



State Intermediate Educational Unit  
# 146 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333  
Telephone (207) 624-6660  
Fax (207) 624-6661  
[www.maine.gov/education/speced/cds](http://www.maine.gov/education/speced/cds)

Informational Letter: Number 4

DATE: June 8, 2009

TO: Child Development Services Board Chairs, State Level Advisory Committee Members, and Regional Site Directors

FROM: David Noble Stockford, Team Leader and Policy Director,  
Debra Hannigan, State Director, Child Development Services

RE: Assistive Technology

As a result of the Lunch and Learn on May 28, 2009 with Maine Cite, we are providing the following clarification regarding documentation of assistive technology services for children B-2 on their IFSPs.

Chapter 101 (pages 121-122) states:

*Assistive Technology*

*Assistive technology device means 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 the functional capabilities of children with disabilities.*

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

*Assistive technology services include:*

- i. The evaluation of the needs of a child with a disability, including a functional evaluation of the child in the child's customary environment;*
- ii. Purchasing, leasing, or otherwise providing for the acquisition of assistive technology devices by children with disabilities;*
- iii. Selecting, designing, fitting, customizing, adapting, applying, maintaining, repairing, or replacing assistive technology devices;*
- iv. Coordinating and using other therapies, interventions, or services with assistive technology devices, such as those associated with existing education and rehabilitation plans and programs;*
- v. Training or technical assistance for a child with disabilities or, if appropriate, that child's family; and*
- vi. Training or technical assistance for professionals (including individuals providing early intervention services) or other individuals who provide services to or are*

*otherwise substantially involved in the major life functions of individuals with disabilities.*

*If the IFSP Team determines that an AT device or service is necessary for the provision of services and specifies the AT device or service in the child's IFSP, the SAU is responsible for ensuring the provision of the AT device or service. The use of the purchased AT device(s) in a child's home or other settings is required if the child's IFSP Team determines that the child needs these devices in order for the child to benefit from early intervention services.*

When a child requires assistive technology, clearly written strategies supporting the child's outcomes are required. The outcomes must be based on the child and not the assistive technology device itself.

In Case-e assistive technology is a selection that can be chosen in the service selections. This will allow the service to be specified on the plan. Not all forms of assistive technology are going to require an indication of the frequency, intensity and method of service. All decisions made at a meeting regarding assistive technology must be documented in the written notice of the meeting. For more information, please e-mail Janna Gregory at [janna.gregory@maine.gov](mailto:janna.gregory@maine.gov).