

Legislative Update

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As everyone is aware, the Second Session of the 52nd Oklahoma Legislature has taken place under a black cloud of economic woes for the State of Oklahoma.

Diminishing revenues have continued throughout the session making the outcome bleak at best. However, there are several assistive technology/durable medical equipment issues of concern for people with disabilities which bear reporting.

HB 2281 which recreates the Electronic and Information Technology Accessibility Advisory (EITA) Council until July 1, 2014 successfully passed in the House and Senate and was sent to the Governor for signature on 3/31/2010. The passage of HB 2281 is particularly important given the recent United States Access Board release on March 22 of the ANPRM (advanced notice of public rule making) and a draft of the updated Section 508 federal standards related to the accessibility of information and communication technologies. Oklahoma's EITA Advisory Council, as well as Oklahoma ABLE Tech, is uniquely positioned to provide comments on these important federal standards, which are due by June 21, 2010. Additionally, the Council will continue to actively work over the next few years to determine what action will need to occur regarding Oklahoma's EITA standards originally adopted in 2005.

HB 2990 would require the Oklahoma Health Care Authority to establish reimbursement rates for prosthetic devices and orthotic devices for Medicaid-eligible individuals in an amount



equal to Medicare rates. The bill has already passed in the House and has been assigned to the Senate. The deadline for approval in the Senate is April 22.

SB 1329 would create the Motorcycle Mobility and Safety Act. The bill would allow motorcycle and bicycle drivers to proceed through red lights if they believe the traffic light will only change to green if the presence of a larger vehicle is detected. Under the bill, motorcycle and bicycle drivers are supposed to stop before proceeding through red lights and make sure no vehicles or pedestrians are in the intersection or preparing to enter the intersection. If an accident results from the motorcycle or bicycle going through a red light, the vehicle that had the green light could not be charged with failure to yield the right-of-way, following too close or driving too fast for conditions. This bill is of particular concern to individuals with low vision and blindness. The bill has passed the Senate with a 45-0 vote and is now in the House for voting action.

Linda Jaco, Director of Sponsored Programs, OSU Seretean Wellness Center

*Oklahoma's Assistive Technology Act Program
1-800-257-1705 V/TDD*

Oklahoma ABLE Tech is a federal grant program located at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater.

Oklahoma AgrAbility

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently announced the Oklahoma AgrAbility Project is funded for an additional four-year grant. This new award covers the time period of April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2014.

Oklahoma AgrAbility, established in 2002, is one of 22 state AgrAbility Projects funded by the USDA, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, which also supports the National AgrAbility Project. The national Project was created in the 1990 Farm Bill to assist people with disabilities employed in agriculture. Linking the Cooperative Extension Service at a land-grant university with a private nonprofit disability service organization provides the means to promote independence in agricultural production and rural living. The national Project, based at Purdue University's Breaking New Ground Resource Center, serves as a resource for state Projects by providing training, technical assistance and information about available resources to help people with disabilities employed in agriculture.

Check out
ABLE Tech's
New AT FAQs!!!

A new feature to Oklahoma ABLE Tech's website is our new Assistive Technology (AT) FAQs of real needs and real solutions. These FAQs help to describe how hearing, vision, literacy software and speech communication devices can improve independence in everyday life.

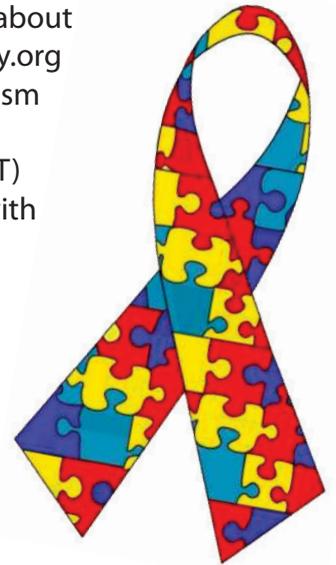
To view these FAQs go to: okabletech.okstate.edu and click the Assistive Technology link. You can also submit your AT questions to abletech@okstate.edu.

Autism Awareness Month

April marks Autism Awareness Month, an opportunity to educate the public about autism and issues within the autism community. Autism usually appears before age 3 and affects a person's ability to communicate and interact with others. Autism is described as a spectrum disorder because it affects each individual differently and to varying degrees. In 2009, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention concluded that the prevalence of autism had risen to 1 in 110 births in the United States, with more boys affected than girls. According to the Autism Society, 1.5 million Americans currently live with the effects of Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). Studies indicate that up to 60% of these children will be unable to communicate their wants, needs, and thoughts verbally. When an individual has severe speech and/or language disabilities, augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) strategies can provide them with the opportunity to express themselves. ABLE Tech can help with AAC questions as well as explain the variety of speech communication devices available in our loan program. ABLE Tech's loan program allows individuals to borrow devices up to six weeks at no cost. Visit the ABLE Tech website and browse through equipment available for loan or demonstration at <http://oec.okstate.edu/loan>.

For general information about autism, visit www.autism-society.org and the Center for AAC and Autism www.aacandautism.com. Types of assistive technology (AT) that might benefit individuals with ASD include:

- Visual timers to assist with attention and transitions: www.timetimer.com
- Picture symbols to assist with communication, behavior, social skills, and educational tasks: www.mayer-johnson.com, <http://do2learn.com>, or <http://www.usevisualstrategies.com>
- Augmentative/Alternative Communication (AAC) devices to assist with verbal communication: www.prentrom.com, www.aacandautism.com, www.dynavoxtech.com, www.pecs.com, www.proloquo2go.com
- Products to assist with sensory regulation: <http://www.flaghouse.com/Giant-Leaps-sensoryintegration.asp>



Oklahoma AT Center Locations

Oklahoma ABLE Tech and partners operate assistive technology (AT) device demonstration and short-term loan programs to increase accessibility to AT. The assistive technology inventory is available and searchable online at <http://oec.okstate.edu/loan/>. Oklahoma ABLE Tech allows individuals to borrow devices for six weeks at no cost.



Stillwater 405-743-5162



Mary K. Chapman Center for Communicative Disorders
918-631-2913

Search the inventory:

<http://oec.okstate.edu/loan>

Over 1400 Devices!



405-717-9820

Total Health

Stillwater 405-624-6592



Oklahoma City
405-522-3442



Total Source for Hearing Loss & Access, Tulsa 918-832-8742



Oklahoma City
405-232-4644



Stillwater, OK
800-257-1705



Developmental Disabilities Services Division, Tulsa, OK
918-794-7632

Oklahoma AT Center Highlights

Mary K. Chapman Center for Communicative Disorders, University of Tulsa

Say-it! Sam is a handheld communication device that is easy to learn and easy to use. It is newly designed with a new look and larger speakers for better sound, plus more battery life, a faster processor, and it responds quicker to the touch, starts up easily and has a daylight display. Contact Mary K. Chapman for more information on the Say-it! Sam at 918-631-2913.



NewView, Oklahoma City

The i.d. mate OMNI is a portable "all-in-one" talking barcode scanner, measuring 7 inches. It is an electronic device that aids a visually impaired individual with the identification of items using the product's barcode or UPC. The digital voice recording & text-to-speech technologies allow users to access an on-board database or product descriptions, along with a tailored set of recorded voice messages. This device can identify any product or item and has a huge database and includes nutritional information. Contact NewView at 405-232-4644 for more information on this devices.



Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education, Stillwater

Interpretype is used by organizations to make their services and career opportunities more accessible. It levels the playing field when necessary qualities for face-to-face dialog are lacking such as hearing, speech, or language comprehension. Interpretype has proven valuable in education, courts, career/employment centers, restaurants, hospitals, libraries, airports and other business and public accommodations. It is intuitively easy to use, requiring only basic keyboard skills and the ability to understand a common written language. Contact Career Tech at 405-743-5162 for more information on borrowing this device.



Oklahoma ABLE Tech, Stillwater

Proloquo2Go is a new product from AssistiveWare that provides a full-feature communication device for people who have difficulty speaking. It brings natural sounding text-to-speech voices, up-to-date symbols, powerful automatic conjugations, a default vocabulary of over 7000 items, full expandability and extreme ease of use to the iPhone and iPod touch. Call ABLE Tech at 800-257-1705 for more information.



Revised Section 508 Standards Will Impact Oklahoma Public Comment Period Ends June 21, 2010

The U.S. Access Board just released the draft of the revised standards for information and communication technologies (ICT) covered by Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act and Section 255 of the Telecommunications Act. The current 508 standards were adopted federally in 2001, so a refresh is timely. Oklahoma 508 law and standards became effective in 2004-2005, so it will also be important for Oklahoma to update our electronic and information technology accessibility (EITA) standards. Oklahoma Section 508 or EITA law requires state agencies and postsecondary institutions to develop and procure accessible electronic and information technology. Technologies covered include telephones, cell phones and other telecommunication products, computer hardware and software, websites, media players, electronic documents, and PDAs, among others.

The draft features a new structure that integrates the 508 standards and the 255 guidelines into a single document. This is to address changing technologies and market trends. Requirements have been reorganized according to functionality instead of product type since many devices now feature an array of capabilities and applications. Access is addressed for various disabilities, including those that are sensory, physical, or speech-related in nature. The Access Board proposes to supplement its ADA Accessibility Guidelines, which cover access to facilities and to broaden coverage to include certain types of interactive transaction machines such as point-of-sales machines and self-service kiosks. The Access Board encourages public comment from both federal agencies and states. Public comment is used to revise the standards. "The input provided by stakeholders and interested parties plays an essential role in Board

rulemaking" notes Neil K. Melick, a member of the U.S. Access Board.

Main points to know:

- Since 2005, Oklahoma state agencies, post secondary institutions, and Career Tech are required to comply with Oklahoma 508 or EITA standards. ABLE Tech recommends distributing the proposed revisions and coordinate agency staff review to comment on the various sections.
- The draft rule and materials are available at www.accessibility.ok.gov or contact Brenda Dawes, Oklahoma ABLE Tech, at 1-800-257-1705 or email: Brenda.dawes@okstate.edu.
- The Access Board included 33 questions in the draft to guide public comment.
- ABLE Tech is a member of the Association of Assistive Technology Programs ICT work group that will provide comments. ATAP was also a member of the national 508 refresh committee, TEITAC.
- The final rulemaking and adoption of the new standards is estimated to be a year or more.
- Public comment is due by June 21, 2010 and can be provided online, by fax or mail, to ABLE Tech at 1514 W. Hall of Fame, Stillwater, OK 74078, 800-257-1705, Fax 405-744-2487 or email abletech@okstate.edu.



The Special Education Resolution Center (SERC) works collaboratively with the Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) to help parents and school districts resolve disputes regarding the special education of students. Through innovative programs, SERC assists parties to resolve their differences at the earliest stage possible. SERC provides highly trained mediators to assist the parties in coming to agreement. In those instances where the parties are unable to resolve their dispute, SERC provides a fair and impartial hearing system. Fair, impartial and knowledgeable hear-

ing officers conduct administrative hearings to settle the differences of the parties in a timely manner.

These processes are in place so that Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment will be available to Oklahoma children. SERC also provides conflict resolution skills to parents and to school leaders. By building capacity at the local level, special education stakeholders will be better equipped to engage in crucial conversations necessary to address difficult issues. Keep a look out for future training initiatives!



The Oklahoma Equipment Exchange is a free program to help Oklahomans with disabilities acquire affordable equipment. Log onto the Equipment Exchange website, <http://oec.okstate.edu>, or call ABLE Tech to list your devices or inquire about products at 888-885-5588. Below is a list of items currently for sale or FREE.

Daily Living

Bath chair & shower stand Rifton
 CPAP Devilbiss 9000
 CPAP Healthdyne Tranquility Plus
 Commode - portable bedside, comes w/bucket
 Commode Rails
 Enteralite feeding pump, ZevexFeeder Tray - Electric
 Self-Feeder
 Hospital Bed – Electric
 Hospital Bed - Electric (twin)
 Key Holder for 2 keys – FREE
 Lift Chair
 Padded Bed Boards, Custom Made to order, Never Used
 Patient Lift - Electric for large person, Invacare
 Portable Suction Machine, Devilbiss DV-7305P-D
 Quad Cane
 ResMed VPAP III
 Shower Chair
 Shower bench w/wheels
 Shower set-up – portable, Never Used
 Silverware - Fork- Lightweight, Never Used – FREE
 Silverware - Offset contoured Spoon, Never Used – FREE
 Stair chair lift, AMERIGLIDE, Battery powered/charger
 Transfer Lift (hydraulic)
 Trixie Lift with extra large sling, Arjo
 Wheelchair - Manual

Environmental Adaptations

Adapted Light Beeper Switch, Never Used – FREE
 Automatic Door Opener Power Access 4300 Commercial
 Converter Switch – FREE
 Eyebrow Switch, Never Used – FREE
 Photocell Switch, Never Used – FREE
 Portable Ramps (8')
 Shower bench w/wheels
 Sip and Puff Switch, Never Used – FREE
 Switch Latch Timer, Never Used - FREE
 Hearing
 Neckloop Telecoil Coupler for Hearing Aid Users - FREE

Learning, Cognitive, & Developmental

The Margi Presenter-to-Go - FREE

Mobility, Seating & Positioning

Chair - Powerlift Recliner, LaZboy Windham
 Pedal Wheelchair, EZ chair

Pediatric Manual Wheelchair – FREE
 Pediatric Power WC, Permobil Playman Robo
 Power Chair, Jazzy Select
 Power Chair - Reclines & Tilts, Permobil C300-PS2
 Power Chair / Motorized Wheelchair
 Power chair - Alante
 PowerChair - Jazzy 600 Series
 Rifton Stander - child
 Scooter - Go-Go Elite Traveler, used twice
 Scooter - Pride 2006 Model,
 Standing Power Chair - Levo,
 Tiresox-Wheelchair Tire Covers, Never Used - FREE
 Vertical Wheelchair Lift (Elevator)
 Walker - w/brakes/seat & basket
 Wheelchair - Electric
 Wheelchair – Electric, Shoprider Streamer Sport
 Wheelchair – Manual, Never Used
 Wheelchair - Power Tilt, Permobil c-300
 Wheelchair - Quickie IRIS
 Wheelchair - Quickie Q7
 Wheelchair Power Permobil Brand
 Wheelchair Ramp for Home - 9 ft.
 Wheelchair-Manual Tilt/Recline, Invacare HVR
 Wheelchair-Tilt Recline, Power- Invacare

Recreation, Sports, and Leisure

Indoor Swing System, Theraplay/Southpaw

Speech Communication

ZAM Communicator, Never Used - FREE

Vehicle Modification and Transportation

Glide N Go Lift Seat
 Hand & Foot Controls for vehicle-for a quad - FREE
 Lockdown System for WC in Van
 Van - w/lift 2003 Chevy Express Conversion Van
 Van - w/lift 2008 Saturn Relay
 Conversion



Oklahoma ABLE Tech

**Seretean Wellness Center
Oklahoma State University
1514 W. Hall of Fame
Stillwater, OK 74078
Phone: 800-257-1705 V/TDD
405-744-9748 V/TDD
Fax: 405-744-2487
INFO-Line: 888-885-5588**

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Manager

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Manager

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We're On The Web!

<http://okabletech.okstate.edu>

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Resources and Events



Seretean Wellness Center
REAL SOLUTIONS FOR REAL PEOPLE

Oklahoma ABLE Tech AT Demo and Loan Program, <http://okabletech.okstate.edu>
AT Equipment Exchange Program, <http://oec.okstate.edu>

Morgan's Wonderland – World's First Ultra Accessible Family Fun Park designed specifically for children and adults with special needs, their family members, caregivers, friends and the entire community in San Antonio, TX
<http://www.morganswonderland.com/>

Guide to Camps for Youth with Disabilities, Sports, Recreation, and Travel for all – Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services Disability Resource Guide
<http://www.okrehab.org/guide/toc.html>

May 1, 2010 - Oklahoma Autism Piece Walk & 5K Run, Bricktown, OKC
www.piecewalk.com

May 4, 2010 - OK Parents Center 4th Annual Conference, "Building Relationships to Create Successful Change", Embassy Suites Hotel and Conference Center, Norman, OK. Free Registration www.OklahomaParentsCenter.org, fax 405-379-0022

May 12-14, 2010 - Special Olympics Summer Games, OSU, Stillwater

May 14, 2010 - STARS Training: Functional Vocational Assessment for Students and Adults with Intellectual Disabilities, Oklahoma City Presenters: Jim Martin, PH.D. and Lorraine Sylvester, PT, MS Contact Judith Grove, 405-271-1836

July 19-20, 2010 - IT Accessibility Conference, Oklahoma City, Metro Tech. For more information call ABLE Tech at 800-257-1705 or visit www.accessibility.ok.gov