

# Legal Requirements

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Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires Individualized Education Program (IEP) teams to consider the assistive technology needs of a student during the development of an IEP. The law further defines assistive technology devices and services.

## DEFINITIONS

### **ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY DEVICE**

Any item, piece of equipment, or product system, whether acquired commercially off the shelf, modified, or customized that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of a child with a disability.

### **ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY SERVICE**

Any service that directly assists a child with a disability in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device.

This includes:

- a. The evaluation of the needs of such a child, including a functional evaluation of the child in the child's customary environment;
- b. purchasing, leasing, or otherwise providing for the acquisition of assistive technology devices by such child;
- c. selecting, designing, fitting, customizing, adapting, applying, maintaining, repairing, or replacing of assistive technology devices;
- d. coordinating and using other therapies, interventions, or services with assistive technology devices such as those associated with existing education and rehabilitation plans and programs;
- e. training or technical assistance for such child, or where appropriate, the family of such child; and
- f. training or technical assistance for professionals (including individuals providing education and rehabilitation services), employers, or other individuals who provide service to, employ, or are otherwise substantially involved in the major life functions of the child.