

What people are saying about the Simon Technology Center



“I never thought I could go to college because I can’t spell or write very well, but all of the experiences you gave me made me realize I can go to college and I will.”

- Student

“Our AT specialist was great. I loved that she called me beforehand to tailor our appointment to my son. Thank you!”

- Parent

“I was surprised at all the devices out there to help with reading. I had no idea there were so many options.”

- Educator

“I liked the pleasant atmosphere and knowledgeable staff helping me with technology options.”

- Consumer



About PACER Center

Incorporated in 1977, PACER is a non-profit organization that enhances the quality of life and expands opportunities for children and young adults with disabilities and their families. Based on the concept of parents helping parents, it is staffed primarily by parents of children with disabilities.

In 2006, PACER founded the National Bullying Prevention Center, which actively leads social change, so that bullying is no longer considered an accepted childhood rite of passage.

About the Simon Technology Center

Since 1987, PACER's Simon Technology Center has been dedicated to helping children and adults, with a variety of disabilities, use assistive technology to enhance learning, work, and independence.

Simon Technology Center

PACER.org/STC



PACER CENTER 
CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES®

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Paula F. Goldberg, Executive Director

**Assistive Technology (AT)
Options for Students and Adults
with Disabilities**

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Assistive Technology Can Make Life Better

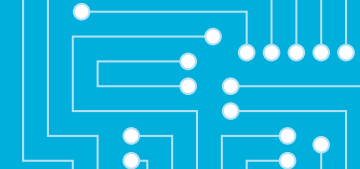
Assistive technology (AT) refers to devices, tools, and adapted equipment that support independence, communication, and inclusion for children and adults with disabilities. Ranging from simple, inexpensive adaptations to sophisticated technology, including:

- **A simple foam grip** to help someone with motor or sensory impairments better hold writing and drawing tools.
- **Switch adapted toys and devices** that allow someone with motor challenges to interact with their environment.
- **Adapted keyboards and mice**—with bigger keys, high contrast, and accessible design—to help people with physical, visual, or cognitive disabilities access technology.
- **Text-to-speech apps**, which converts written material to audio, to help students with vision impairments, learning disabilities, ADHD, and other disabilities interact with written text.

Contact the STC:
(952) 838-9000 or PACER@PACER.org



The Simon Technology Center is Your Source for Assistive Technology



The Simon Technology Center (STC) makes the benefits of AT available to children and adults with disabilities, their families, and professionals. Services, trainings, and programs are **free** for Minnesota families and individuals unless otherwise noted.

Services

- **The STC Technology Lending Library*** offers hundreds of AT devices, iOS apps, and software to try-out at home, school, work, and in the community.
- **Consultations** with AT specialists help identify needs and technology solutions that can support access, academic skills, communication, executive function, wellness, and daily life.
- **MN Special Needs Equipment for Sale** is a Facebook buy/sell page provides a forum for buyers and sellers of used AT to connect.

Trainings and workshops

- **Individualized trainings*** help consumers, families, and professionals learn how to use a device, apps, or software.
- **In-service trainings*** are tailored to meet the specific needs of professionals.
- **Technology workshops** for parents, professionals, and consumers address topics that range from general information about AT to workshops that address specific needs. Most workshops are also available online via livestream.

Programs

- **EX.I.T.E.** (EXploring Interests in Technology and Engineering), a 5-day summer camp for middle-school girls with disabilities, explores the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) fields through exciting hands-on activities and guest presentations.

- **Tech for Girls Club** is a monthly workshop series inspired by the EX.I.T.E. camp for girls with disabilities ages 11-18. These hands-on STEM workshops are designed to be fun, engaging, and a great place to learn while making new friends.
- **Tech for Teens Club** provides opportunities for boys and girls with disabilities to learn about STEM subjects like coding, 3D printing, robotics, and more.
- **KITE** (Kids Included through Technology are Enriched) is a team-based training series that helps parents and educators of young children with disabilities learn about AT to support inclusion and independence.
- **TIKES** (Technology to Improve Kids' Educational Success) works with school districts on a one-year basis to build their capacity in early childhood AT to improve outcomes for young children with disabilities ages birth to five. Additionally, TIKES provides on-demand online video trainings for parents and professionals on a variety of early childhood AT topics.

**Involves a fee*

