

EQUAL TREATMENT

P&A does not discriminate on the basis of disability, race, color, creed, national origin, ethnicity, ancestry, citizenship, age, religion, sex or sexual orientation, veteran status, or any other class protected by law in the provision of its programs or services.

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ALTERNATE FORMATS

If you would like to receive this information in an alternate format, please contact P&A.

(In Spanish)

Si usted desea recibir información en español, por favor de comunicarse con P&A a la información de contacto anterior. Un defensor de habla hispana estará encantado de ayudarte.

P&A

PROTECTION & ADVOCACY
FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES, INC.

The Protection & Advocacy System for South Carolina

Protection and Advocacy for Assistive Technology (PAAT)

Since 1977
Services Statewide
P&A Services Are Free

What is Protection and Advocacy for Assistive Technology (PAAT)?

The PAAT program was created to allow P&As to assist individuals with disabilities in getting, using, or the care of assistive technology devices or assistive technology services through case management, legal representation and self-advocacy training.

PAAT funding does not allow P&A to pay for AT devices or services for our clients.



What is Assistive Technology?

Assistive Technology (AT) devices or services are things that help people with disabilities live, work or learn.

An **“AT device”** is any item or equipment that helps people with disabilities in their daily life activities. Examples include but are not limited to:

- Magnifier
- Power/manual wheelchair
- Amplified phone at work
- Vehicle changes
- Modified keyboard
- Graphic organizer at school
- Communication devices/applications
- Ramp

An **“AT service”** is any service that directly helps an individual with disabilities choose, get or use an AT device.

Examples include but are not limited to:

- Evaluations to determine the need for an AT device
- Getting AT devices
- Repairing or replacing AT devices
- Coordinating necessary therapies with AT devices
- Training on how to use the AT device

Services Provided

Education and Outreach

- P&A staff provide self-advocacy training, education, and outreach in the community.

Information and Referral

- Provide information that will help people with disabilities successfully advocate for themselves about AT devices or services.
- Provide referral to other places in the community that help people with disabilities find or pay for AT.

Systems Advocacy

- Work with groups supporting AT rights for people with disabilities.
- Teach groups of people about AT rights to raise awareness in the disability community.

Case Representation

- Help people with disabilities who need AT to live in their own homes, or move from an institution or facility to the homes of their choice.
- Help students with disabilities in public schools who have been denied or need AT evaluations, devices or supportive services.
- Help people with disabilities that need AT to perform in post-secondary school or employment settings.