



National Assistive Technology Act Data System
State Plan - Full Report
North Carolina 2024

General Information

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

State AT Program Title	North Carolina Assistive Technology Program (NCATP)
State AT Program URL	https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/vocational-rehabilitation-services/north-carolina-assistive-technol
Mailing Address	805 Ruggles Drive, MSC 2801
City	Raleigh
State	NC
Zip Code	27699
Program Email	tammy.koger@dhhs.nc.gov
Phone	919-855-3544
TTY	

Lead Agency

Agency Name	NC Department of Health and Human Services, DVRS
Mailing Address	805 Ruggles Drive, MSC 2801
City	Raleigh
State	North Carolina
Zip Code	27566
Program URL	https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/dvrs

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)	Koger, Tammy
Title	Director, NCATP
Phone	919-855-3544
E-mail	tammy.koger@dhhs.nc.gov
Program Director at Lead Agency (last, first)	Koger, Tammy
Title	Director, NCATP
Phone	919-855-3544
E-mail	tammy.koger@dhhs.nc.gov
Primary Contact at Implementing Agency (last, first) - If applicable	Tammy Koger
Title	Director, NCATP
Phone	919-855-3544
E-mail	tammy.koger@dhhs.nc.gov

Person Responsible for completing this form if other than Program Director

Name (last, first)	
Title	
Phone	
E-mail	

Certifying Representative

Name (last, first)	Kinsley, Cody
Title	Secretary, DHHS
Phone	919-855-4800
E-mail	cody.kinsley@dhhs.nc.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)? 2
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. Do you have an alternative financing program (AFP) for assistive technology in your state/territory that is separate from the State AT Program and is operated by a non-profit entity? Yes
- 6.1. If yes, how many representatives of an alternative financing program (AFP) are members of the advisory council? 1
7. How many representatives of the following agencies and/or organizations are members of the advisory council? 2
(At least one is required by the AT Act.)
- | | |
|---|---|
| Medicaid state agency | 0 |
| State agency administering Developmental Disabilities Act | 1 |
| State agency administering or organization funded under Older Americans Act | 0 |
| Organization representing veterans | 0 |
| University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD) | 0 |
| State Protection and Advocacy System | 1 |
| State Council on Developmental Disabilities | 0 |
8. How many additional representatives of other agencies and/or organizations are members of the advisory council? 1
- | | |
|--|---|
| Early Intervention/Child Services state agency | 0 |
| State Deaf/Hard of Hearing Commission/Office | 1 |
| State Insurance agency | 0 |
| State Library/Secretary of State/Talking Books agency | 0 |
| State ADA Office/Disability Commission/Advocacy Office | 0 |
| State Legislators | 0 |
| State Parent Training Information Center (IDEA funded) | 0 |
| Other (description required in text box below) | 0 |
| Describe Other Agency | |
9. How many individuals with disabilities who use assistive technology or their family members or guardians are members of the advisory council? 11

Advisory Council Calculation

Description	Number
Individuals with disabilities that use AT or their family members or guardians on the advisory council	11
Total number of individuals on the advisory council	21
Percentage	52.38%

10. 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
11. Procedures are in place to ensure that the Advisory Council members are geographically representative of the State and reflects the diversity of the State with respect to race, ethnicity, age, and types of disabilities, and users of types of services that an individual with a disability may receive, including home and community-based

services (as defined in section 9817 (a)(2) of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (42 U.S.C. 1396d not)), vocational rehabilitation services (as defined in section 7 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 705)) and services through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.)

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 2024, you will report the closed-out grant award for FY21. The grant began 10/1/2020 with the first year ending on 9/30/2021, the first carryover year ended on 9/30/2022 and the second carryover year ended on 9/30/2023 with the 3 month liquidation period ending 12/31/2023.

Actual Expenditures for Closed-out Carryover Year Award	Final Expenditures	Percentage	Requirements
a. All State Level Activities	\$441,482.00	70.00%	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	\$189,206.00	30.00%	
c. Total Expenditures	\$630,688.00		
d. Total Award	\$630,688.00		
e. Lapsed Amount	\$0.00	0.00%	
f. Transition Training & Technical Assistance Set Aside	\$13,244.00	7.00%	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 2024, you will report year to date FY22 grant award expenditures. This grant began 10/1/2021 with the initial award year ending on 9/30/2022 and the carryover year ended on 9/30/2023. Many programs received a no cost extension which extended the obligation date to 9/30/2024

The total grant award for was **\$655,964.00**

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	\$459,175.00	\$0.00	\$459,175.00
All State Leadership Activities	\$0.00	\$196,789.00	\$0.00	\$196,789.00
Total	\$0.00	\$655,964.00	\$0.00	\$655,964.00
Transition Training & Technical Assistance	\$0.00	\$19,679.00	\$0.00	\$19,679.00

Module D: State Level Activity Summary

1. Which State Financing Activities do you conduct?

- Financial Loan

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 E: Financial 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.

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

3. Do you charge a fee for this activity? (This fee is separate from and addition to the financial loan made.)

No

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

Banks/Financial Institution (select any/all)

- Have written agreement with this entity

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 E: Financial Loan (Continued...)

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)

Private Entities (select any/all)

Other (select any/all)

5. This activity offers the following types of assistance. (select all that apply – at least one is required)
Identify all types of loans the Statewide AT Program offers, regardless of whether any loans of that type are currently outstanding.

- Revolving loans

- | | |
|---|---------|
| 6. The lowest interest percentage for loans as established by the policies of the activity. | 4.0000% |
| 7. The highest interest percentage for loans as established by the policies of the activity. | 4.0000% |
| 8. The lowest loan amount (in dollars) provided as established by the policies of the activity. | N/A |
| 9. The highest loan amount (in dollars) provided as established by the policies of the activity. | N/A |

10. Describe the activity.
The NC Assistive Technology Funding Program (NC AFP) is operated and managed by the Self-Help Credit Union. The partnership between the North Carolina Assistive Technology Program (NCATP) and Self-Help Credit Union enables NCATP to provide recommendations for assistive technology equipment and assist individuals in exploring various funding options before pursuing a financial loan through the AFP program. Individuals seeking assistance from this program may contact one of the NCATP centers, apply online, or reach out to any Self-Help Credit Union branch located throughout North Carolina. Financial loans are capped at a maximum interest rate of 4%, with repayment terms determined by the Credit Union based on income and repayment options. This service is available to individuals who require a financial loan to acquire assistive technology devices, durable medical equipment, home modifications, vehicle modifications, or to cover co-pays associated with these items.

11. The online page for this specific activity can be found at: <https://www.self-help.org/personal/loans/other-loa>

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 Statewide AT Program is involved in the transaction

6. Describe the activity.

NCATP provides device exchange services by managing and tracking information submitted by individuals and their family members. We encourage consumers and family members who are looking to sell or donate used assistive technology to list their items on the NC Exchange Post. In turn, potential buyers/donees can search the Exchange Post for products of interest. The Exchange Post serves as a valuable resource for those who may not have access to purchase assistive technology items at full price, thus helping to alleviate costs. Please note that vendors or businesses are not permitted to post items for sale. Interested buyers are encouraged to check the listings regularly for available equipment. The inventory of used devices is continuously updated, as sellers can add new items at any time. Individuals can access the listings by requesting an emailed or printed copy of the items available. The Exchange Post is updated and sent out monthly. Transactions occur directly between the seller and the buyer. A diverse array of used assistive technology devices is categorized according to the designated, approved federal taxonomy. NOTE: This service is currently in review at the state level to enhance the service delivery.

7. The online page for this specific activity can be found at: N/A: This is program currently does not have a URL due to the services being reviewed/updated and enhances.

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.

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)

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.

NCATP offers "open-ended loans" for equipment previously utilized in the NCATP Demo-Loan program. These items, which have been funded by state or federal resources, remain the property of the state. However, due to their obsolescence and unavailability for purchase, NCATP extends these devices to individuals as long-term loans. If an individual no longer requires the device(s), they must be returned to NCATP. Additionally, NCATP provides access to "re-used" items through small loan closets located throughout the state, with each of our nine centers hosting one. These items are obtained through donations and drop-offs and are gently used, ensuring they are in good working condition. NCATP staff are responsible for collecting, triaging, sanitizing, and cataloging these devices for availability as needed or requested. Please note that NCATP is currently unable to refurbish items and will not accept any devices that require repair. Given the limited capacity for managing and storing items at each center, NCATP does not advertise these re-use items on our website. Instead, information is disseminated through assistive technology staff and partnerships across the state.

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

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.

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)

Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

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.

The short-term device loan program, managed by NCATP, is available statewide through nine assistive technology centers. Most equipment can be borrowed for a period of up to 14 days, with the option for a two-week extension if the device is not in high demand. The program offers a diverse selection of devices suitable for individuals of all ages and abilities, including equipment such as switches and mounts, computer access devices, environmental controls, hearing devices, home modifications, vision aids, recreational devices, and augmentative communication tools. High-tech communication devices and ramps may be loaned for up to 30 days, enabling users and professionals to fulfill the trial period requirements set by various funding sources and insurance providers, including NC Medicaid. Devices are typically available for pick-up at one of the local NCATP centers or can be delivered by NCATP staff to the individual's home, school, or other community locations. While there are rare instances where devices may be mailed, this option is reserved for exceptional circumstances. NCATP does not impose any fees for participation in the device loan program. To request a loan, individuals must contact or visit one of the NCATP centers, as an online request option is not currently available.

7. The online page for this specific activity can be found at: <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/eipd/north-carolina-assistive-technology-program>

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.

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)

Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

Module K: Device Demonstration (Continued...)

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)

Private Entities (select any/all)

Other (select any/all)

5. Describe the activity.

NCATP conducts device demonstrations throughout North Carolina via its nine centers. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, NCATP has also introduced online scheduled demonstrations featuring various assistive technology devices. These 30-minute live and recorded sessions are held weekly and are open to anyone interested in the featured product. Participants have the opportunity to ask questions during the session, with additional time allocated for inquiries at the end. NCATP staff continually explore methods to provide demonstrations aiming to enhance outreach to individuals in rural areas and historically marginalized populations (HMP) across North Carolina. Staff utilize Beam and Vgo telepresence robotic devices, among others, to conduct virtual demonstrations in all nine AT Centers. Moreover, device demonstration videos are available on the NCATP YouTube channel, allowing individuals to review various categories of assistive technology and familiarize themselves with the devices offered. The procurement of devices is conducted as funding becomes available through federal funds, state appropriations, and private contributions. NCATP adheres to all North Carolina state purchasing guidelines; however, each center identifies devices necessary for demonstration purposes tailored to meet local needs. Additionally, NCATP staff, along with the Grant Advisory Council, have identified target populations and collaborate with external partners to provide device demonstrations to individuals and professionals within HMP groups, aging individuals, veterans, and emergency management sectors.

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

Link to online demonstrations: <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/eipd/north-carolina-assistive-technology-program/what-assistive-technology> Link to NCATP Main Page: <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/eipd/north-carolina-assistive-technology-program>

Module L: Training/Educational Activities

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)

State Units on Aging (select any/all)

Area Agencies on Aging (select any/all)

State Departments of Education (select any/all)

Local School Districts (select any/all)

Institutions of Higher Education (select any/all)

Hospitals and Health Care Systems (select any/all)

- Have written agreement with this entity

Early Intervention Programs (select any/all)

Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

- Have written agreement with this entity

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)

The NCATP staff conducted a webinar for DHHS staff across the state focusing on MS Word accessibility. This online training session attracted over 150 participants. Subsequently, DHHS made the training available on the state's Learning Management System (LMS) for all state employees to access. As a follow-up, additional training sessions on MS Forms Accessibility and MS PowerPoint Accessibility are planned. Both of these sessions will be delivered via live webinars and subsequently posted on the LMS. More recently, NCATP has been approached by the Lead UX/Accessibility Developer for Digital Solutions at the North Carolina Department of Information Technology to provide training on accessibility features and the creation of accessible documents. Training will be delivered to over 1,400 editors utilizing the Digital Commons platform from various state agencies and will be shared on a dedicated Digital Commons Teams channel. Further training opportunities will be identified as this partnership evolves.

Planned Transition Training or Other Training Activity (optional)

NCATP staff collaborate with the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) as key members of the Accessible Instructional Materials (AIM) project. AIM not only emphasizes the importance of accessible educational resources but also addresses the transition to post-secondary education and employment training. NCATP staff are responsible for leading and delivering all training sessions on the use of assistive technology across secondary, post-secondary, and employment contexts. To date, training sessions have covered topics such as "Assistive Technology for Employment," "Assistive Technology for Independent Living," "Assistive Technology in Grades K-5," and "Assistive Technology for High School." Upcoming training will include an all-day session at the DPI Exceptional Children's Training Institute focusing on Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) assessment, funding, and the transition to post-secondary education.

Planned Statewide Conference or Other Training Activity (optional)

The North Carolina Assistive Technology Program (NCATP) hosts the NC Assistive Technology Expo annually. During the COVID-19 pandemic, this event was held virtually. Beginning in 2023, we have transitioned to a hybrid format that includes sessions, attracting over 300 attendees from six different states. The Expo takes place each October, featuring between 40 to 50 exhibitors and a single track of sessions with up to six presentations. Participants can earn CRC and CEU credits. In addition to the annual Expo, NCATP also organizes several Assistive Technology Pop-Up Events throughout the state. We collaborate with community organizations across North Carolina, including Solutions for Independence IL Center, Ft. Liberty Family Services, EIPD (formerly Division of Vocational Rehabilitation), and local community colleges, to co-host these events. This initiative ensures that individuals, particularly in rural areas of North Carolina, have access to important resources and information.

3. The online page for this specific activity can be found at: <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/eidp/north-carolina-assistive-technology-program/ncatp-events>

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)

State Agency on Aging (select any/all)

Area Agencies on Aging (select any/all)

State Departments of Education (select any/all)

Local School Districts (select any/all)

Hospitals and/or Health Systems (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)

To improve the continuum of access to long term services and supports for individuals and caregivers by leading the design, implementation, and ongoing administration of a No Wrong Door system in North Carolina, NCATP staff serves on the advisory council for the No Wrong Door and All Ages/All Stages multi-sector plan for aging in North Carolina. They contribute insights to support a comprehensive system designed to assist older adults and their families. This initiative aims to strengthen communities, enhance health and well-being, and promote affordable aging initiatives. Additionally, staff offer recommendations on leveraging technology to improve opportunities for individuals to age in place and to optimize technological solutions in the least restrictive environments.

Planned Other Technical Assistance Activity (optional)

Advancing the integration of innovative technologies within the workplace by equipping professionals and individuals with disabilities to comprehend, learn, and utilize these technologies is a primary objective of the NCATP program. Beginning in 2024, NCATP will offer technical assistance to EIPD for the incorporation of artificial intelligence (AI) into daily work activities. This initiative aims to enhance the skill sets of both professionals and those they serve, while also facilitating the earlier implementation of assistive technology in the rehabilitation process. The technical assistance will be extended from EIPD to the Department of Public Instruction and various rehabilitation training centers throughout North Carolina.

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)

Entities in the statewide and local workforce development systems (select any/all)

State Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies (select any/all)

- Receive financial support from this entity

Aging and Disability Resource Centers (select any/all)

Elementary and Secondary schools (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)

NCATP hosted a Legislative Awareness Day in conjunction with the national AT Awareness day in 2024. The plan is to host this event annually in the spring to coincide with the national AT Awareness day. NC Legislators as well as local city/county officials are invited to a local NCATP center to learn more about resources, services, and technology. In 2024, over fifty individuals attended the awareness event including 7 NC Legislators (or staffers) and 28 local government officials in Wake and Johnston Counties of North Carolina.

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)

State Agency on Aging (select any/all)

Area Agencies on Aging (select any/all)

State Aging and Disability Resource Center/No Wrong Door System (select any/all)

State Public Health Department (select any/all)

State Departments of Education (select any/all)

Elementary and Secondary School Systems (select any/all)

Institutions of Higher Education(select any/all)

Early Intervention Programs (select any/all)

Hospitals and/or Health Systems (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

Our Statewide Assistive Technology (AT) Program operates nine regional centers. Each center is equipped with at least one dedicated full-time staff member specializing in assistive technology services and devices. The centers in Raleigh and Charlotte have additional personnel, including the NCATP Director, Inventory Specialist, and Funding and Outreach Specialist. Staff members offer assistance through face-to-face interactions, virtual sessions, email, and telephone, along with comprehensive training programs. Individuals are welcome to reach out to any of the nine sites to consult with staff. Furthermore, inquiries can be directed to the AT program via the general email address atintake.dhhs.nc.gov. Messages will be forwarded to the relevant staff based on location and specific requests. Our commitment is to respond to all inquiries within 24 hours during regular working hours (Monday through Friday).

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 NC.
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.
25. The Lead Agency or Implementing Entity will conduct outreach to and as appropriate, collaborate with other State agencies that receive Federal funding for assistive technology including –
 - a. The State educational agency receiving assistance under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C.1400 et seq.);
 - b. The State vocational rehabilitation agency receiving assistance under title I of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 720 et seq.);
 - c. The agency responsible for administering the State Medicaid program under title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.); The State agency receiving assistance under the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.); and
 - d. Any other agency in a State that funds assistive technology.