central location (Central)

### 4. Do you charge a fee for this activity/activities? (select one)

No

### 5. Identify the types of collaborations you have in place to conduct this activity/activities.

Banks/Financial Institution (select any/all)

Independent Living Center (select any/all)

Easter Seals (select any/all)

Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)

Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

- Have written agreement with this entity

State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

**Module F: Other State Financing Activities that Directly Provides AT (Continued...)**

**Local/Community Entities (select any/all)**

**Private Entities (select any/all)**

**Other (select any/all)**

**6. Describe the activity/activities.**

PRATP has a written agreement with the Perkins School for the Blind to implement the NDBEDP (iCanConnect) in Puerto Rico. The NDBEDP provides a full range of adaptive telecommunication devices for deaf-blind individuals. All funding used to purchase devices is provided by the Federal Communications Commission. AT Act funds are used only to support the program's administration, not to provide services or devices. There are no fees associated with this program, but eligibility criteria are based on the individual's disability and household income.

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

<https://www.pratp.upr.edu/servicios/informacion/financiamiento/icanc>

## Module G: Other State Financing Activities that Create AT Savings

**1. Which of the following activity/activities are conducted? (select all that apply)**

Identify all types of other state financing programs that create AT savings that are conducted.

- AT Fabrication Program

**2. Select the one option that best describes who conducts this activity/activities.**

The Statewide AT Program (State AT)

**3. Select the one option that best describes from where this activity/activities is conducted.**

One central location (Central)

**4. Do you charge a fee for this activity/activities? (select one)**

Both

**5. Identify the types of collaborations you have in place to conduct this activity/activities.**

**Banks/Financial Institution (select any/all)**

**Independent Living Center (select any/all)**

**Easter Seals (select any/all)**

**Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)**

**Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)**

**State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)**

- Receive financial support from this entity

## Module G: Other State Financing Activities that Create AT Savings (Continued...)

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)

Private Entities (select any/all)

Other (select any/all)

### 6. Describe the activity/activities.

Low-Cost Device Design and Development (LD3) Program - The LD3 program allows consumers to obtain functional AT solutions mimicking those of devices in the market that could not be acquired otherwise. This program seeks to facilitate the acquisition of assistive technologies through the design and development of low-cost devices as well as through the installation, configuration, and training on the use of the adapted devices. The activities carried out under this program allow PRATP to facilitate the acquisition of AT devices in three main scenarios: • Scenario 1: The AT device needed does not exist in the market: In this scenario, PRATP works with the consumer towards the design and development of a new AT device to satisfy his/her particular needs (i.e. development of a head-controlled Video Game system for a quadriplegic child). • Scenario 2: The AT device exists in the market, but it must be modified in order to make it usable by the consumer (i.e. adapt an electric feeder controller to be used by a single switch). • Scenario 3: The AT device exists in the market, but its cost is too high to be accessible by Puerto Rican consumers and the device cannot be obtained otherwise. In this case, the adaptation is intended to target the functionality of the original device but with a different design, NOT with a reverse engineering approach (duplicating the actual device), therefore preventing intellectual property issues. (e.g. adapt a \$50 mouth-controlled joystick with sip-n-puff functions to provide the functionality of products available in the AT market which range from \$1,495 to over \$2,600). To implement the LD3 program, PRATP's AT Specialists receive referrals of technology needs from consumers, family members and service providers statewide. Upon receiving a request for a device, the AT Specialists search the available databases (Stage 1) to assess whether a commercially available device satisfies the consumer's needs and whether such technology is accessible to the individual. If the appropriate device falls under any of the 3 Scenarios detailed above, then the AT Specialists determine how viable and cost-effective it would be to design and develop such device. If viable, the request goes to Stage 2 where the AT Specialists design and present a potential solution to the consumer, including information regarding the functional characteristics of the intended device (what it can and cannot do), how it compares to devices available in the market (if comparable devices exist), estimated cost of materials and estimated time to project completion. Stage 3 begins upon approval of the proposed solution and the provision of materials by the consumer. In this stage, the device is designed, built, beta-tested, and refined to its final version. Then, in Stage 4, the device is installed, configured (if necessary), and finally given to the consumer along with user instructions and appropriate training. A report is then filed for each completed device and consumer served. As part of the implementation, the LD3 program also leads design teams of mechanical, electrical, and computer engineering students and faculty at local universities for the development of complex technologies that are beyond the design and manufacturing capabilities of the program. On the other hand, for simpler technologies, generic designs using extremely low-cost materials and easy to find components are developed in order to coordinate workshops where consumers, family members, guardians, teachers, and service providers can directly build and take home technologies to address their particular needs (including adaptive switches, basic environmental controls, computer access interfaces, etc.). Information regarding the cost comparison of each adapted device with the market version of its closest match (when available) is gathered in order to track the financial impact of the low-cost solutions provided. Aside from the viability analysis for building a particular technology, the services provided by the LD3 program do not have any eligibility requirement regarding the type of technology, type of disability, age, income level, or geographical location. Information regarding the availability of the program is distributed Statewide through the training and technical support activities carried out by PRATP as well as through PRATP's website. The Program maintains a stock of some common materials used for the development of technology. The consumer is required to provide only the materials needed for the construction of the device. If the consumer cannot provide the materials, a fee is charged (equivalent to the total cost of any stock materials that have been purchased by the Program).

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

NA

## Module H: Device Exchange

**1. Select the one option that best describes who conducts this activity.**

The Statewide AT Program (State AT)

**2. Select the one option that best describes from where this activity is conducted.**

One central location (Central)

**3. Do you charge a fee for this activity?**

No

**4. Identify the types of collaborations you have in place to conduct this activity.**

Banks/Financial Institution (select any/all)

Independent Living Center (select any/all)

Easter Seals (select any/all)

Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)

Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

- Receive financial support from this entity

## Module H: Device Exchange (Continued...)

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)

Private Entities (select any/all)

Other (select any/all)

5. Select the option that best describes what happens when a device is exchanged. (select all that apply)

- The Statewide AT Program is involved in the transaction

### 6. Describe the activity.

PRATP's AT Device Exchange Program provides means for individuals with disabilities to obtain AT devices at a low cost without the burden of meeting eligibility criteria, extended waiting periods, or burdensome paperwork. Also, through this Program consumers can have access to devices and equipment that may not be provided by local government agencies or other funding sources. Overall, this system promotes the reuse of devices no longer needed (unused) by others, increases the availability of assistive technology Island-wide, and allows consumer involvement in the selection of appropriate AT devices. To implement the AT Device Exchange Program, PRATP uses existing social networking tools to post AT devices available to sell, buy, donate, or spread out the need for a specific device. PRATP acts as the contact entity to facilitate device exchanges between all the persons involved. In this way, the Program seeks to facilitate data acquisition on actual devices being exchanged and the transaction details.

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

## Module I: Device Refurbish and Reassignment and/or Open-ended Loan

**1. Select the one option that best describes who conducts this activity.**

The Statewide AT Program (State AT)

**2. Select the one option that best describes from where this activity is conducted.**

One central location (Central)

**3. Do you charge a fee for this activity?**

Yes

**4. Identify the types of collaborations you have in place to conduct this activity.**

Banks/Financial Institution (select any/all)

Independent Living Center (select any/all)

Easter Seals (select any/all)

Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)

Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

- Receive financial support from this entity



## Module I: Device Refurbish and Reassignment and/or Open-ended Loan (Continued...)

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)

Private Entities (select any/all)

Other (select any/all)

5. Select the option(s) that describe how a reutilized device is provided to a recipient. (select all that apply)

- Device ownership is transferred to the recipient
- Device is loaned for as long as the recipient needs it with no ownership transfer

### 6. Describe the activity.

Information regarding PRATP's AT reutilization program is disseminated at training and awareness activities, demonstrations, AT loans, and individual and technical assistance services as well as through PRATP's web page and social networks. AT device donations are received from individuals and entities throughout Puerto Rico. Devices are received at one central location and screened to determine whether they are in good condition or whether refurbishing is possible and cost/effective. Once screened, devices ready to be reused are placed in a "receiving area" to be cleaned and sanitized, and then entered into a reutilization inventory database. Devices not ready for reuse are placed in a "workshop area" for refurbishing and reconditioning before being placed in the registration area. Devices not deemed appropriate for reuse or refurbishing are disassembled and parts kept as spare. This facilitates the refurbishment and repairs of other donated devices in order to reassign most of them free of charge. In the event of any device for which spare parts are not available in stock, it will be considered to purchase parts based on the price of parts needed, the actual market price of the device, the potential benefit it may provide to an individual with disabilities and the saving it will represent to the consumer. In this case, a fee charge equivalent to the total cost of purchased parts will be applied. Requests for reused AT devices are received by PRATP's case managers and assigned to AT Specialists who directly contact the individuals with disabilities or their representatives to assess their particular needs and to ensure that the requested device is the right fit for the person. Hard to find AT devices are usually given to the person as open-ended-loans, whereas typical devices are reassigned. Successful device use is supported through the provision of basic device training, individual assistance and follow up (when available, instruction manuals are also provided). In some cases, basic installation and configuration services are also provided. Each device is cleaned and sanitized again before being delivered to a consumer.

7. The online page for this specific activity can be found at: <https://www.pratp.upr.edu/servicios/reciclaje-de-equipos-at>

## Module J: Device Loan

**1. Select the one option that best describes who conducts this activity.**

The Statewide AT Program (State AT)

**2. Select the one option that best describes from where this activity is conducted.**

One central location (Central)

**3. Do you charge a fee for this activity?**

Yes

**4. Identify the types of collaborations you have in place to conduct this activity.**

**Banks/Financial Institution (select any/all)**

**Independent Living Center (select any/all)**

**Easter Seals (select any/all)**

**Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)**

**Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)**

**State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)**

- Receive financial support from this entity

## Module J: Device Loan (Continued...)

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)

Private Entities (select any/all)

Other (select any/all)

**5. Select the option that describes how the majority of devices loaned are delivered to and returned from a borrower. (select one)**

The majority of devices are delivered or picked up in-person

### 6. Describe the activity.

PRATP's short-term loan program is available to any individual, agency, entity, or school district on the Island. The inventory of AT devices available for loan covers all ages and types of disabilities. The range of AT equipment includes computer access devices, switches, mounts, environmental controls, hearing devices, environmental alerts, vision devices, and augmentative communication devices among others. Each loan period is up to one month (the initial loan is for two weeks and can be extended for another two) and there is no limit to the number of devices that can be loaned at one time. Items are picked up in person. If the consumer is not able to come to the facilities to pick up the equipment, the Loan Program will coordinate the delivery to the consumer by staff. Loans are tracked in a database with routine follow-ups to ensure the timely return of devices. All devices are sanitized and checked for functionality before being loaned out again. Whenever possible, manufacturer's instructions and/or a "cheat sheet" is provided, containing basic instructions about set-up and use. When needed, instruction manuals in alternate formats are provided. Particular effort is placed into the design and development of Spanish instruction manuals and videos since most AT manufacturers do not address this language need. To further support consumers, individual assistance services and demonstrations are often provided prior to the device loan. The device loan program inventory is updated periodically, and priority is given to purchasing devices in areas of AT that are in high demand or in areas where a wider variety of devices is needed. Also, priority is given to cost-effective devices that address the particular needs of Puerto Ricans with disabilities. No fees are charged to borrow devices.

**7. The online page for this specific activity can be found at:** <https://www.pratp.upr.edu/servicios/prestamos-de-equipos-de-at>

## Module K: Device Demonstration

**1. Select the one option that best describes who conducts this activity.**

The Statewide AT Program (State AT)

**2. Select the one option that best describes from where this activity is conducted.**

One central location (Central)

**3. Do you charge a fee for this activity?**

No

**4. Identify the types of collaborations you have in place to conduct this activity.**

Banks/Financial Institution (select any/all)

Independent Living Center (select any/all)

Easter Seals (select any/all)

Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)

Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

- Receive financial support from this entity

## Module K: Device Demonstration (Continued...)

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)

Private Entities (select any/all)

Other (select any/all)

### 5. Describe the activity.

PRATP's AT demonstration program is available to any individual with disabilities, family members, caretaker, or agency representative who can make decisions regarding the acquisition of devices. The inventory of devices available for demonstration covers all areas of AT, ages, and types of disabilities, as well as low, medium, and high-cost solutions. All demonstrations are conducted in person by PRATP AT Specialists at PRATP's facilities, unless the consumer is not able to come or if the device is more appropriately demonstrated at the person's home, school, workplace, etc. AT Specialists provide an overview of the basic devices and then provide a one-on-one guided exploration of devices matching the needs and functional limitations of the individual. If devices are found to be compatible with the required needs, referrals and resources are provided to support the acquisition. The demonstration program inventory is updated periodically, and priority is given to purchasing devices in areas of AT that are in high demand or in areas where a wider variety of devices is needed. Also, priority is given to cost-effective devices that address the needs of Puerto Ricans with disabilities. No fees are charged for AT demonstrations.

6. The online page for this specific activity can be found at: <https://www.pratp.upr.edu/servicios/demostracion>

## Module L: Training

### 1. Identify the types of collaborations you have in place to conduct this activity.

**Banks/Financial Institution (select any/all)**

**Independent Living Center (select any/all)**

**Easter Seals (select any/all)**

**Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)**

**Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)**

**State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)**

- Receive financial support from this entity

**Module L: Training (Continued...)**

<b>Local/Community Entities (select any/all)</b>
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<b>Private Entities (select any/all)</b>
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<b>Other (select any/all)</b>
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**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)**

The Puerto Rico Assistive Technology Program will provide training to web developers, administrators, and trainers responsible for the development and carrying out of educational initiatives in the Center for the Development of Ethical Thought of the Puerto Rico Office of Government Ethics. The mission of the Center for the Development of Ethical Thought is to design and carry out educational initiatives on ethics, values, and comprehensive development for the entire society, as established in Article 3.1 of Law 1-2012, Government Ethics Law from Puerto Rico. This includes the provision of face-to-face and online trainings, to all government employees. This training will address six fundamental aspects to create accessible presentations: templates and themes, slide layout (“layout”), reading order, alt text, descriptive links, and unique titles. Also, during this training will be presented the tools available in PowerPoint to adjust these parameters and to verify the accessibility of presentations.

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

**Planned Statewide Conference or Other Training Activity (optional)**

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

## Module M: Technical Assistance

### 1. Identify the types of collaborations you have in place to conduct this activity.

**Banks/Financial Institution (select any/all)**

**Independent Living Center (select any/all)**

**Easter Seals (select any/all)**

**Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)**

**Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)**

**State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)**

- Receive financial support from this entity



## Module M: Technical Assistance (Continued...)

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)

Private Entities (select any/all)

Other (select any/all)

**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)**

PRATP will offer a series of training sessions on the use and management of assistive technology devices and software found in the Centro de Gestión Única (Single Management Center). The Centro de Gestión Única helps the client in the search, retention, or improvement of a job. The Center has assistive technology equipment that allows people with disabilities to carry out their employment procedures. Around 75 clients weekly visit the Center to receive their services.

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

The Puerto Rico Assistive Technology Program (PRATP) provided technical assistance to the Puerto Rico Tribunal Administration Office (TAO) and the Accessibility Program of the Judicial Branch to improve the accessibility of the new "Smart Courtrooms" being implemented Island-wide. Model smart courtrooms were evaluated during the design and development process to recommend changes to the physical layout, accessibility modifications to the audio-visual devices, accessible microphone array systems, ADA-compliant furniture, and assistive technology devices to increase accessibility to court proceedings for individuals with various disabilities. Other aspects related to courtroom accessibility were also evaluated, including accessible routes, signage, etc. A report was prepared for each smart courtroom detailing the findings, recommendations, and concepts for custom adaptations needed to improve accessibility (e.g., custom adapter to connect the auxiliary port of an FM system to the monitor output of the "For-The-Record" system used for digital court recording). As a result of this Technical Assistance, model "Smart Courtrooms" have already acquired accessible equipment and have made changes to increase physical accessibility. Based on these models, the new courtrooms being developed throughout the Judicial Branch of Puerto Rico will follow suit, implementing the modifications and technologies recommended by PRATP.

## Module N: Public Awareness

### 1. Identify the types of collaborations you have in place to conduct this activity.

**Banks/Financial Institution (select any/all)**

**Independent Living Center (select any/all)**

**Easter Seals (select any/all)**

**Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)**

**Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)**

**State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)**

- Receive financial support from this entity

**Module N: Public Awareness (Continued...)**

<b>Local/Community Entities (select any/all)</b>
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<b>Private Entities (select any/all)</b>
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<b>Other (select any/all)</b>
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**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)**

PRATP will participate in the Congress on People with Disabilities: For inclusion, education, and equality. This one-day event with over 800 participants, including persons with disabilities, family members, service providers, and representatives of public and private entities. The event is as covered by all major media around the Island. At PRATP’s booth, people will have a first-hand contact with assistive technologies, and access to a survey of needs in assistive technology. This survey has the purpose of identifying possible candidates for services in assistive technology.

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

The Puerto Rico Assistive Technology Program (PRATP) will carry out an awareness campaign to promote the National Assistive Technology Awareness Day, and PRATP’s assistive technology services. The campaign will be promoted through social networks, radio, and television. For this activity, the assistive technology needs survey, and the PRATP achievement report will be disseminated. The achievement report explains each of the assistive technology services offered by PRATP, and the number of people who have received our services.

## Module O: Information and Assistance

### 1. Identify the types of collaborations you have in place to conduct this activity.

**Banks/Financial Institution (select any/all)**

**Independent Living Center (select any/all)**

**Easter Seals (select any/all)**

**Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)**

**Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)**

**State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)**

- Receive financial support from this entity

## Module O: Information and Assistance (Continued...)

**Local/Community Entities (select any/all)**

**Private Entities (select any/all)**

**Other (select any/all)**

### 2. Describe the activity

PRATP maintains an Island-wide information and referral system to meet the needs of targeted individuals and entities in Puerto Rico. The system delivers information on assistive technology devices, AT services (with specific data regarding provider availability within the Island), and the availability of resources, including funding through public and private sources, to obtain assistive technology devices and services. The system also delivers 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 participate in education, community living, and work. PRATP uses a standard Information and Assistance request to gather the consumer needs. Information and Assistance requests are received and responded via email, phone, or in person. Each request is evaluated to determine the best possible information source and then directed to PRATP's AT Specialists.

## Assurances and 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 , I hereby assure the following:

1. The Lead Agency prepared and submitted this State Plan on behalf of the State of Puerto Rico.
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.