



Get the Quality Assistive Technology Care You Deserve

*Select a RESNA-Certified Assistive Technology Professional
Today To Get The Right Equipment For Your Personal Needs*

RESNA

Before making a decision, ask these questions.

What tasks do I need to accomplish that I cannot do right now? How do I know that the recommendation/referral I receive from my doctor is the best one? How will my device/equipment work at home? What adaptations do I need to make at my workplace or school? Are there professionals who are trained in this specialty area? Can I talk to them first before making a final decision? How do I begin?



This pamphlet was designed to answer these questions so that individuals with disabilities and their families understand the importance of asking for a RESNA-Certified Assistive Technology Professional (ATP) to help in the selection and implementation of equipment.

Know what types of assistive technology exist.

There are many different types of assistive technology devices and equipment designed to help assist individuals with disabilities. Some of these include manual and power wheelchairs, ergonomic computer keyboards, mice and trackballs, screen magnifiers, hearing aids, reading machines, communication devices, orthotics, portable ramps, prosthetics, Braille, etc.

Know who you are working with. Understand the role of an Assistive Technology Professional (ATP).

A trained assistive technology professional analyzes the needs of individuals with disabilities, assists in the selection of the appropriate device or equipment, and trains the consumer individual on how to properly use the specific device or equipment. Unfortunately, there are people who are in the business to sell medical equipment that may be less than ethical or knowledgeable and can offer incorrect advice.

Look for an Assistive Technology Professional who is certified.

RESNA's ATP Certification recognizes professionals who have reached an internationally accepted standard of knowledge in assistive technology. An ATP certified professional takes a holistic approach to every situation, assessing your situation and influences, and then determining what equipment will enable you to optimize your life at home, school, work and in the community. ATPs must follow a strict Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics, helping to assure quality service and consumer protection.

The certification process includes work/education eligibility, the passing of a 200-item examination, and an on-going commitment to practice at the highest ethical standard in the field of assistive technology.

Know where to find an RESNA certified Assistive Technology Professional.

Visit www.resna.org and click on "Find a Certified AT Professional." For more information on assistive technology and Certified Assistive Technology Professionals, contact your state's Assistive Technology Act programs (www.ataporg.org) or the National Registry of Rehabilitation Technology Suppliers (www.NRRTS.org). You may also contact your local center for independent living, vocational rehabilitation agency, school district, rehabilitation hospital, assistive technology supplier or manufacturer and ask to work with a RESNA certified AT Professional.

About RESNA

RESNA (Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America) is a non-profit professional organization whose members serve people with disabilities seeking technology applications to maximize their ability to function in their environment. RESNA's membership consists of researchers, clinicians, suppliers, manufacturers, consumers and educators who work in nonprofit and for-profit companies. In addition to the ATP certification, RESNA also offers a Rehabilitation Engineering Technologist (RET) certification for engineering professionals.

All members are dedicated to promoting the exchange of ideas and information for the advancement of assistive technology.

For more information on the ATP certification, visit www.resna.org.



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