



National Assistive Technology Act Data System
State Plan - Full Report
West Virginia 2021

General Information

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

State AT Program Title	West Virginia Assistive Technology System (WVATS)
State AT Program URL	http://wvats.cedwvu.org/
Mailing Address	959 Hartman Run Rd
City	Morgantown
State	WV
Zip Code	26505
Program Email	wvats@hsc.wvu.edu
Phone	304-293-4692
TTY	304-293-6496

Lead Agency

Agency Name	West Virginia University, Center for Excellence in Disabilities
Mailing Address	959 Hartman Run Rd
City	Morgantown
State	WV
Zip Code	26505
Program URL	http://cedwvu.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)	Cottrell, Lesley
Title	Principal Investigator
Phone	304-293-2914
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Program Director at Lead Agency (last, first)	Cottrell, Lesley
Title	Principal Investigator
Phone	304-293-2914
E-mail	lcottrell@hsc.wvu.edu
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)	Cottrell, Lesley
Title	Principal Investigator
Phone	304-293-2914
E-mail	lcottrell@hsc.wvu.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)? 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? 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? 2
 - 6.1 Description of additional representatives of other agencies and/or organizations are members of the advisory council.
Additional members represent Fairmont Disability Action Center and the WV Developmental Disabilities Council (DD Council)
7. How many individuals with disabilities who use assistive technology or their family members or guardians are members of the advisory council? 14

Advisory Council Calculation

Description	Number
Individuals with disabilities that use AT or their family members or guardians on the advisory council	14
Total number of individuals on the advisory council	21
Percentage	66.67%

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	\$313,295.01	70.75%	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	\$129,543.99	29.25%	
c. Total Expenditures	\$442,839.00		
d. Total Award	\$442,839.00		
e. Lapsed Amount	\$0.00	0.00%	
f. Transition Training & Technical Assistance Set Aside	\$6,196.46	4.78%	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 **\$454,450.00**

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	\$335,504.62	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$335,504.62
All State Leadership Activities	\$118,945.38	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$118,945.38
Total	\$454,450.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$454,450.00
Transition Training & Technical Assistance	\$6,715.64	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,715.64

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.

Flexibility

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.

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)

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.

The device exchange program primarily utilizes the AT4ALL web-based platform. West Virginians can post and equipment for sale or if they have a want/need for equipment. WVATS facilitates the exchange of equipment between the individuals. We discontinued this activity in 2019 to move the program to a device refurbish/reassignment/open-ended loan program. The exchange program added an extra step for consumers and many of them had moved to Facebook or other platforms to exchange items. We have also seen a decrease in the use of the system. In the event we are contacted to provide assistance in the facilitation of equipment, we will track this data, but it will not be a service we advertise.

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

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?

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)

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

Easter Seals (select any/all)

Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)

- Have written agreement with this entity
- Provide financial support to this entity
- Receive financial support from 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
- Device is loaned for as long as the recipient needs it with no ownership transfer

6. Describe the activity.

WVATS subcontracts with the Northern West Virginia Center for Independent Living (NWVCIL) and Disability Action Center (DAC) to provide refurbished equipment to individuals in need. The organizations are paid based on each completed and documented transaction. The subcontractors must complete data collection forms provided by WVATS to ensure all necessary data is obtained. The subcontractors deal primarily in basic daily living equipment donated to them from consumers and other agencies. These pieces of equipment do not require professional fitting. The equipment is provided to consumers in need as open-ended loans. No fees are charged. Subcontractors are provided with recommended guidance for the sanitization of all equipment. WVATS also provides refurbished equipment through our in-house program. WVATS obtained a storage facility and the materials to provide minor repairs and increased sanitization materials to properly sanitize larger and sometimes more complex pieces of equipment. WVATS accepts donations of equipment from consumers and other agencies/organizations. The equipment is sanitized upon receipt and refurbished/repared as needed. The available equipment is posted in the AT4All system under the name of our reuse program, Pay It Forward. The ownership of the equipment varies. Equipment purchased by WVATS may be offered for long-term or opened loan, with WVATS remaining the owner of the equipment. The equipment is returned when the time frame ends for the long-term loan or the individual no longer needs the equipment in the case of open-ended loans. WVATS does not charge a fee for the equipment. If the equipment is donated to WVATS, the equipment is generally reassigned to the consumer. WVATS works with the consumer, and outside professionals as needed, to ensure equipment is a match to the consumer and properly fitted.

7. The online page for this specific activity can be found at: www.vll.cedwvu.org

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?

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)

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

Easter Seals (select any/all)

Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)

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

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 shipped via mail or other delivery service

6. Describe the activity.

The short-term loan program is administered by WVATS and three subcontractors: NWVCIL, DAC. Devices are available for a 30-day loan period. Consumers must complete a loan agreement form, acknowledging their responsibilities in order to borrow a device. Subcontractors are provided funding for each device loaned and documentation received. WVATS accepts requests from subcontractors for additional inventory to meet their needs. If the request is approved, WVATS provides the equipment, but maintains ownership. Should the agreement between the agency and WVATS be dissolved, the equipment must be returned to WVATS. This equipment is tracked by WVATS. Any equipment purchased by the agency belongs to the agency. The subcontractors primarily loan equipment to individuals in their region of the state. Consumers are encouraged to pick the equipment up at their facilities. If the subcontractor receives a request they cannot fulfill, the request is transferred to WVATS. One subcontractor, the DAC, utilizes the AT4All system consistently to track their inventory and process loans. Consumers can make requests to the agency through the system. The other agencies track their equipment internally and consumers must contact them for information on inventory and availability. The AT4All system is available for their use, but they have not chosen to adopt the system. WVATS also runs a short-term loan program in-house. Items can be requested through the AT4All system. Items include daily living devices, vision equipment, hearing devices, devices for learning and memory management, mobility aids, communication devices, and recreational items. Most of the equipment is shipped to the consumer via USPS. Oversized, fragile and/or expensive equipment must be picked up and returned onsite; this is noted on the items listing in the system. High-end communication devices are only loaned to speech and language therapists and all device components will be reviewed with therapists at pick up and drop off. In the case of mobility equipment such as standers, gait trainers and wheelchairs a physical therapist or occupational therapist must agree the equipment is a match for the consumer and be willing to provide proper fitting. Equipment is tracked and consumers are contacted if equipment is late or if they have not completed performance measures. Equipment checked to ensure it is in working order when returned and again before going back out on loan. The equipment is also sanitized when returned and again before going out. Inventory is updated as funds permit. Items with a waiting list are placed on a priority list for purchasing. Additionally, staff track requests for items not currently in the inventory. Those items are also added to the priority list for purchasing. WVATS continuously seeks out additional funding to support adding items to the loan program's inventory. This includes applying for grants from non-profits and foundations . WVATS also works closely with the West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE). The agency has supplied communication devices to the inventory to increase availability to speech and language pathologists performing assessments. WVDE has also provided funding for items such as switch kits to supplement the training they request.

7. The online page for this specific activity can be found at: www.vll.cedwvu.org

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)

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

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 K: Device Demonstration (Continued...)

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)
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Private Entities (select any/all)
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Other (select any/all)

5. Describe the activity.

WVATS and our two subcontractors provide device demonstrations to consumers. All staff and subcontractors are thoroughly trained in how to provide a proper demonstration. Staff provide a detailed overview of the devices available to meet a specific need, providing the consumer with the opportunity to have hands-on experience with the devices in order to make an informed decision. Staff provide resources for vendors, funding and referrals to support the consumers in acquiring the technology that best meets their needs. WVATS has scheduled demonstration events during larger events throughout the state. WVATS also provides demonstrations to walk-in consumers and by request. The program strives to ensure inventory includes the necessary items to provide a quality demonstration to consumers. If no other option is available, WVATS is equipped to provide demonstrations on appropriate equipment via distance technology.

6. The online page for this specific activity can be found at: www.wvats.cedwvu.org/wvats-services/

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)

WVATS provides ICT Accessibility Training in the form of creating accessible documents and presentations. This training is provided in-person at least once every year to the staff at the Center for Excellence in Disabilities at WVU. The training is also offered to outside agencies and organizations on request. These include state agencies, institutions of higher education, K-12 education institutions and private organizations. WVATS is now offering these training courses via distance technology. New training has also been created to provide guidance on accessible social media as well as web accessibility. The trainings are scheduled and promoted via the website, social media, and email list servs.

Planned Transition Training or Other Training Activity (optional)

WVATS provides trainings on transition at annual events sponsored by the WVDE, WVDRS and West Virginia Birth to Three. The training provides parents, families, caregivers and professionals with information on transitioning through life as an assistive technology user. The training provides information regarding transition planning and consumer rights.

Planned Statewide Conference or Other Training Activity (optional)

WVATS will participate in West Virginia Celebrating Connections annual state conference and provide training on topics related to AT for early childhood, switch access, and transition.

3. The online page for this specific activity can be found at: www.wvats.cedwvu.org

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)

- Have written agreement with this entity
- Receive financial support from this entity

State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

- Receive financial support from this entity

Module M: Technical Assistance (Continued...)

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

WVATS collaborates with WVDE to plan, administer and evaluate an Assistive Technology Boot Camp for educators. The project takes in approximately 100 participants per cohort. Cohorts run for two years and meet for multi-day workshops 3-4 times per year. WVATS provides support in the areas of environmental access and assessing assistive technology needs.

Planned Other Technical Assistance Activity (optional)

WVATS collaborates with a new multi-disciplinary (OT,PT, SLP) clinic at WVU serving individuals across the lifespan to better meet the needs of individuals by developing a more effective assessment. WVATS is providing support in the areas of environmental access and assessing assistive technology needs. We also partner with Mid-Atlantic to develop and disseminate AT information for particular groups such as adolescents and older adults.

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)

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

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 N: Public Awareness (Continued...)

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)

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

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)

WVATS will participate in the Mountain State Disability Conference, providing an assistive technology lab. The lab will provide conference participants with the opportunity to have a hands-on experience with a wide variety of devices. The conference planners are providing WVATS with a space to set-up a mobile lab at no fee.

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

WVATS provides a variety of options to receive information and assistance in-house. These options include calls, e-mails, and Facebook messages. WVATS maintains a toll-free phone number, a local phone number, and TTY number. There is also a general email account, wvat@hsc.wvu.edu. All of these avenues are monitored throughout the day during regular business hours. WVATS strives to handle all inquiries within one business day. Staff have access to resource guides such as funding sources and statewide recreational information to assist in responding to inquiries. Inquiries are generally funneled to staff with expertise in the area of need when possible.

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 WV.
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.