



National Assistive Technology Act Data System

State Plan - Full Report

Virginia 2021

General Information

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

State AT Program Title	The Virginia Assistive Technology System
State AT Program URL	www.vats.org
Mailing Address	2001 Maywill Street, Suite 202
City	Richmond
State	Va
Zip Code	23230
Program Email	barclay.shepard@dars.virginia.gov
Phone	8046629990
TTY	8004649950

Lead Agency

Agency Name	Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services
Mailing Address	8004 Franklin Farms Drive
City	Richmond
State	Va
Zip Code	23229
Program URL	https://www.vadars.org

Implementing Entity

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

City	
State	
Zip Code	
Program URL	

General Information (Continued...)

Program Director and Other Contacts

Program Director for State AT Program (last, first)	Shepard, Barclay
Title	Manager
Phone	8046629990
E-mail	barclay.shepard@dars.virginia.gov
Program Director at Lead Agency (last, first)	Shepard, Barclay
Title	Manager
Phone	8046629990
E-mail	barclay.shepard@dars.virginia.gov
Primary Contact at Implementing Agency (last, first) - If applicable	
Title	
Phone	
E-mail	

Person Responsible for completing this form if other than Program Director

Name (last, first)	
Title	
Phone	
E-mail	

Certifying Representative

Name (last, first)	Hayfield, Kathryn
Title	DARS Commissioner
Phone	8046627010
E-mail	kathryn.hayfield@dars.virginia.gov

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)? 1
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? 0
- 4.1 Please provide the reason(s) the Advisory Council does not have this required agency representative member and describe the actions that will be taken to become in compliance for Question 4.
State representative from Workforce Investment Board retired. Staff are working on a replacement through the state's appointment process.
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? 2
- 6.1 Description of additional representatives of other agencies and/or organizations are members of the advisory council.
These individuals are considered "At Large" members and do not represent an organization; however, they do represent individuals with disabilities due to their employment with disability service organizations, non profits, or other professional affiliation.
7. How many individuals with disabilities who use assistive technology or their family members or guardians are members of the advisory council? 10

Advisory Council Calculation

Description	Number
Individuals with disabilities that use AT or their family members or guardians on the advisory council	10
Total number of individuals on the advisory council	16
Percentage	62.5%

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.

Actual Expenditures for Closed-out Carryover Year Award	Final Expenditures	Percentage	Requirements
a. All State Level Activities	\$469,009.68	87.08%	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. All State Leadership Activities	\$69,561.32	12.92%	
c. Total Expenditures	\$538,571.00		
d. Total Award	\$538,571.00		
e. Lapsed Amount	\$0.00	0.00%	
f. Transition Training & Technical Assistance Set Aside	\$3,805.48	5.47%	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 **\$560,265.00**

Actual & Planned Immediate Preceding Year Award Expenditures	YTD Obligated not Liquidated Expenditures	YTD Liquidated Expenditures	Planned not yet Obligated Expenditures	Total
All State Level Activities	\$0.00	\$488,067.79	\$0.00	\$488,067.79
All State Leadership Activities	\$0.00	\$72,197.21	\$0.00	\$72,197.21
Total	\$0.00	\$560,265.00	\$0.00	\$560,265.00
Transition Training & Technical Assistance	\$0.00	\$5,124.00	\$0.00	\$5,124.00

Module D: State Level Activity Summary

1. Which State Financing Activities do you conduct?

None

Please indicate if flexibility or comparability is claimed for State Financing activities.

Comperability

Provide a description of the comparable activity and comparable financial support.

Virginia has an AFP program (the Assistive Technology Loan Fund Authority-ATLFA). This program was one of the original AFPs. VATS lead agency, the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS), has a long standing agreement to provide these services. ATLFA is a quasi-governmental organization with representation on the VATS AT Advisory Council. VATS claims comparability since there is already an existing AFP providing this service in the state and DARS has a formal agreement with AT

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 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.

A combination of a central location and regional sites (Combination)

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)

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 transaction is direct consumer-to-consumer

6. Describe the activity.

The Virginia Reuse Network's (VRN) Equipment Exchange is a way to help Virginians with disabilities, family members, healthcare professionals and others have access to gently used assistive technology (AT) that might otherwise be un-used or discarded. Virginians may use the VRN Equipment Exchange to offer gently used equipment for sale or donation. VATS collects equipment requests and sends them out to a larger network across the state using an email distribution list. Virginians can also request equipment using an online form on the VATS website under the "Equipment" / "Equipment Exchange" tab at: www.vats.org. Requests may include any type of AT that helps Virginians with disabilities overcome barriers or improve their health and safety!

7. The online page for this specific activity can be found at: <https://www.vats.org/progserv.htm>

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

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

Other entities e.g. contractors (Others)

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

Regional sites (Regional)

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)

- Have written agreement with this entity
- Provide financial support to this entity

Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

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

6. Describe the activity.

VATS supports full service durable medical equipment (DME) reuse sites across the state for persons with limited resources or gaps in insurance. Services are available for adults and children depending on the provider. These programs are full service sites where DME is collected, sanitized, refurbished, matched and re-distributed to a qualifying Virginian with a disability. For more information on full service DME programs, contact the Foundation for Rehabilitation Equipment & Endowment (F.R.E.E.) <http://www.free-foundation.org> or Children's Assistive Technology Service (CATS) <https://hr.atdevicesforkids.org/>

7. The online page for this specific activity can be found at: <https://www.vats.org/progserv.htm>

Module J: Device Loan

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

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

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

A combination of a central location and regional sites (Combination)

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)

- Have written agreement with this entity
- 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.

Individuals or organizations can borrow equipment in the library on a short-term basis (generally 1-4 weeks) based on need and availability. We recommend that an individual participate in a short demonstration or training of an assistive technology device prior to or at the same time as the loan. VATS also maintains partnerships with several disability service organizations to provide statewide access to equipment for training, demonstration and/or loan. Equipment remains the property of VATS but is housed at a variety of disability service organizations for easy access to equipment.

7. The online page for this specific activity can be found at: <https://www.vats.org/progserv.htm>

Module K: Device Demonstration

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

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

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

A combination of a central location and regional sites (Combination)

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)

- Have written agreement with this entity
- 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.

VATS has an extensive library in Fairfax, Virginia that is open to any Virginian with a disability, their family members, and any service provider who works with individuals with disabilities. This library is a free resource. Anyone can make an appointment to visit the library to have a hands-on demonstration of a specific device or software. If you are unable to travel to the library, an assistive technology specialist can arrange to meet you at a more central location. In addition to the main AT library, VATS maintains partnerships with several disability service organizations to provide statewide access to equipment for training, demonstration and/or loan. The Equipment remains the property of VATS, but is available to individuals or organizations at partner sites.

6. The online page for this specific activity can be found at: <https://www.vats.org/progserv.htm>

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)

Module L: Training (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 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)

VATS provides ICT training annually to a variety of individuals, disability service organizations, non profits and or governmental entities. This training is provided in person or virtually depending on the needs of meeting recipients. Training includes information and resources to make websites and documents accessible.

Planned Transition Training or Other Training Activity (optional)

VATS provides multiple AT trainings annually in collaboration with the state's vocational rehabilitation program to address high school students transitioning to post secondary education and training programs. Trainings include AT for organization, time management and advocacy.

Planned Statewide Conference or Other Training Activity (optional)

3. The online page for this specific activity can be found at: <https://www.vats.org/progserv.htm>

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)

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)

VATS provides technical assistance to Virginia No Wrong Door on an ongoing basis to ensure AT resources and community supports are accessible to older adults and individuals with disabilities.

Planned Other Technical Assistance Activity (optional)

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)

Module N: Public Awareness (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 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)

VATS and its contracted partners participate annually in state transition, aging, and other disability awareness conferences in order to inform the public and professional organizations about statewide access and acquisition to AT services.

Planned Other Public Awareness Activity (optional)

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)

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

By contacting the statewide toll free number: (800) 435-8490, Virginians can access the entire array of services to include Information & Assistance, Training, Technical Assistance and Public Awareness. Callers can access specific information on assistive technology products, funding options, and resources. VATS connects callers with a professional who can answer inquiries and guide you to the best assistive technology resources in your community. VATS also partners with Virginia No Wrong Door to provide internal and external information and resources for No Wrong door participants statewide.

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 Va.
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.