

Guiding Principles for Assistive Technology

1. The primary goal of assistive technology is the enhancement of capabilities and the removal of barriers to performance.
2. Assistive technology can be a barrier.
3. Assistive technology may be applicable to all disability groups and in all phases of education.
4. Assistive technology is related to function, rather than to a specific disability.
5. The least complex intervention needed to remove barriers to performance should be a first consideration.
6. Assessment and intervention form a continuous, dynamic process.
7. Systematic problem analysis and solving are essential.
8. Assistive technology does not eliminate the need for instruction in social and academic skills.
9. A team approach is required.

Synthesized by Joy Zabala (1992) from:

Study Group on the Provision of Assistive Technology Services in Rehabilitation (1990). *The provision of assistive technology services in rehabilitation*. Hot Springs, AR: Arkansas Research and Training Center in Vocational Rehabilitation, University of Arkansas.

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