STATE OF RHODE ISLAND | Division of Developmental Disabilities

TECHNOLOGY FUND GUIDANCE | SPRING 2023

ASL TRANSLATION: https://youtu.be/QVAPBv1wQTc [youtu.be]

What the Technology Fund is and how you can use it

From spring 2022 through spring 2023, people receiving services through the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) will be able to purchase technology using a one-time Technology Fund. This fund will be in addition to your current funding.

"Technology" includes hardware and software.

Hardware is a computer or other electronic device, like:

- ✅ A tablet or cell phone
- ✅ A "smart home" appliance with automatic features
- ✅ An electronic watch

Software tells a computer what to do, like:

- ✅ An app that reminds you to stay on track at work
- ✅ An alarm to remind you to take your medication
- ✅ A screen reader that turns words into sound

❖ How technology can work for you ──────

Technology can support your desire for more independence at home, in the community, and at work, and reduce reliance on others. Technology can help you with communicating, pursuing a passion, remembering, getting from one place to another, and many other things.

Technology Meets Different Needs

"My iPad, Airpods, and Work Autonomy App are important to me at work because they help to keep me organized, on time, and increase my independence."

— Diane

"I'm really excited to use my community map through Google My Maps to visit all of the record stores in RI to see which one I like the best!"

— Gloria

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❖ How to get started

Think about what you want to do and how technology might help you. Talk about how technology will meet your needs during the person-centered planning process. You may also choose to update your Individual Support Plan (ISP) to include a new goal or expand upon an already existing goal.

Informational Meeting

Rhode Island College, Alger Hall, room 110

April 5, 2023, from 4:00pm-5:30pm

To register: http://bit.ly/3JvyQNp [bit.ly]

Directions, campus map and required parking pass will be provided upon registering.

See prior recordings of meetings:
https://bhddh.ri.gov/developmental-disabilities/initiatives/technology-fund

❖ How to make a purchase

The Technology Request Form is available at:
www.bhddh.ri.gov/developmental-disabilities/initiatives/technology-fund

This form asks the following:

- ✔ Name of the technology you want to buy
- ✔ Cost of the technology you want to buy
- ✔ How the technology will help you with a barrier or challenge you're facing
- ✔ How the technology will help you meet your ISP goal

❖ Questions

For all questions, please contact your DDD Social Caseworker.

If you need help contacting your DDD Social Caseworker, call the DDD main phone line at (401) 462-3421.

Technology Meets Different Needs

"My iPad has helped me to do different types of art and I can communicate with my friends, family and even my doctor through video."

— Alton

"I enjoy using my iPad to film puppet shows. I also use technology to collaborate with writers and storytellers to create the content for my puppeteering."

— Jillian