



Minnesota Department of Human Services

Assistive Technology and Modifications Toolkit

The toolkit contains products, services and a list of organizations as resources people may use to plan independent lives. Click on a topic in the Table of Contents or scroll through the document. Some listings are found under multiple categories. For example, the same organization may be found under Funding Sources, Loan and Reuse Projects or General Resources.

The Disability Services Division does not control or guarantee the accessibility, accuracy or completeness of this outside information. Inclusion of these links is not intended to reflect their importance or to endorse any views expressed, products or services offered or organizations included.

The Assistive Technology and Modifications Toolkit is a collection of types of solutions and resources. Twice a year, DSD will update these resources to reflect newly identified products, services and organizations.

Table of Contents

[Agriculture](#)

[Alternative Input/Keyboard Devices](#)

[Augmentative and Alternative Communication](#)

[Blind or Of Low Vision](#)

[Cognitive Resources](#)

[Computer Accessibility](#)

[Deaf or Hard Of Hearing](#)

[Environmental Controls](#)

[Functional Need Product Search](#)

[Funding Sources](#)

[General Resources](#)

[Homes](#)

[Loan and Reuse Projects](#)

[Mobility Products](#)

[Ramps](#)

[Service Animals](#)

[Speech Generating Devices](#)

[Transportation](#)

[University AT and Modification Centers](#)

[Visual Controls](#)

[Voice Recognition](#)



Minnesota Department of Human Services

Agriculture

[Back](#)

AgrAbility Project of Minnesota

<http://safety.coafes.umn.edu/map/>

This assistive technology and modification resource for Minnesota farmers with disabilities includes site assistive technology consultation and evaluations.

Contact information:

Dan Stores, ATP (EquipALife), PO Box 310, Maple Plain, MN 55359

Telephone: (612) 518-3311

E-mail: dstores@atmn.org

Breaking New Ground Outreach Program – Purdue University

www.breakingnewground.info

Resource center of solutions for farmers with disabilities.

Scroll down left navigation bar to resource center and toolkit CD

<http://pasture.ecn.purdue.edu/~agenhtml/ABE/Extension/BNG/Resource%20Center/resourcecenter.html>

Alternative Input/Keyboard Devices

[Back](#)

AbilityHub

www.abilityhub.com

Adaptive equipment and alternative methods for accessing computers and electronic environmental controls.

Adaptivation

<http://www.adaptivation.com/>

Catalog of innovative adaptive devices for people with disabilities includes communication aids, switches and environmental controls.

Applied Human Factors™, Inc.

<http://www.ahf-net.com/>

Products for computer access, augmentative communication and learning disabilities include REACH Interface Author™, SoothSayer Word Prediction™ and ScanBuddy™.

EnableMart

www.enablemart.com

Catalog of assistive technology products that promote independence for all people with disabilities.

Eyegaze Communication System

www.eyegaze.com

The Eyegaze System is a remote human-computer interface that is both an eye-operated computer for control and communication and a device for monitoring and recording eye motion.

Eye Response Technologies

www.eyerresponse.com

ERICA system controls communication and computer functions through eye movement. Works with all Windows or Mac OSX based software.

Eye Tech Digital Systems

www.eyetechds.com/

Quick Glance is an eye tracking system creating access to computer technology using eye movement. Integrated hardware and software are available as is a software package that can be added to an existing computer.



Minnesota Department of Human Services

Inclusive TLC

www.inclusivetlc.com

Catalog of computer software, switches, computer access and communication devices.

Infogrip, Inc.

<http://www.infogrip.com>

This catalog of products provides people with more productive way to interact with computers.

Innovation Management Group, Inc.

<http://imgpresents.com/catalog2.htm>

Publisher of pointing device enhancement software. OnScreen with Word Complete, CrossScanner, Joystick-To-Mouse, The Magnifier, SmartClick, TouchRight Utilities, Build-A-Board, and PointSmart are compatible with all major computers.

IntelliSwitch

www.madentec.com

This flexible switch interface for the computer provides wireless access to most switch accessible software.

SAJE Technology

www.saje-tech.com

Manufacturers of Powerhouse and Communicator products for voice control of telephones and environmental controls. Voice activated telephones, door openers, lights, entertainment and security systems, appliances, and hospital beds.

Tash Assistive Technology Product Catalog Resource 2006

www.tashinc.com

Tash's product catalog of switch and access products for computers, augmentative and alternative communication devices, educational, toys and environmental control units.

Turning Point Assistive Technology Products

www.turningpointtechnology.com

Manufacturers of key guards for keyboards, augmentative and alternative communication devices, electronic environmental controls and distributors of software and various accessible products.

Wee Play 2

<http://www.weeplay2.com/>

Switches, accessible games and play equipment and other items that help children with disabilities to take part in life, learning and play.

Augmentative and Alternative Communication

[Back](#)

AbleLink

www.ablelinktech.com/

AbleLink creates specialized cell phones and software for people with cognitive disabilities that require no reading or writing. A Web browser, email, prompting and cueing are controlled using custom pictures and audio.

AbleNet, Inc

www.ablenetinc.com

Develops curricular products designed to work with augmentative and alternative communication devices.

AffordaSpeech

<http://www.affordaspeech.com>



Minnesota Department of Human Services

Makers of BoardSpeaker and other low-cost augmentative and alternative communication devices for children who are not yet ready for computer based communication boards.

Augmentative and Alternative Communication Institute

www.aacinstitute.org/

Not-for-profit charitable organization dedicated to the most effective communication for people who rely on augmentative and alternative communication.

Cyrano Communicator

www.cyanocommunicator.com

Based on a pocket PC platform this hand held device converts text to speech or can be controlled with a picture based interface using digital photographs taken with a hand held camera.

DynaVox Technologies

www.dynavoxsystems.com

Provider of augmentative and alternative communication devices for individuals with significant speech disabilities.

EnableMart

www.enablemart.com

Catalog of assistive technology products that promote independence for all people with disabilities.

Eyegaze Communication System

www.eyegaze.com

The Eyegaze System is a remote human-computer interface that is both an eye-operated computer for control and communication and a device for monitoring and recording eye motion.

Eye Response Technologies

www.eyerresponse.com

ERICA system controls communication and computer functions through eye movement. Works with all Windows or Mac OSX based software.

EyeTech Digital Systems

www.eyetechds.com/

Quick Glance is an eye tracking system creating access to computer technology using eye movement. Integrated hardware and software are available as is a software package that can be added to an existing computer.

Inclusive TLC

www.inclusivetlc.com

ITLC are developers and distributors of software, access and communication devices.

Mayer-Johnson

www.mayer-johnson.com

Manufactures augmentative and alternative communication software, hardware and printed products such as Boardmaker, Picture Communications Symbols and Writing with Symbols.

Minnesota State University Moorhead Regional Assistive Technology Center

<http://www.mnstate.edu/slhs/clinics/RATC/services.htm>

Short term loans of communication devices and assistive technology for written language and computer access. Consultation, training, support to locate funding.

Prentke Romich Company



Minnesota Department of Human Services

<http://www.prentrom.com/>

Producers of communication and software products, including Pathfinder, Vantage and Vanguard.

Saltillo

www.salttillo.com

Specializes in voice communication devices, including Bluebird-II, ChatPC.

Speech-to-Speech Relay

711 or 1-877-627-3848

Minnesota Relay Topics:

<http://www.state.mn.us/portal/mn/jsp/content.do?id=-536881376&agency=Commerce>

STS is a form of Relay Services that provides Communications Assistants (CAs) for people with speech disabilities who have difficulty being understood on the phone. CAs are trained to understand a wide variety of speech patterns, listen to the person with speech disabilities and convey the message to the other caller.

Tango

www.blink-twice.com

This new augmentative and alternative communication device morphs an adult voice into the voice of a boy or girl, has an integrated camera with flash and is compatible with WiFi, Bluetooth and cell phones.

Words+, Inc.

www.words-plus.com

Augmentative and alternative communication devices and programs used by children learning to communicate, lawyers and astrophysicist Steven Hawkins. The Say-it! SAM hand held device operates Windows XP.

Zygo Industries, Inc.

<http://www.zygo-usa.com/>

Catalog of alternative and augmentative communications devices, computer software and electronic environmental control products.

Blind or Of Low Vision

[Back](#)

American Foundation for the Blind

www.afb.org

AFB is a national nonprofit that expands possibilities for people with vision loss. AFB's priorities include broadening access to technology; elevating the quality of information and tools for the professionals who serve people with vision loss; and promoting independent and healthy living for people with vision loss by providing them and their families with relevant and timely resources.

American Printing House for the Blind

www.aph.org

APH manufactures books and magazines in Braille, large type recorded and computer disc form.

American Thermoform Corporation

www.americanthermoform.com

ATC manufactures and distributes Braille embossers, graphics heating machines, Braille and print embossers and a talking tactile tablet.

Assist Vision

www.assistvision.com

Developer and distributor of magnification devices.

Braille2000



Minnesota Department of Human Services

www.braille2000.com

An XML tool for Windows that makes it possible for a non Braille reading user to send a Braille document to a Braille production center, a school, a blind student, or to a fellow transcriber.

InTouch Graphics (Formerly Click & Go Interactive)

http://www.clickandgomap.com/02_product_tactile_01.htm

INTOUCH GRAPHICS delivers maps in a variety of formats ranging from tactile maps rendered in metal or plastic-encapsulated paper to software delivered in CD format or over the Web.

DAISY Consortium

www.daisy.org

DAISY promotes international standards, technologies and implementation strategies to enable global access by people with print disabilities to information provided by mainstream publishers, governments and libraries in a way which will also be of benefit to the wider community.

Dancing Dots

www.dancingdots.com

Dancing Dots develops and distributes products to benefit blind musicians. Scan printed scores, listen to results or convert to Braille notation. Compose into your PC then convert to print notation, Braille score or audio CD.

Design Science

www.dessci.com

Software for creating editing and displaying mathematics.

Dragon Naturally Speaking

www.dragonnaturallyspeaking.com/

Software transforms speech to text, operates computer programs and environmental controls.

Duxbury Systems

www.duxsys.com

Software that transcribes to and from Braille, supports mathematics, and technical Braille in English, Spanish, French, German, Portuguese, Arabic, Malaysian, Swedish and other languages.

EnableMart

www.enablemart.com

Catalog of assistive technology products that promote independence for all people with disabilities.

Enabling Technologies

www.Brailler.com

Manufacturer of large line of Braille embossers.

Freedom Scientific

www.freedomscientific.com

This firm distributes assistive technology for individuals who are blind, or have low vision or learning disabilities. Products include screen reading software for the blind, magnification software for those with low-vision, products for accessible scanning and reading, as well as Braille displays, note takers and an accessible PDA for the blind.

Freedom Vision



Minnesota Department of Human Services

www.freedomvision.net

Manufacturer of Fusion, a portable video magnifier, OPTi Verso distance viewing camera, and Quick Look, a handheld video magnifier.

GW Micro

www.gwmicro.com

Creators of Window Eyes Professional screen reader software, and Braille Sense, a notetaker, word processor, email, scheduler, address manager, Web browser, scientific calculator, DAISY player, MP3 player and digital audio recorder.

Huge Print Press

www.hugeprint.com

Huge Print Press prints e-text and large print books on demand in specified font sizes.

HumanWare

www.humanware.com

Manufacturers and distributors of personal data assistants, Bluetooth Braille displays, GPS orientation devices, embossers, digital talking book players, and desktop and portable magnifiers.

Independent Living Aids

www.independentliving.com

ILA is a distributor of wide range of products for people who are blind or of low vision.

Kurzweil Education Systems

<http://www.kurzweilededu.com/>

This software makes printed or electronic text readily available to people who are blind or visually impaired.

LS & S

www.lssproducts.com

Provider of products for the blind, low vision, deaf and hard of hearing communities ranging from basic daily living aids to software and electronic devices.

Magnisight

www.magnisight.com

CCTV manufacturer that supplies Veterans Administration consumers nationwide.

National Federation of the Blind

www.nfb.org

A low interest loan program assists blind people acquire computers and related equipment.

Plextor

www.plextalk.com

The Plectalk player is an accessible audio playback device for Daisy Digital Talking Books, music CDs, MP3 CDs or audio books on CD.

SAJE Technology

www.saje-tech.com

Manufacturers of Powerhouse and Communicator products for voice control of telephones and environmental controls. Voice activated telephones, door openers, lights, entertainment and security systems, appliances, and hospital beds.

ScripTalk Talking Prescriptions



Minnesota Department of Human Services

www.envisionamerica.com/products.htm

Bar code printer and scanner that converts prescription label information into speech.

Sighted Electronics

www.sighted.com

Braille embossers that print from Microsoft and Apple operating systems. The Braille produced at high speeds meets or exceeds Library of Congress standards.

Soneil Vision Enabling Systems

www.soneilves.com/

Braille Personal Data System with Windows XP.

State Services for the Blind

<http://www.mnssb.org/>

MN SSB fosters the achievement of vocational and personal independence by persons of all ages who are blind, visually impaired or DeafBlind. Services are available to anyone in Minnesota who has a vision loss that creates a barrier to their vocational or personal independence.

Telex Communications

www.telex.com

Maker of talking book players that include the Scholar, the Professor and the EZDaisy digital CD players.

UltraCane

www.soundforesight.co.uk/

The UltraCane is an electronic mobility aid designed to increase the amount of information available to the user about obstacles in their path and at head height.

Viewplus

www.viewplus.com

Manufacturer and distributor of fast, quiet desktop Braille printers that produce tactile graphics, mathematical charts, labels, business cards and more. Viewplus also produces IVEO self-voicing tactile-audio system that converts visual documents into a format that can be read by touch and audio.

Virtual Pencil

www.hentermath.com

Virtual Pencil is software that displays arithmetic and algebra visually and audibly, going through each part of the problem with the learner as they work towards a solution. Help messages, cueing and tutoring are part of the program.

VisionCue

www.visioncue.com

Vision Cue offers a select assortment of Braille, low vision and speech products from a variety of key manufacturers, including the ALVA line of Braille displays and Talks, talking phone software.

ZoomText

www.aisquared.com

ZoomText magnifies computer images and font and includes the NeoSpeech voice synthesizer screen reader.



Minnesota Department of Human Services

Cognitive Resources

[Back](#)

AbleLink

www.ablelinktech.com/

AbleLink creates specialized cell phones and software for people with cognitive disabilities that require no reading or writing. A Web browser, email, prompting and cueing are controlled using custom pictures and audio.

Accelerations Educational Software

www.dttrainer.com/

The DT trainer is instructional and assessment software for people with autism and other learning disabilities.

Aequus Technology

http://www.aequustechnologies.com/Ae_DPS.htm

AspireREADER software provides special features and navigation controls for people who are deaf, blind or have cognitive disabilities.

Animated Speech Corporation

www.animatedspeech.com

Speech and language learning software with animated tutor to engage children with autism, hearing loss and other disabilities.

AT KidSystems

<http://www.atkidsystems.com/>

AnthroTronix makes Mission Control, an accessible computer interface system with large pressure buttons and a microphone. Mission Control tracks individual progress for children with disabilities.

Attainment Company, Inc.

www.attainmentcompany.com

Creators and distributors of life skills software for non readers of any age, affordable augmentative and alternative communication devices, resources to help with math, literacy, social interaction and community life.

Bindependent

<http://www.bindependent.com>

Assistive technology, information and web community for people with brain injury and their supporters.

Cyrano Communicator

www.cyanocommunicator.com

Based on a pocket PC platform this hand held device converts text to speech or can be controlled with a picture based interface using digital photographs taken with a hand held camera.

EnableMart

www.enablemart.com

Catalog of assistive technology products that promote independence for all people with disabilities

Inclusive TLC

www.inclusivetlc.com

ITLC develop and distribute software, access and communication devices.

IntelliTools®

www.intellitools.com

The IntelliTools Classroom suite includes software for non reading learners across disabilities.



Minnesota Department of Human Services

Kurzweil Educational Systems

<http://www.kurzweilededu.com/>

Kurzweil 3000 is reading, writing and learning software for struggling students, including individuals with dyslexia, learning difficulties or those who are English Language Learners.

Laureate Learning Systems

www.laureatelearning.com

This firm creates and distributes more than 60 software programs that teach cause and effect, turn-taking, early vocabulary, syntax, cognitive concepts, auditory processing and reading. They have collaborated with NASA, received national recognition and awards from the Council for Exceptional Children, Johns Hopkins and the Software Publishers Association. New products are being developed with grants from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) and the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD).

PEAT

<http://www.brainaid.com/>

The Planning and Execution Assistant and Trainer is a personal planning assistant that provides automatic cues, monitors performance and automatically corrects schedule problems. This artificial intelligence device developed for NASA robots compensates for executive function impairments and thus increases independence and quality of life for people with cognitive disabilities. PEAT is available as software or as a handheld computer device.

Picture It and Pix Writer™

www.slatersoftware.com

These software programs for children with autism pair symbols with text for reading and writing development. Teacher resources include other programs for beginning readers with cognitive disabilities.

ScripTalk Talking Prescriptions

<http://www.envisionamerica.com/products.htm>

Bar code printer and scanner that converts prescription label information into speech.

Technology for Education, Inc.

www.tfeinc.com/

Distributor of software for people with cognitive disabilities.

Telex Communications

www.telex.com

Maker of talking book players that include the Scholar, the Professor and the EZDaisy digital CD players.

Texthelp Systems, Inc.

www.texthelp.com

Software such as Read & Write GOLD help students with disabilities develop literacy skills in an inclusive environment allowing them to use mainstream software along with their peers.

The Jogger

<http://www.thejogger.com/>

The Jogger is an individualized and flexible system that enables a support worker to remotely prompt an end-user to complete tasks such as job functions, chores, taking medications and transportation instructions. It then records the end user's response to each prompt and transmits the responses to the support worker.



Minnesota Department of Human Services

Tool Factory

www.toolfactory.com

A software developer that publishes a full curriculum to support learning for students with disabilities.

Virtual Pencil

www.hentermath.com

Virtual Pencil is software that displays arithmetic and algebra visually and audibly, going through each part of the problem with the learner as they work towards a solution. Help messages, cueing and tutoring are part of the program.

WatchMinder

www.watchminder.com

The WatchMinder2 is a vibrating, silent alarm and reminder system that can be used by people with cognitive disabilities with minimal disruption.

Wordq/Speakq

www.quillsoft.com

This writing software with advanced word prediction and text-to-speech capabilities assists students with disabilities with their spelling, proofreading and editing.

Computer Accessibility

[Back](#)

HP Accessibility

www.hp.com/hpinfo/abouthp/accessibility

Links to computer related assessments, products, services and information for people with disabilities.

IBM Human Ability and Accessibility Center

www.ibm.com/able

Internet, product and corporate accessibility projects connect in this Web site.

Deaf or Hard Of Hearing

[Back](#)

Caption First, Inc

<http://www.captionfirst.com/>

Voice to text translation service, Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) technology.

Caption Mic

<http://www.ultech.com/products/default.asp>

Caption Mic is a speech recognition caption system that creates real time captions in the classroom, for video, seminars, plays and events.

Department of Human Services Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services

http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/groups/disabilities/documents/pub/DHS_id_000081.hcsp

Broad range of assistance to people who are deaf, DeafBlind or hard of hearing. Resource and demonstration labs showcase adapted equipment including amplified telephones, TTYs, signaling devices and assistive listening devices.

EnableMart

www.enablemart.com

Catalog of assistive technology products that promote independence for all people with disabilities.

Interpretype

www.interpretype.com



Minnesota Department of Human Services

Interpretype is a pre-programmed laptop style computer device which has the ability to send and display typed messages to other ITY™ devices or a computer.

LS & S

www.lssproducts.com

Provider of products for the blind, low vision, deaf and hard of hearing communities ranging from basic daily living aids to software and electronic devices.

Minnesota Relay Service

<http://www.state.mn.us/portal/mn/jsp/content.do?id=-536881376&agency=Commerce>

MN Relay service provides telecommunication assistance directly to people who are deaf, hard of hearing, and people with speech or mobility disabilities.

Miracle-Ear Children's Foundation

www.miracle-ear.com

Hearing aids for children under 16 who do not income qualify for public support.

sComm

www.scommonline.com

Manufactures and distributes the UBI a portable, wireless communication device that enables people who are deaf/hard of hearing to communicate with hearing people without an interpreter.

Telephone Equipment Distribution Program

www.tedprogram.org

Distributes specialized telecommunications equipment at no cost to people with a communication or mobility impairment that significantly impedes their access to standard telephone equipment.

The Starkey Hearing Foundation

www.sotheworldmayhear.org

Provides hearing aids to low-income individuals and collects hearing aids for recycling.

Environmental Controls

[Back](#)

AbleLink

www.ablelinktech.com/

AbleLink creates specialized cell phones and software for people with cognitive disabilities that require no reading or writing. A Web browser, email, prompting and cueing are controlled using custom pictures and audio.

Dragon Naturally Speaking

<http://www.dragonnaturallyspeaking.com/>

Software transforms speech to text, operates computer programs and environmental controls.

EnableMart

www.enablemart.com

Catalog of assistive technology products that promote independence for all people with disabilities.

MaxiAids Products for Independent Living

www.maxiaids.com/store/default.asp

Independent living products catalog serving people across disabilities.

Quartet Technology, Inc.

www.qtiusa.com



Minnesota Department of Human Services

Switch activated environmental control units with voice output. Using any ability switch, a user can control his/her environment. The Series 7M is identical to the Series 7, but adds a special computer interface allowing the user full control of any IBM personal computer or compatible via Morse code input.

Relax 3 with Telephone

http://www.tashinc.com/catalog/env_infrared.html

Controls up to four infrared devices and ten electrical appliances with a single switch. (#4168, X-10 Transceiver required to operate electrical appliances.

SAJE Technology

www.saje-tech.com

Manufacturers of Powerhouse and Communicator products for voice control of telephones and environmental controls. Voice activated telephones, door openers, lights, entertainment and security systems, appliances, and hospital beds.

Zygo Industries, Inc.

www.zygo-usa.com

Catalog of alternative and augmentative communications devices, computer software and electronic environmental control products.

Functional Need Product Search

[Back](#)

Assistive Technology

www.assistivetech.net

A national public Web site on assistive technology, this resource helps target solutions, determine costs and find vendors of AT products. This site is sponsored by the Georgia Institute of Technology, the College of Architecture, NIDRR and The Rehabilitation Services Administration.

USA TechGuide

www.usatechguide.org

A Web guide to wheelchairs and assistive technology choices supported by the United Spinal Association.

Funding Sources

[Back](#)

Accessible Van Loans

<http://www.aapd-dc.org/>

As a member of American Association of People with Disabilities, you may join the Digital Federal Credit Union (DCU) and apply for a modified vehicle loan that may be repaid over 120 months.

ALS Association (Minnesota Chapter)

www.alsmn.org

Equipment Loan Closet and Hrbek-Sing Communication and Assistive Device Program loan durable medical equipment and speech generating devices to people with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, commonly referred to as "Lou Gehrig's Disease."

Assistive Technology of Minnesota

www.atmn.org

ATMn* has low interest loans for assistive technology and advocacy for Minnesotans with disabilities

Centers for Independent Living

www.macil.org

Each of the eight Minnesota Centers for Independent Living operates a RAMP project which coordinates information, specifications, local contractors and funding sources for modifications.



Minnesota Department of Human Services

IRS Deductions

www.irs.gov

Businesses can deduct \$15,000 in any tax year for the cost of removing barriers to the disabled and the elderly. Find Internal Revenue Service publications 535 and 334 and form 8826.

Minnesota Housing Finance Agency

www.mhfa.state.mn.us

Works with local lenders to provide low interest loans up to \$35,000 for accessible improvements to year-round owner occupied homes.

Muscular Dystrophy Association

www.mdausa.org

Supports people with muscular dystrophy with a variety of services, referrals and devices regardless of ability to pay.

National Multiple Sclerosis Society (Minnesota Chapter)

www.mssociety.org

Serves people with MS and their families. Subsidies for equipment are available after third party payments have been made. Information on an equipment exchange program is available at

http://www.nationalmssociety.org/MNM/event/event_detail.asp?e=6417

National Federation of the Blind

www.nfb.org

A low interest loan program assists blind people acquire computers and related equipment.

Saint Paul Foundation Community Sharing Fund

www.saintpaulfoundation.org

Maximum grants of \$500 available through community-based agencies can be used to fund assistive technology and modifications not covered by other funding sources.

State Services for the Blind

<http://www.mnssb.org/>

MN State Services for the Blind fosters the achievement of vocational and personal independence by persons of all ages who are blind, visually impaired or DeafBlind. Our services are available to anyone in Minnesota who has a vision loss that creates a barrier to their vocational or personal independence.

United Cerebral Palsy (Minnesota)

http://www.ucp.org/ucp_general.cfm/1/7

UCP provides people with cerebral palsy with grants up to \$500 for assistive technology that promotes independence.

Vehicle Modification Rebates

Most major car, truck and van manufacturers have mobility programs that reimburse up to \$1000 towards the cost of adaptive driver or passenger equipment installed in new vehicles.

General Resources

[Back](#)

ABLEDATA

www.abledata.com

Information about assistive technology products and rehabilitation equipment. ABLEDATA does not sell products.



Minnesota Department of Human Services

ADA and IT Technical Assistance Centers

www.adagreatlakes.org

National network of Centers to increase understanding of ADA and other disability related legislation funded by Federal grants from the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research of the U.S. Department of Education.

American Association of People with Disabilities

www.aapd-dc.org

AAPD is the largest national nonprofit cross-disability member organization in the United States, dedicated to ensuring economic self-sufficiency and political empowerment for the more than 56 million Americans with disabilities.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Home Page

<http://www.ada.gov/>

U.S. Department of Justice Web site dedicated to information and technical assistance on the ADA.

The ARC of Minnesota

www.arcminnesota.com

Advocacy and support for people with developmental disabilities and their families.

The Arc Link

www.thearclink.org

TheArcLink provides an information source, comprehensive database of approved service providers, service coordinators and entry points by state.

Assistive Technology Network

<http://assistivetechmn.net/mratc.html>

Six agencies across Minnesota help assure access to assistive technology through training, education, information and referral.

Brain Injury Association of MN

<http://www.braininjurymn.org/>

The Brain Injury Association of Minnesota provides help, hope and a voice for the 100,000 Minnesotans who live with a disability as a result of brain injury.

Centers for Independent Living

www.macil.org

Each of the eight Minnesota Centers for Independent Living operates a RAMP project which coordinates information, specifications, local contractors and funding sources for modifications.

Commission Serving Deaf and Hard of Hearing

http://www.mncdhh.com/About_Us.html

The Minnesota Commission Serving Deaf and Hard of Hearing People advocates for equal opportunity for Minnesotans who are deaf, hard of hearing and DeafBlind.

Computer Electronic Accommodations Program

<http://www.tricare.osd.mil/cap/>

Department of Defense program that provides assistive technology and accommodations in the DOD and throughout the Federal Government.



Minnesota Department of Human Services

Courage Center

www.courage.org

Courage Center provides comprehensive assistive technology services and consultation.

Department of Education

<http://education.state.mn.us>

Minnesota Department of Education provides funds to school districts that are used to purchase devices and services required to access a free, appropriate public education.

Department of Employment and Economic Development

<http://www.deed.state.mn.us/rehab/>

DEED's Vocational Rehabilitation and Extended Employment programs are available for people with a physical or mental impairment that impedes employment. Independent Living Centers support people with disabilities that desire to become more independent.

Department of Human Services

www.dhs.state.mn.us

DHS helps people meet their basic needs by providing or administering health care coverage, economic assistance, and a variety of services for children, people with disabilities and older Minnesotans.

Discapitados Abriendose Caminos

<http://www.discapitadosabriendosecaminos.org/dacbrochure.htm>

Bi lingual organization that provides support to people with disabilities and their families

DisabilityInfo.gov

<http://www.disabilityinfo.gov/>

New Freedom Initiative online resource of disability related information across federal agencies.

Disability Linkage Line

E-mail Disability.linkage@state.mn.us or call 1-800-333-2466

Resources for people with disabilities.

Goodwill/Easter Seals Minnesota

http://mnges.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=MNDR_community_resources

Equipment Loan Program provides short-term loans of durable equipment.

Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities

<http://www.mncdd.org/>

A Minnesota council that advocates for all Minnesotans with developmental disabilities.

Interpreter Referral

<http://www.interpreterreferral.org>

DHS resource for sign language interpreter services.

Job Accommodation Network

www.jan.wvu.edu

Provides information about job accommodations, the ADA and the employability of people with disabilities.



Minnesota Department of Human Services

Multiple Sclerosis Society (Minnesota Chapter)

www.mssociety.org

Serves people with multiple sclerosis and their families. Subsidies for equipment are available after third party payments have been made. Information on an equipment exchange program is available at http://www.nationalmssociety.org/MNM/event/event_detail.asp?e=6417

Muscular Dystrophy Association

www.mdausa.org

Supports people with muscular dystrophy with a variety of services, referrals and devices regardless of ability to pay.

National Center on Accessibility

www.ncaonline.org/about

A collaborative program of Indiana University and the National Park Service, NCA promotes access for people with disabilities in recreation. Park and recreation agencies, architects, planners, advocates and consumers draw on NCA as a resource.

National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC)

www.naric.com

NARIC maintains REHABDATA, a bibliographic database and research library of more than 65,000 documents. NARIC disseminates information from the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) of the U.S. Department of Education, other federal projects, and from journals and other sources.

National Spinal Cord Injury Association

www.spinalcord.org

The National Spinal Cord Injury Association is dedicated to improving the quality of life for hundreds of thousands of Americans living with the results of spinal cord injury and disease (SCI/D) and their families.

Partners in Policymaking

www.partnersinpolicymaking.com

PP is a leadership training program for adults with disabilities and parents of young children with developmental disabilities.

People Achieving Change Through Technology

<http://www.abcinc.org/pactt>

PACTT provides assessment, information, training, access and referral services on assistive technology to persons with disabilities in Southern Minnesota.

Proyecto Vision

<http://www.proyectovision.net/index.html>

A bilingual Web site for Latinos with disabilities.

Senior LinkAge™ Line

E-mail Senior.linkage@state.mn.us or call 1-800-333-2433

Free information and assistance service for older adults and their caregivers with a variety of options for living independently.

Social Security Online Disability Programs

<http://www.ssa.gov/disability/>

Federal programs that provide assistance to people with disabilities: Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI).



Minnesota Department of Human Services

STAR Program (System of Technology to Achieve Results)

<http://www.admin.state.mn.us/assistivetechonology>

Federally funded agency to help Minnesotans with disabilities gain access to and acquire assistive technology. Provide funding directory, regional referrals and technical assistance.

State Council on Disability

<http://www.disability.state.mn.us/>

A Minnesota council that recommends and advocates for programs and legislation that impact Minnesotans with disabilities.

State Rehabilitation Council for the Blind

<http://www.mnssb.org/rcb/>

The council gives advice and recommendation to State Services for the Blind about its products and services.

State Services for the Blind

<http://www.mnssb.org/>

Resources for Minnesotans who are blind or have low vision.

TASH

www.tash.org

Tash is an international association of people with disabilities, families, advocates and professionals fighting for a society in which inclusion of all people in all aspects of society is the norm.

United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) Central Minnesota

http://www.ucp.org/ucp_local.cfm/91

UCP of Central MN serves people with disabilities in Stearns, Benton and Sherburne counties with information and referral, financial assistance for equipment, assistive technology and scholarships for post secondary education.

United Cerebral Palsy Minnesota Assistive Technology Loan Network

www.matln.org

Resources for people with cerebral palsy and loan of speech generating devices to any with a communication disorder.

United States Access Board

<http://www.access-board.gov/about.htm>

The Access Board is an independent Federal agency devoted to accessibility for people with disabilities. The Board develops and maintains design criteria for the built environment, transit vehicles, telecommunications equipment, and for electronic and information technology. It also provides technical assistance and training on these requirements and on accessible design and continues to enforce accessibility standards that cover federally funded facilities.

Homes

[Back](#)

Examples of plans, sources for building standards and some local organizations with experience creating accessible environments can be found below. In Blaine Minnesota Regel Builders has created a model accessible home: <http://www.drcinc.com/accessible.html>.



Minnesota Department of Human Services

Adaptive Environments

<http://www.adaptenv.org/>

AE is an educational non-profit organization committed to advancing the role of design in expanding opportunity and enhancing experience for people of all ages and abilities.

Centers for Independent Living

www.macil.org

Each of the eight Minnesota Centers for Independent Living operates a RAMP project which coordinates information, specifications, local contractors and funding sources for modifications.

EasyLiving Home^{CM}

www.easylivinghome.org/homebuyers.htm

EasyLiving Home^{CM} is a site for a voluntary program that encourages easy access to homes for everyone.

Habitat for Humanity of Minnesota

www.hfhmn.org

Homes built by volunteers funded with no interest mortgages. Habitat can also help with making structural changes to homes to make them more accessible

Medical Automation Research Center

<http://marc.med.virginia.edu/>

MARC develops automation and robotic systems to reduce the cost and improve the quality of health. The home page includes a link to the MARC Smart House Web site.

Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center

<http://rec.php.ufl.edu>

Find descriptions of the Gator House smart home online.

The Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Technology for Successful Aging (RERC-Tech-Aging), a University of Florida (UF) initiative is funded by NIDRR, the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research. RERC focus is on research and development on communications, home monitoring and "smart" technology.

Smart Home Sensors: University of Florida Pervasive Computing Research Projects

http://www.icta.ufl.edu/projects_B.htm

This project includes development of self sensing spaces, sensor platforms, location tracking, programmable meal preparation, alerts, reminders and video cues. Cognitive assistance is provided by reminders delivered by phone, personal data assistants and or a pendant worn on a necklace. Cues can include mealtimes, medication and other schedules, pet care, self care and security.

Universal Design

www.universaldesignonline.com

Universal designs and architectural plans for Smart Homes.

Loan and Reuse Projects

[Back](#)

Computers Go Round

www.computersgoround.org/index.html

This project of UCP of Central MN builds and repairs computers for people with disabilities. Used computers are refurbished and distributed to people with disabilities for an application fee.

Goodwill/Easter Seals Minnesota

http://mnges.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=MNDR_community_resources



Minnesota Department of Human Services

Equipment Loan Program provides short-term loans of durable equipment.

Minnesota Assistive Technology Loan Network

http://www.state.mn.us/ebranch/admin/assistivetech/matl_n_website/matl_n.html

A program of United Cerebral Palsy of Minnesota, MATLN is a loan library containing over 50 augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) devices, and more than 200 total items to meet communication needs. 30 day equipment loans are available to people of all ages and disabilities who are sampling an AAC device for a future purchase, or when a device is out on repair.

National Multiple Sclerosis Society (Minnesota Chapter)

www.mssociety.org

Serves people with MS and their families. Subsidies for equipment are available after third party payments have been made. Equipment exchange program information can be found at

http://www.nationalmssociety.org/MNM/event/event_detail.asp?e=6417.

Minnesota State University Moorhead Regional Assistive Technology Center

<http://www.mnstate.edu/slhc/clinics/RATC/services.htm>

Short term loans of communication devices and assistive technology for written language and computer access.

Pacer Simon Technology Center

www.pacer.org

Lending library of assistive technology, consultation, and IEP support. Used equipment exchange program information can be found at www.pacer.org/stc/super/index.htm.

The Starkey Hearing Foundation

www.sotheworldmayhear.org

Provides hearing aids to low-income individuals and collects hearing aids for recycling.

Mobility Products

[Back](#)

Beach Wheelchairs

Assistive Technology, Inc. at <http://www.pvcdme.com>

HotShot Products at <http://www.hotshotproducts.org>

Deming Designs, Inc. at <http://www.beachwheelchair.com>

Healthline at <http://www.healthlinemedical.com>

National Center on Accessibility at <http://www.ncaonline.org/products/beach-wheelchairs/>

Natural Access at <http://www.natural-access.com>

Roleez Wheels, Inc. at <http://roleezwheels.com>

C.J.T. Enterprises

<http://www.cjt-yes.com/>

Mounting systems to attach augmentative and alternative communication devices, computers and various equipment to wheelchairs, walkers and the environment.

Daessy Technologies, Inc.

www.daessy.com

Daedalus Support System (DAESSY) wheelchair mounting devices and accessible workstations.

EnableMart

www.enablemart.com

Catalog of assistive technology products that promote independence for all people with disabilities.



Minnesota Department of Human Services

Otto Bock

<http://www.ottobockus.com>

Dedicated to innovative solutions that help people overcome limited mobility. Orthotics, prosthetics, rehabilitation, seating and mobility products.

Spectrum Furniture

www.spectrumfurniture.com

Spectrum manufactures various wheelchair accessible desks and lecterns.

USA TechGuide

www.usatechguide.org

A Web guide to wheelchairs and assistive technology choices supported by the United Spinal Association.

Wheelchair Foundation

www.wheelchairfoundation.org

This non profit gives wheelchairs to people who cannot afford one.

Ramps

[Back](#)

Centers for Independent Living

www.macil.org

Each of the eight Minnesota Centers for Independent Living operates a RAMP project which coordinates information, specifications, local contractors and funding sources for modifications.

Southwestern Center for Independent Living

www.swcil.com

Modular ramps constructed and installed at cost in cooperation with the Minnesota Department of Corrections.

Service Animals

[Back](#)

Dogs for the Deaf, Inc.

www.dogsforthe deaf.org

Trains dogs to assist people who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Guide Dogs of America

<http://www.guidedogsofamerica.org/mission.html>

Provides guide dogs and instruction in their use, free of charge, to blind and visually impaired adults in US and Canada.

Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota

<http://www.hsdm.org/contact.html>

Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for people who are deaf, hard of hearing or disabled by creating mutually beneficial partnerships with specially trained dogs.

Helping Paws

www.helpingpaws.org

Helping Paws' mission is to further the independence of people with physical disabilities through the use of service dogs.

Speech Generating Devices

[Back](#)

See augmentative and alternative communication.



Minnesota Department of Human Services

Transportation

[Back](#)

Accessible Modification Rebates

Most major car, truck and van manufacturers have mobility programs that reimburse up to \$1000 towards the cost of adaptive driver or passenger equipment installed in new vehicles.

Accessible Van Loans

<http://www.aapd-dc.org/>

As a member of AAPD you may join the Digital Federal Credit Union (DCU) and apply for a modified vehicle loan which may be repaid over 120 months.

Complete Mobility Systems

www.completemobility.com

Complete Mobility provides quality accessibility in transportation, and promotes respect and independence in lifelong customer and employee relationships.

Mobility Sales and Rental

<http://www.twincitymobility.com/home.asp>

A nationwide supplier of new and pre-owned accessible vans based in Savage Minnesota.

University AT and Modification Centers

[Back](#)

DO-IT/University of Washington

<http://www.washington.edu/doi/>

Disabilities, Opportunities, Internetworking & Technology promotes access to education through technology, Web resources and video presentations.

Georgia Institute of Technology

www.awarehome.gatech.edu

Research center aimed at fundamental technical, design and social challenges presented by smart homes.

Georgia State University Assistive Technology Lab

<http://education.gsu.edu/PhysicalDis/AT/index.htm>

A Visual Tour of an Assistive Technology Lab: Promoting Access and Literacy.

Georgia Tech/CATEA

<http://www.catea.org/>

Research, development, technical assistance to facilitate access and maximize function.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

http://web.mit.edu/agelab/projects_independant.shtml#2

Research center that seeks to build and translate knowledge into tools, technologies and services that improve quality of life. Intelligent adaptive devices for independent living seek to deliver personal information, basic health care, support and critical assistance.

National Center on Accessibility

<http://www.ncaonline.org/about/>

A collaborative program of Indiana University and the National Park Service that promotes access for people with disabilities in recreation.

University of Colorado

www.colmaninstitute.org/about.php



Minnesota Department of Human Services

The Coleman Institute's mission is to catalyze and integrate advances in science, engineering and technology to promote the quality of life and independent living of people with cognitive disabilities.

University of Florida

<http://rerc.php.ufl.edu>

Find descriptions of the Gator House smart home online.

The Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Technology for Successful Aging (RERC-Tech-Aging), a University of Florida (UF) initiative is funded by NIDRR, the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research. RERC focus is on research and development on communications, home monitoring and "smart" technology.

University of Rochester

www.futurehealth.rochester.edu/smart_home

The Smart Medical Home, a project of the UR Center for Future Health, seeks to develop an integrated Personal Health System to allow people to maintain health, detect the onset of disease and manage disease.

University of Virginia

<http://marc.med.virginia.edu/>

Medical Automation Research Center (MARC) develops automation and robotic systems to reduce the cost and improve the quality of health. The home page includes a link to the MARC Smart House Web site.

University of Washington

www.cs.washington.edu/assistcog/

The Assisted Cognition project works to create novel computer systems that will enhance the quality of life of people suffering from Alzheimer's Disease and similar cognitive disorders.

University of Wisconsin

<http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/cedd/about.html>

The Waisman Center advances research, academic training, service and outreach for people with developmental disabilities.

Visual Controls

[Back](#)

Eyegaze Communication System

www.eyegaze.com

The Eyegaze System is a remote human-computer interface that is both an eye-operated computer for control and communication and a device for monitoring and recording eye motion.

Eye Response Technologies

www.eyerresponse.com

ERICA system controls communication and computer functions through eye movement. Works with all Windows or Mac OSX based software.

Eye Tech Digital Systems

www.eyetechds.com/

Quick Glance is an eye tracking system creating access to computer technology using eye movement. Integrated hardware and software are available as is a software package that can be added to an existing computer.

Tobii Technology

www.tobii.com



Minnesota Department of Human Services

MyTobii eye control system allows a user to communicate and control a computer using eye movements.

Voice Recognition

[Back](#)

Dragon Naturally Speaking

<http://www.dragonnaturallyspeaking.com/>

Software transforms speech to text, operates computer programs and environmental controls.

SAJE Technology

www.saje-tech.com

Manufacturers of Powerhouse and Communicator products for voice control of telephones and environmental controls. Voice activated telephones, door openers, lights, entertainment and security systems, appliances, and hospital beds.

Talk Technologies, Inc.

<http://www.talktech.com>

Voice silencer allows quiet use of speech recognition software.