The Assistive Technology (AT) Center is a resource to the communities of Northern Arizona and statewide. Located on the Northern Arizona University campus, the Center is a program of the Institute for Human Development (IHD) and supports the mission of IHD through the provision of direct services, interdisciplinary training, technical assistance, and information dissemination related to the field of AT.

Assistive or Adaptive Technology commonly refers to “…products, devices or equipment, whether acquired commercially, modified or customized, that are used to maintain increase or improve the functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities…”, according to the definition proposed in the Assistive Technology Act of 1998.

Assistive technology products can support and increase the functioning of people with disabilities allowing access to environments and activities across daily living, education, work, and recreation. Assistive technology allows persons with disabilities to overcome barriers and supports people who have difficulty speaking, typing, writing, remembering, pointing, seeing, hearing, learning, walking, etc.

Assistive Technology Services support people with disabilities or their caregivers to help them select, acquire, or use adaptive devices. Such services include evaluations, training on devices, product demonstration, and assistance with equipment purchasing or leasing.

Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) Program
AAC systems provide a means of communication for individuals with complex communication needs. The Center provides AAC evaluations as well as follow-up training and services. The Center works with the Division of Developmental Disabilities, the Rehabilitation Services Administration, local school districts, insurance companies, and individuals to conduct evaluations, assist in acquisition of AAC systems, and provide appropriate follow-up services.

AT Evaluations
The Center provides AT evaluations to meet a wide variety of needs for individuals with disabilities. The AT Center works with the Rehabilitation Services Administration, school districts, and individuals to conduct AT evaluations to address AT needs in school, work, and independent living settings. Recommended interventions may address communication, reading, writing, learning, memory, activities of daily living, computer access, and additional needs.

Follow-up Services and Training
The Center provides follow-up services and training to meet the individual needs of those using AT or working with family members or consumers using AT. Individual and group training is available through the Center.

Loan Program
The Center provides loans of AT to individuals and agencies on a trial basis to assist in the process of determining appropriate AT systems. Loans are available on a weekly or monthly basis. Available AT includes computers, software, keyboards, mice, amplification systems, communication devices, tools for activities of daily living and more.

Interdisciplinary Training
The Center provides training as well as observation and internship opportunities to University students and community members. AT training is also available through the Interdisciplinary Graduate Certificate in Assistive Technology, a Certificate program offered through NAU. Additional information is available at http://nau.edu/SBS/IHD/Programs/Assistive-Technology-Certificate/.

Meyerson Foundation
The Meyerson Foundation provides a variety of services to children and families in Northern Arizona. These services include assistance in determining appropriate AT, assistance in acquiring AT, training and outreach for children and families in need of AT, and loans of adapted toys. These services are funded through the Meyerson Foundation.