

Purpose:

The purpose of the Hamilton-Boone-Madison Special Services Cooperative Assistive Technology Program is to provide individuals with disabilities support in relation to the individualized education plan.

The Assistive Technology Team evaluates the needs of the individual student with a multidisciplinary approach. We are committed to providing assistive technology services to students and staff throughout the Hamilton-Boone-Madison Special Services Cooperative.

Who:

Students unable to meet IEP goals who have:

- Physical Limitations
- Needs in Written Expression
- Needs in Communication
- Needs in Organizational Skills

What:**Legal Definition**

An assistive technology device is defined as any item, piece of equipment, product system, whether acquired commercially off the shelf, modified, or customized that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities. Assistive technology service is defined as any service that directly assists an individual with a disability in the selection, acquisition or use of an assistive technology device.

Practical definition

Assistive Technology includes low and high technology options. These may include: adapting tasks, adaptive devices; augmentative communication systems, ie: boards, cards, devices; specialized software; keyboarding systems; or organizational techniques.

How:

With the assistance of certified specialized teachers, speech language pathologists, occupational and physical therapists, and an assistive technology specialist an evaluation is conducted to determine the needs of the student and the potential adaptations that might facilitate learning. Tasks, environment, and educational goals are all taken into consideration. It is our philosophy that collaboration among the local educational team and the assistive technology team will bring about better services for the student. Thus during an evaluation all members of the local education team are invited to participate, especially the parents of the student.

Competent training is a critical component in ensuring the success of students using assistive technology. Training is provided for all staff, parents and students involved in the utilization of the assistive technology devices and techniques. Technical assistance is also provided as applicable.

The Assistive Technology Team may include:

- Occupational Therapists
- Physical Therapists
- Speech Language Pathologists
- Specialized Teachers
- Hearing Impaired
- Visually Impaired
- Orthopedically Impaired
- Learning Disabled
- Assistive Technology Specialist
- Transition Specialist