

# National Assistive Technology Act Data System

State Plan - Full Report

Puerto Rico 2024

# **General Information**

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

State AT Program Title	Puerto Rico Assistive Technology Program (PRATP)				
State AT Program URL	www.pratp.upr.edu				
Mailing Address	PO Box 365067				
City	San Juan				
State	Puerto Rico				
Zip Code	00936				
Program Email	asistencia.tecnologica@upr.edu				
Phone	787-474-9999				
ТТҮ					

# Lead Agency

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

# **Implementing Entity**

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

City	
State	
Zip Code	
Program URL	

# General Information (Continued...)

# **Program Director and Other Contacts**

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Program Director at Lead Agency (last, first)	Hernandez Maldonado, Maria M
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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)	Hernandez-Maldonado, Maria M			
Title	Program Director			
Phone	787-474-7292			
E-mail	maria.hernandez17@upr.edu			

# Module A: Change in Lead Agency or Implementing Entity

Does your Lead Agency contract with an Implementing Entity to carry out the Statewide AT Program on its behalf (From General Information)?	<u>No</u>
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 designate council?	ed State agei	ncy for Vocational Rehabilitation are members of the advisory	1
		ncy for Vocational Rehabilitation for individuals who are blind are parate VR agency for individuals who are blind)?	0
3. How many representatives of a state Center	er for Indepe	endent Living are members of the advisory council?.	1
4. How many representatives of the State wo Opportunity Act are members of the advisor		elopment board established under the Workforce Innovation and	1
the State AT Program and is operated by a m 6.1. If yes, how many representat	ram (AFP) f on-profit en	or assistive technology in your state/territory that is separate from	1 No 0
council? 7. How many representatives of the following	y agencies an	nd/or organizations are members of the advisory council?	1
(At least one is required by the AT Act.)	,		
Medicaid state agency		0	
State agency administering Developmen Disabilities Act	tal	0	
State agency administering or organizat under Older Americans Act	ion funded	0	
Organization representing veterans		0	
University Center for Excellence in Dev Disabilities (UCEDD)	elopmental	1	
State Protection and Advocacy System		0	
State Council on Developmental Disabil	ities	0	
8. How many additional representatives of or Early Intervention/Child Services state ( agency	0	s and/or organizations are members of the advisory council?	0
e .	)		
	)		
State Library/Secretary of ( State/Talking Books agency	)		
	)		
e e	)		
State Parent Training Information ( Center (IDEA funded)	)		
Other (description required in text box( below) Describe Other Agency	)		
9. How many individuals with disabilities wh	o use assistiv	ve technology or their family members or guardians are members of	6

the advisory council?

# **Advisory Council Calculation**

Description	Number
Individuals with disabilities that use AT or their family members or guardians on the advisory council	6
Total number of individuals on the advisory council	11
Percentage	54.55%

10. In accordance with section 4(c)(2) of the AT Act of 1998, as amended our state has a consumer-majority advisory councilYesthat provides consumer-responsive, consumer-driven advice to the state for planning of, implementation of, and evaluation of<br/>the activities carried out through the grant, including setting measurable goals. This advisory council is geographically<br/>representative of the State and reflects the diversity of the State with respect to race, ethnicity, and types of disabilities across<br/>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 <u>closed-out carryover fiscal year AT grant award (liquidated the</u> <u>previous December 31)</u>. 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	\$278,172.04	59.63%	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	\$187,086.02	40.11%	
c. Total Expenditures	\$465,258.06		
d. Total Award	\$466,490.00		
e. Lapsed Amount	\$1,231.94	0.26%	
f. Transition Training & Technical Assistance Set Aside	\$8,487.59	4.54%	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 <u>preceding fiscal year AT grant</u> 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 \$479,492.00

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	\$25,792.96	\$267,736.08	\$3,755.99	\$297,285.03
All State Leadership Activities	\$15,808.59	\$164,096.32	\$2,302.06	\$182,206.97
Total	\$41,601.55	\$431,832.40	\$6,058.05	\$479,492.00
Transition Training & Technical Assistance	\$790.44	\$8,204.82	\$115.10	\$9,110.36

# Module D: State Level Activity Summary

# 1. Which State Financing Activities do you conduct?

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

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

- Device Exchange
- Device Reassignment or Open Ended Loan

**3. Do you conduct Short-term Device Loans?** Yes

**4. Do you conduct Device Demonstrations?** Yes

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

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

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

• Deaf/Blind Telecommunications EDP-Federal

**2.** Select the <u>one option</u> that best describes who conducts this activity/activities. The Statewide AT Program (State AT)

**3.** Select the <u>one option</u> that best describes from where this activity/activities is conducted. One central location (Central)

4. Do you charge a fee for this activity/activities? (select one)  $\mathrm{No}$ 

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

Banks/Financial Institution (select any/all)

Independent Living Center (select any/all)

Easter Seals (select any/all)

Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)

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

• Have written agreement with this entity

State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

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

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)

Private Entities (select any/all)

Other (select any/all)

#### 6. Describe the activity/activities.

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

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

https://www.icanconnect.org/how-toapply/puerto-rico/

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

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

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

• AT Fabrication Program

**2.** Select the <u>one option</u> that best describes who conducts this activity/activities. The Statewide AT Program (State AT)

**3.** Select the <u>one option</u> that best describes from where this activity/activities is conducted. One central location (Central)

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

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

Banks/Financial Institution (select any/all)

Independent Living Center (select any/all)

Easter Seals (select any/all)

Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)

Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

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

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)

Private Entities (select any/all)

Other (select any/all)

#### 6. Describe the activity/activities.

Low-Cost Device Design and Development (LD3) Program - The LD3 program allows consumers to obtain functional AT solutions mimicking those of devices in the market that could not be acquired otherwise. This program seeks to facilitate the acquisition of assistive technologies through the design and development of low-cost devices as well as through the installation, configuration, and training on the use of the adapted devices. The activities carried out under this program allow PRATP to facilitate the acquisition of AT devices in three main scenarios: Scenario 1 - The AT device needed does not exist in the market; Scenario 2 - The AT Device exist in the market, but it must be modified in order to make it usable by the consumer; Scenario 3- The AT device exist in the market, but its cost is too high to be accessible by Puerto Rican consumers and the device cannot be obtained otherwise. The Program maintains a stock of some common materials used for the development of technology. The consumer is required to provide only the materials needed for the construction of the device. If the consumer cannot provide the materials, a fee is charged (equivalent to the total cost of any stock materials that have been purchased by the Program).

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

www.pratp.upr.edu

# **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.

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

7. The online page for this specific activity www.pratp.upr.edu can be found at:

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

**1. Select the <u>one option</u> that best describes who conducts this activity.** The Statewide AT Program (State AT)

**2.** Select the <u>one option</u> that best describes from where this activity is conducted. One central location (Central)

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

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

Banks/Financial Institution (select any/all)

Independent Living Center (select any/all)

Easter Seals (select any/all)

Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)

Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

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

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)

Private Entities (select any/all)

#### Other (select any/all)

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

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

#### 6. Describe the activity.

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

7. The online page for this specific activity www.pratp.upr.edu can be found at:

# Module J: Device Loan

**1. Select the <u>one option</u> that best describes who conducts this activity.** The Statewide AT Program (State AT)

**2.** Select the <u>one option</u> 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 J: Device Loan (Continued...)

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)

Private Entities (select any/all)

#### Other (select any/all)

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

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

#### 6. Describe the activity.

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

7. The online page for this specific activity www.pratp.upr.edu can be found at:

# **Module K: Device Demonstration**

# **1.** Select the <u>one option</u> that best describes who conducts this activity.

The Statewide AT Program (State AT)

**2.** Select the <u>one option</u> 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 K: Device Demonstration (Continued...)

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)

Private Entities (select any/all)

#### Other (select any/all)

#### 5. Describe the activity.

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

6. The online page for this specific activity www.pratp.upr.edu can be found at:

# 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)

 Early Intervention Programs (select any/all)

State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

Federal 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)

PRATP will conduct a series of training sessions on PowerPoint best practices and tools to create accessible virtual and face-to-face presentations. Training was provided to professors and IT personnel from different campuses of the University of Puerto Rico and other universities throughout the Island as well. Accessible design and development aspects were discussed as well as guidelines for accessible presentation delivery, captioning, alt-text, and descriptive links, among other areas. Follow-up technical assistance was provided to participants who wanted to integrate accessibility into their courses, develop IT accessibility trainings or to modify university policies and practices regarding IT accessibility.

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

PRATP will provide training (AT for Accessing Information: Planning Transition to Post-Secondary Education of the Blind Student) to the personnel of the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities, and the students receiving their services from each Campus of the University of Puerto Rico. This presentation will outline the role of AT in supporting blind students as they transition to post-secondary education. It will highlight the critical tools and strategies necessary for ensuring equal access to information and fostering independence in academic environments. The following topics will be presented: The importance of AT in education for blind students, enabling access to information and promoting independence; Challenges Faced by Blind Students; Key AT for access to digital and printed content; Mobility & Orientation technologies; The importance of early planning, identification of AT needs, and collaboration with disability services at colleges; and self-advocacy.

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

**3. The online page for this specific activity** www.pratp.upr.edu **can be found at:** 

# **Module M: Technical Assistance**

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

Banks/Financial Institution (select any/all)

Independent Living Center (select any/all)

Easter Seals (select any/all)

Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)

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)

The Puerto Rico Assistive Technology Program (PRATP) will provide technical assistance to students and faculty of four engineering departments at the University of Puerto Rico to design, develop, and evaluate accessible technologies for persons with disabilities. This technical assistance will be provided as part of an effort to engage local talent in the creation of cost-effective solutions to address primary needs of individuals with disabilities and to expand the capacity of PRATP's Low-Cost Device Design and Development (LD3) initiative by adding highly specialized human and technical resources to the services provided.

#### 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)

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

State Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies (select any/all)

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)

The Puerto Rico Assistive Technology Program (PRATP) will carry out an awareness campaign to promote the National Assistive Technology Awareness Day, and PRATP's assistive technology services. The campaign will be promoted through social networks, radio, and television.

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

The Puerto Rico Assistive Technology Program (PRATP) will participate in the Congress of Persons with Disabilities held by the Office of the Ombudsman for Persons with Disabilities in October. Over 800 people with disabilities, their families, and service providers are expected to attend the event, which will be covered by the island's leading media. The PRATP information table will provide information about assistive technology and allow people to interact with it. In addition, participants can complete a questionnaire about their needs. This questionnaire aims to determine if a person who fills out the questionnaire would benefit from assistive technology.

#### 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)

• Receive financial support from this entity

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

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

## **Assurances and Measurable Goals**

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

#### Assurances

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

- 1. The Lead Agency prepared and submitted this State Plan on behalf of the State of Puerto Rico.
- 2. The Lead Agency submitting this plan is the State agency that is eligible to submit this plan and if an Implementing Entity is identified it is designated to implement the required AT Act activities.
- 3. The State agency has authority under State law to perform the functions of the State under this program.
- 4. The State legally may carry out each provision of this plan.
- 5. All provisions of this plan are consistent with State law.
- 6. A State officer, specified by title in this certification, has authority under State law to receive, hold, and disburse Federal funds made available under the plan.
- 7. The State officer who submits this plan, specified by title in this certification, has authority to submit this plan.
- 8. The agency that submits this plan has adopted or otherwise formally approved this plan.
- 9. The plan is the basis for State operation and administration of the program.
- 10. The Lead Agency will maintain and evaluate the program under this State Plan.
- 11. The State will annually collect data related to the required activities implemented by the State under this section in order to prepare the progress reports required under subsection 4(f) of the Act.
- 12. The Lead Agency will submit the annual progress report on behalf of the State.
- 13. The State will prepare reports to the Secretary in such form and containing such information as the Secretary may require to carry out the Secretary's functions under this Act and keep such records and allow access to such records as the Secretary may require to ensure the correctness and verification of information provided to the Secretary.
- 14. The Lead Agency will control and administer the funds received through the grant.
- 15. The Lead Agency will make programmatic and resource allocation decisions necessary to implement the State Plan.
- 16. Funds received through the grant will be expended in accordance with Section 4 of the Act, and will be used to supplement, and not supplant, funds available from other sources for technology-related assistance, including the provision of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services.
- 17. The Lead Agency will ensure conformance with all applicable Federal and State accounting requirements.
- 18. The State will adopt such fiscal control and accounting procedures as may be necessary to ensure proper disbursement of and accounting for the funds received through the grant.
- 19. Funds made available through a grant to a State under this Act will not be used for direct payment for an assistive technology device for an individual with a disability.
- 20. A public agency or an individual with a disability holds title to any property purchased with funds received under the grant and administers that property.
- 21. The physical facility of the Lead Agency and Implementing Entity, if any, meets the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) regarding accessibility for individuals with disabilities. Section 4(d)(6)(E)
- 22. Activities carried out in the State that are authorized under this Act, and supported by Federal funds received under this Act, will comply with the standards established by the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board under section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (20 U.S.C. 794d). Section 4(d)(6)(G)
- 23. The Lead Agency will coordinate the activities of the State Plan among public and private entities, including coordinating efforts related to entering into interagency agreements.
- 24. The Lead Agency will coordinate efforts related to the active, timely, and meaningful participation by individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives, and other appropriate individuals, with respect to activities carried out through the grant.
- 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.