

# National Assistive Technology Act Data System

# State Plan - Full Report

## Wisconsin 2021

## **General Information**

## Statewide AT Program (Information to be listed in national State AT Program Directory)

State AT Program Title	WisTech Program		
State AT Program URL	https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wistech/index.htm		
Mailing Address	1 W. Wilson St., Room 551, PO Box 2659		
City	Madison		
State	Wisconsin		
Zip Code	53703		
Program Email	DHSWistech@dhs.wisconsin.gov		
Phone	608-514-2513		
ТТҮ			

## Lead Agency

Agency Name	Wisconsin Department of Health Services - Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources	
Mailing Address	1 W. Wilson St., Room 551, PO Box 2659	
City	Madison	
State	Wisconsin	
Zip Code	53703	
Program URL	https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/dph/badr.htm	

## **Implementing Entity**

Does your Lead Agency contract with an Implementing Entity to carry out the Statewide AT Program on its behalf? N/A			
Name of Implementing Agency			
Mailing Address			

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# **General Information (Continued...)**

## **Program Director and Other Contacts**

Program Director for State AT Program (last, first)	Plummer, Laura			
Title	Assistive Technology Program Coordinator			
Phone	608-514-2513			
E-mail	laura.plummer1@dhs.wisconsin.gov			
Program Director at Lead Agency (last, first)	Plummer, Laura			
Title	Assistive Technology Program Coordinator			
Phone	608-514-2513			
E-mail	laura.plummer1@dhs.wisconsin.gov			
Primary Contact at Implementing Agency (last, first) - If applicable				
Title				
Phone				
E-mail				

## Person Responsible for completing this form if other than Program Director

Name (last, first)	Sobczyk, Lisa	
Title	Social Services Supervisor	
Phone	608-266-9354	
E-mail	lisa.sobczyk@dhs.wisconsin.gov	

## **Certifying Representative**

Name (last, first)	Molke, Carrie	
Title	Bureau Director	
Phone	608-267-5267	
E-mail	Carrie.Molke@dhs.wisconsin.gov	

# Module A: Change in Lead Agency or Implementing Entity

Does your Lead Agency contract with an Implementing Entity to carry out the Statewide AT Program on its behalf (From	No
General Information)?	
The Lead agency and the Implementing Entity are the same.	
2. Is the Lead Agency named in this State Plan a new or different Lead Agency from the one designated by the Governor in your previous State Plan?	No
3. Is the Implementing Entity named in this State Plan a new or different Implementing Entity from the one designated by the Governor in the previous State Plan?	No

#### **Module B: Advisory Council**

1. How many representatives of the designated State agency for Vocational Rehabilitation are members of the advisory 1 council? 2. How many representatives of the designated State agency for Vocational Rehabilitation for individuals who are blind are members of the advisory council (when there is such a separate VR agency for individuals who are blind)? 3. How many representatives of a state Center for Independent Living are members of the advisory council?. 4. How many representatives of the State workforce development board established under the Workforce Innovation and 0 Opportunity Act are members of the advisory council? 4.1 Please provide the reason(s) the Advisory Council does not have this required agency representative member and describe the actions that will be taken to become in compliance for Question 4. Efforts are continuing to be made for an appointment of a representative from Wisconsin Council on Workforce Investment to the Statewide Assistive Technology Advisory Council but we continue to be unsuccessful in our requests. 5. How many representatives of the State educational agency are members of the advisory council? 1 0 6. How many additional representatives of other agencies and/or organizations are members of the advisory council? 7. How many individuals with disabilities who use assistive technology or their family members or guardians are members of

#### **Advisory Council Calculation**

the advisory council?

Description	Number
Individuals with disabilities that use AT or their family members or guardians on the advisory council	
Total number of individuals on the advisory council	
Percentage	63.64%

8. In accordance with section 4(c)(2) of the AT Act of 1998, as amended our state has a consumer-majority advisory council Yes that provides consumer-responsive, consumer-driven advice to the state for planning of, implementation of, and evaluation of the activities carried out through the grant, including setting measurable goals. This advisory council is geographically representative of the State and reflects the diversity of the State with respect to race, ethnicity, and types of disabilities across the age span, and users of types of services that an individual with a disability may receive.

## **Module C: Actual Expenditures and Budgeted Allocations**

## 1. Actual Expenditures Carryover Year Close-out

In the following table provide the actual expenditure data for the <u>closed-out carryover fiscal year AT grant award (liquidated the previous December 31)</u>. Please note, this data is for a specific year AT Act grant award amount, NOT any specific 12 month period of time as funds from a grant award can be obligated over more than that initial 12 month period.

For the State Plan submitted in the spring of 2022, you will report the closed-out grant award for FY19. The grant began 10/1/2018 with the first year ending on 9/30/2019, the first carryover year ended on 9/30/2020 and the second carryover year ended on 9/30/2021 with the 3 month liquidation period ending 12/31/2021.

Actual Expenditures for Closed-out Carryover Year Award	Final Expenditures	Percentage	Requirements
a. All State Level Activities	\$299,869.82	60.00%	The AT Act required state level expenditures to be at least 60% of grant award.  If flexibility is claimed, at least 70% is required.
b. All State Leadership Activities	\$199,912.18	40.00%	
c. Total Expenditures	\$499,782.00		
d. Total Award	\$499,782.00		
e. Lapsed Amount	\$0.00	0.00%	
f. Transition Training & Technical Assistance Set Aside	\$9,995.64	5.00%	The AT Act requires at least 5% of state leadership expenditures to be spent on transition activities.

#### Module C: Actual Expenditures and Budgeted Allocations (Continued...)

### 2. Actual YTD Expenditures and Budgeted Allocations for Preceding Year Award

In the following table provide year-to-date (YTD) obligated and liquidated expenditure data for the <u>preceding fiscal year AT grant award</u> along with planned budget allocations for the unobligated remainder of that award. Please note, this data is for a specific year AT Act grant award amount, NOT any specific 12 month period of time as funds from a grant award can be obligated over a 24 month period.

For the State Plan submitted in the spring of 2022, you will report the closed-out grant award for FY20. The grant began 10/1/2019 with the first year ending on 9/30/2020, the first carryover year ended on 9/30/2021 and the second carryover year ended on 9/30/2022 with the 3 month liquidation period ending 12/31/2022.

The total grant award for was \$517,338.00

Actual & Planned Immediate Preceding Year Award Expenditures	YTD Obligated not Liquidated Expenditures	YTD Liquidated Expenditures	Planned not yet Obligated Expenditures	Total
All State Level Activities	\$310,402.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$310,402.80
All State Leadership Activities	\$206,935.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$206,935.20
Total	\$517,338.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$517,338.00
Transition Training & Technical Assistance	\$10,346.76	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,346.76

## **Module D: State Level Activity Summary**

## 1. Which State Financing Activities do you conduct?

- Financial Loan
- Other State Financing that directly provides AT (telecommunications programs, etc.)

## 2. Which Reutilization Activities do you conduct?

- Device Exchange
- Device Reassignment or Open Ended Loan

## 3. Do you conduct Short-term Device Loans?

Yes

#### 4. Do you conduct Device Demonstrations?

Yes

## **Module E: Financial Loan**

1. Select the <u>one option</u> that best describes who conducts this activity.  Other entities e.g. contractors (Others)
2. Select the one option that best describes from where this activity is conducted.  A combination of a central location and regional sites (Combination)
3. Do you charge a fee for this activity? (This fee is separate from and addition to the financial loan made.) $\rm No$
I. Identify the types of collaborations you have in place to conduct this activity.
Banks/Financial Institution (select any/all)
Independent Living Center (select any/all)
Have written agreement with this entity
Provide financial support to this entity
Easter Seals (select any/all)
Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)
Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)
State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

#### **Module E: Financial Loan (Continued...)**

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)

Private Entities (select any/all)

Other (select any/all)

#### 5. This activity offers the following types of assistance. (select all that apply – at least one is required)

Identify all types of loans the Statewide AT Program offers, regardless of whether any loans of that type are currently outstanding.

· Loan guarantees

6. The lowest interest percentage for loans as established by the policies of the activity. 4.0000%

7. The highest interest percentage for loans as established by the policies of the activity. 4.0000%

8. The lowest loan amount (in dollars) provided as established by the policies of the activity. \$500.00

9. The highest loan amount (in dollars) provided as established by the policies of the activity. \$50000.00

#### 10. Describe the activity.

Wisconsin's alternative financing programs under the Assistive Technology (AT) Act of 1998 as amended are known as WisLoan and Telework and are managed by one of Wisconsin's eight (8) Independent Living Centers (ILCs), Independence First. Independence First works with the seven (7) additional ILCs to promote and distribute information and applications for the WisLoan and Telework programs. Wisconsin residents who have a disability, or any individual on behalf of the person with a disability (parents, relatives, related caregivers, or legal guardians), can apply for a loan from one of these programs to purchase assistive technology, equipment to start a business or become self-employed, costs associated with home or vehicle modifications, , or to purchase an accessible vehicle. Loan amounts range from \$500 to \$50,000 and applicants are encouraged to apply for the amount they need, but actual loan amounts will depend on the item(s) purchased and ability to repay the loan. ILCs accept the WisLoan and Telework applications which are then reviewed and approved or denied monthly by the WisLoan Board and then submitted to the Milwaukee Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) who services and guarantees all loans.

11. The online page for this specific activity can be found at:

https://www.independencefirst.org/IndependenceFirs

# **Module F: Other State Financing Activities that Directly Provides AT**

State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

1. Which of the following activity/activities are conducted? (select all that apply)
Identify all types of other state financing programs that directly provide AT that are conducted.
Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (EDP)-State
Deaf/Blind Telecommunications EDP-Federal
• Other (Describe)
Provide a description of the other activity/activities conducted.
Telecommunications and other AT provision of AT for consumers.
2. Select the <u>one option</u> that best describes who conducts this activity/activities.
Both the Statewide AT Program and other entities/contractors (Both)
3. Select the <u>one option</u> that best describes from where this activity/activities is conducted.
A combination of a central location and regional sites (Combination)
4. Do you charge a fee for this activity/activities? (select one) Both
5. Identify the types of collaborations you have in place to conduct this activity/activities.
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Banks/Financial Institution (select any/all)
Independent Living Center (select any/all)
Easter Seals (select any/all)
Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)
Have written agreement with this entity
Provide financial support to this entity
1 Tovide infancial support to this enuty
Federal Entities/Agencies (caleat env/ell)
Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)
Have written agreement with this entity
Receive financial support from this entity

#### Module F: Other State Financing Activities that Directly Provides AT (Continued...)

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)	
Private Entities (select any/all)	
Other (select any/all)	

#### 6. Describe the activity/activities.

Wisconsin's Department of Health Services (DHS), Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources (BADR) administers the National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program (NDBEDP), known as iCanConnect (iCC). BADR subcontracts with the Center for Deaf-Blind Persons (CDBP) to process program applications, conduct AT assessments, provide specialized training, and follows-up with consumers. CDBP contracts with the Wisconsin Deaf-Blind Technical Assistance Project (WDBTAP) to provide services to applicants who are under18 and their families. Wisconsin has two programs to assist with the acquisition of specialized telecommunications equipment: the Telecommunications Equipment Purchase Program (TEPP), administered by Wisconsin Public Service Commission, and the Telecommunications Assistance Program (TAP) administered by the Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing at DHS. WisTech is a collaborative partner with both programs and occasionally provides technical assistance on specialized telecommunications equipment requests by consumers when applicable and provides information on specialized telecommunications equipment when requested. The DHS, Office for the Blind and Visually Impaired located within BADR supports individuals who have a vision loss. One component of this program provides assistive technology devices and training to individuals who are blind or visually impaired at no cost.

7. The online page for this specific activity can be found at:

https://www.icanconnect.org/how-to-apply/wisconsin/ https://tepp.solixcs.com/ https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/odhh/tap.htm https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/obvi/index.htm

# **Module H: Device Exchange**

1. Select the <u>one option</u> that best describes who conducts this activity.  Both the Statewide AT Program and other entities/contractors (Both)
2. Select the <u>one option</u> that best describes from where this activity is conducted.  Regional sites (Regional)
3. Do you charge a fee for this activity? Yes
1. Identify the types of collaborations you have in place to conduct this activity.
Banks/Financial Institution (select any/all)
Independent Living Center (select any/all)
<ul> <li>Have written agreement with this entity</li> <li>Provide financial support to this entity</li> </ul>
Easter Seals (select any/all)
Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)
Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)
State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

## **Module H: Device Exchange (Continued...)**

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)
Private Entities (select any/all)
Other (select any/all)
5. Select the option that best describes what happens when a device is exchanged. (select all that apply)
The transaction is direct consumer-to-consumer

#### 6. Describe the activity.

Assistive technology device exchange occurs in Wisconsin at the local level and primarily between consumers independently. WisTech supports the WisconsinAT4All website which allows individuals to list their used assistive technology device(s) on a public website. Device exchange also occurs at Independent Living Centers (ILCs) where available items are listed on respective ILC websites. ILC staff assist with matching a donated piece of equipment directly from one consumer to another and WisTech Program and DHS staff assist with device exchange by referring individuals to local or community resources.

**7. The online page for this specific activity** https://wisconsinat4all.com/ **can be found at:** 

# Module I: Device Refurbish and Reassignment and/or Open-ended Loan

1. Select the one option that best describes who conducts this activity. Other entities e.g. contractors (Others)
2. Select the <u>one option</u> that best describes from where this activity is conducted.  Regional sites (Regional)
3. Do you charge a fee for this activity? Yes
4. Identify the types of collaborations you have in place to conduct this activity.
Banks/Financial Institution (select any/all)
Independent Living Center (select any/all)
Have written agreement with this entity
Provide financial support to this entity
Easter Seals (select any/all)
Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)
Have written agreement with this entity
Provide financial support to this entity
Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)
State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)
<ul> <li>Have written agreement with this entity</li> <li>Provide financial support to this entity</li> </ul>

#### Module I: Device Refurbish and Reassignment and/or Open-ended Loan (Continued...)

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)
Private Entities (select any/all)
Other (select any/all)

- 5. Select the option(s) that describe how a reutilized device is provided to a recipient. (select all that apply)
  - Device ownership is transferred to the recipient
  - · Device is loaned for as long as the recipient needs it with no ownership transfer

#### 6. Describe the activity.

WisTech subcontracts with the Department of Corrections to repair, refurbish, and redistribute Durable Medical Equipment (DME). DME devices are collected through various means including drop-off donations and statewide collection drives. Correctional inmates are trained in the disassembly, sanitization, repair, and refurbishment of the DME. Completely refurbished DME devices are listed online and sold to other government institutions and managed care organizations at a reduced cost. In addition, some of Wisconsin's Independent Living Centers (ILCs) collect and redistribute donated equipment at the local level, generally at no cost to the consumer. Two ILCs are expanding their device reuse programs to meet the growing demand with the intent to reach a broader, statewide area in the future. ILCs allow for open-ended loans based upon consumer need and device availability. WisTech collaborates with the Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Association of Wisconsin and the Good News Project, to support device reuse through collections, donations, and by supporting the shipping or transport costs of devices. Wisconsin also provides a hearing aid reutilization program called Wishes. The Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources (BADR) contracts with the University of Wisconsin, Madison to operate a hearing aid reuse program for youth, ages 0-18, who do not qualify for Medicaid or who do not otherwise have access to hearing aid coverage.

7. The online page for this specific activity can be found at:

https://wisconsinat4all.com/

https://csd.wisc.edu/wishes/#:~:text=Exchange%20Service%20(WISHES)-,Wisconsin%20Infant%20and%20Children's%20Statewide%20Hearing%20Aid%20Exchange%20Service

## **Module J: Device Loan**

1. Select the <u>one option</u> that best describes who conducts this activity.  Both the Statewide AT Program and other entities/contractors (Both)
2. Select the one option that best describes from where this activity is conducted.  A combination of a central location and regional sites (Combination)
3. Do you charge a fee for this activity? No
4. Identify the types of collaborations you have in place to conduct this activity.
Banks/Financial Institution (select any/all)
Independent Living Center (select any/all)
<ul> <li>Have written agreement with this entity</li> <li>Provide financial support to this entity</li> </ul>
Easter Seals (select any/all)
Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)
Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)
State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

#### Module J: Device Loan (Continued...)

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)
Private Entities (select any/all)
Other (select any/all)

5. Select the option that describes how the majority of devices loaned are delivered to and returned from a borrower. (select one)

The majority of devices are delivered or picked up in-person

#### 6. Describe the activity.

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS), Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources (BADR) contracts with Wisconsin's eight (8) Independent Living Centers (ILCs) to operate short-term device loans. Each ILC maintains a standard inventory of AT related equipment for loaning purposes. The inventory is listed online at www.wisconsinat4all.com. Device loans are intended to allow someone to try out and determine if a piece of AT will meet their needs. Device loans are also provided as a short-term accommodation if a device is not otherwise available, or being repaired, or if an individual is in the process of securing funding for a needed device. WisTech operates an iPad Loan Program through DHS. There are 19 iPads available for short-term loan, along with a comprehensive app library to meet consumers' needs. One iPad is also equipped with cellular data for consumers who do not have internet access. The Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and the Cooperative Educational Service Agency (CESA) #2 includes devices in its AT Lending Center on the WisconsinAT4All website for short-term loans. This inventory consists of high-end augmentative communication devices and the loan program is specifically available for schools and educators. Several Aging and Disability Resource Centers operate short-term device loan programs at their local agencies.

7. The online page for this specific activity https://wisconsinat4all.com/can be found at:

## **Module K: Device Demonstration**

1. Select the <u>one option</u> that best describes who conducts this activity.  Both the Statewide AT Program and other entities/contractors (Both)
2. Select the <u>one option</u> that best describes from where this activity is conducted.  Regional sites (Regional)
3. Do you charge a fee for this activity? No
4. Identify the types of collaborations you have in place to conduct this activity.
Banks/Financial Institution (select any/all)
Independent Living Center (select any/all)
Have written agreement with this entity
Provide financial support to this entity
Easter Seals (select any/all)
Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)
Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)
State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)

## **Module K: Device Demonstration (Continued...)**

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)
Private Entities (select any/all)
Other (select any/all)

#### 5. Describe the activity.

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources contracts with Wisconsin's eight (8) Independent Living Centers (ILCs) to operate device demonstration programs. Staff at the ILCs are trained and have a basic understanding of assistive technology (AT) and how it can assist in meeting consumers' needs. Each ILC maintains a standard inventory of AT related equipment for loaning purposes. Inventory is listed online at www.wisconsinat4all.com. Individuals can request equipment from another ILC service area, and WisTech will assist with the cost of getting that device for demonstration or loan on an as needed basis. Aging and Disability Resource Centers in Wisconsin have been provided Assistive Technology Kits which can be utilized for device demonstrations as needed.

**6. The online page for this specific activity** https://wisconsinat4all.com/ **can be found at:** 

# **Module L: Training**

Independent Living Center (select any/all)  • Have written agreement with this entity • Provide financial support to this entity  Easter Seals (select any/all)  Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)  Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)  State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)	Banks/Financial Institution (select any/all)	
Provide financial support to this entity  Easter Seals (select any/all)  Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)  Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)	Independent Living Center (select any/all)	
Easter Seals (select any/all)  Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)  Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)	Have written agreement with this entity	
Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)  Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)	Provide financial support to this entity	
Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)	Easter Seals (select any/all)	
Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)		
	Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)	
State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)	Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)	
State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)		
State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)		
	State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)	

#### **Module L: Training (Continued...)**

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)
Private Entities (select any/all)
Other (select any/all)

2. Provide a short description of at least one and no more than three planned training activities. One of the activities described must be planned Information and Communication Technology (ICT) accessibility training that will provide the required ICT Training performance measures. If the Statewide AT Program is meeting the transition requirements of the AT Act through training, please describe that planned activity. If the Statewide AT Program sponsors or co-sponsors a statewide conference please include that event as one you describe.

## Planned ICT Accessibility Training (required)

During Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2022, WisTech provided extensive training and technical assistance on Information Communication Technology (ICT). On September 27, 2022, WisTech will host a training on ICT and Event Planning for Accessibility. The full session description is as follows: Professional development sessions, conferences, and webinars frequently address methods of making materials accessible for individuals with disabilities. Unfortunately, often those very sessions and conferences are set up in a way that is inaccessible to many of the participants. This presentation will focus on methods for making presentations accessible to as many participants as possible. Considerations for presentation formats such as Google Slides and PowerPoint will be discussed along with suggestions for making content such as lectures, group activities, note taking, etc. as accessible as possible. Participants will be encouraged to reflect on training materials they have created and will have the opportunity to create accessibility guides to use at their next accessible event.

#### **Planned Transition Training or Other Training Activity (optional)**

WisTech will be hosting a transition specific webinar training during the Federal Fiscal Year 2022-2023. This training will focus on assistive technology devices and services for students, educators, and families prepare for the transition to life after high school. This webinar will be available statewide and at no cost.

#### Planned Statewide Conference or Other Training Activity (optional)

WisTech hosts at least four virtual trainings on assistive technology and related topics annually. The topics are unique and designed to timely meet the needs of various stakeholders based on feedback received. An annual training survey is conducted to gather input on the training needed by AT professionals, consumers, and community members and information is used in determining the topics and speakers for each of these trainings. Trainings continue to be held virtually which allows for a broader audience. WisTech offers educational credits to Certified Rehabilitation Counselors (CRC) and Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for all attendees. The trainings are archived and made available on the WisTech YouTube channel.

**3.** The online page for this specific activity https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/atac/wistech-assistive-technology-trainings.htm can be found at:

## **Module M: Technical Assistance**

Banks/F	Financial Institution (select any/all)
Indeper	ndent Living Center (select any/all)
• J	Have written agreement with this entity
• ]	Provide financial support to this entity
Easter S	Seals (select any/all)
Disabili	ty/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)
Federal	Entities/Agencies (select any/all)
State Eı	ntities/Agencies (select any/all)

#### **Module M: Technical Assistance (Continued...)**

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)
Private Entities (select any/all)
Other (select any/all)

2. Provide a short description of at least one and no more than two planned technical assistance activities. If the Statewide AT Program is meeting the transition requirements of the AT Act through technical assistance, please describe that planned activity.

#### Planned Transition Technical Assistance or Other Technical Assistance Activity (required)

WisTech collaborates with the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) on the AT Forward Project and the Assistive Technology workgroup with the intention of expanding AT awareness and access for educators, students, and families. The AT Forward project includes a a dedicated website where information about AT, special education, and transition services can be accessed along with a professional Community of Practice to seed additional advice and resources. DPI provides funding and technical assistance to support these efforts.

#### **Planned Other Technical Assistance Activity (optional)**

Options for Independent Living, a WisTech subcontractor, has been providing technical assistance (TA) to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for the purpose of increasing the accessibility of DNR's programs and website. The aim is to launch an interactive feature on the Wisconsin DNR website which will highlight the accessibility features of each state park. Wisconsin residents with disabilities would then be able to search for the access features they need ahead of visiting a state park. WisTech has been providing technical assistance and expertise on the Department of Health Services (DHS) Long-Term Care Assistive Technology workgroup. This workgroup includes representatives from Medicaid, Assisted Living, and Quality Assurance. This workgroup is looking at ways to effectively use AT to deliver services to consumers and reduce isolation. Specifically, this workgroup is looking to utilize technologies to allow for telehealth visits and benefit meetings, automate services in the assisted living setting, and reduce isolation while creating increased recreational opportunities for older adults. The Center for Independent Living for Western Wisconsin (CILWW), a WisTech subcontractor, has been providing technical assistance to other ILCs throughout Wisconsin. The purpose is to build capacity within the AT network in adaptive gaming, accessible gaming stations, and utilizing video games to reduce social isolation develop additional skills.

## **Module N: Public Awareness**

Banks/Financial Institution (select any/all)	
Independent Living Center (select any/all)  • Have written agreement with this entity	
Easter Seals (select any/all)	
Disability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)  • Have written agreement with this entity	
Federal Entities/Agencies (select any/all)	
State Entities/Agencies (select any/all)	

## **Module N: Public Awareness (Continued...)**

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)	
Private Entities (select any/all)	
Other (select any/all)	

2. Provide a short description of at least one and no more than two planned major public awareness activities. If the Statewide AT Program conducts a major ongoing public awareness activity such as an annual AT awareness day with a Governor's Proclamation, please include that activity.

#### Major Annual Planned or Other Public Awareness Activity (required)

Options for Independent Living, a Wistech subcontractor will be hosting a community-wide Open House in August 2022. The event will incorporate a used DME collection drive, a mobile audiology clinic, facility tours, and an accessible food truck. Event partners include the Aging and Disability Resource Center, WisTech, Hear Wisconsin, and the Bureau of Correctional Enterprises. The event will be open to the public with the aim of creating greater awareness of assistive technology and related programs, partners and services.

Planned Other Public Awareness Activity (optional)

## **Module O: Information and Assistance**

Banks/Financial Institution (select any/all)		
Inde	ependent Living Center (select any/all)	
	Have written agreement with this entity	
	Provide financial support to this entity	
East	ter Seals (select any/all)	
Disa	ability/Assistive Technology Organizations (select any/all)	
	Have written agreement with this entity	
	Provide financial support to this entity	
Fede	eral Entities/Agencies (select any/all)	
Stat	te Entities/Agencies (select any/all)	

## **Module O: Information and Assistance (Continued...)**

Local/Community Entities (select any/all)	
Private Entities (select any/all)	
Other (select any/all)	

#### 2. Describe the activity

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS), Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources contracts with Wisconsin's eight Independent Living Centers (ILCs) to provide information and assistance related to assistive technology devices, services, and funding. This information is tracked using a database. WisTech and DHS staff also respond to requests for information and assistance related to assistive technology devices, services, and funding. This information is tracked through the AT4ALL website. The Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) respond to requests about assistive technology devices, services, and funding. This information is captured in their database. Consumers can connect with WisTech, DHS staff, ADRCs, and ILCs in-person, by mail, through email, phone, or through Zoom or other virtual platforms. Consumers learn about AT services from websites, social media, mailings, trainings, events, display booths, referrals from other agencies, by word of mouth, or through working with ILCs or WisTech staff.

#### **Assurances and Measurable Goals**

Section 4(d) of the AT Act prescribes the duties of the Lead Agency receiving a grant under section 4 of the AT Act and requires the State to provide a number of assurances in its application for funds. 34 CFR part 76 also requires that any State Plan include certain assurances. The Statewide AT Program certifying representative will attest to these assurances and other requirements below and by submitting the State Plan, will affirm that to the best of his or her knowledge and belief all information provided in the State Plan is true and correct and the State Plan fully discloses all known weaknesses concerning the accuracy, reliability, and completeness of the information.

#### Assurances

As the Certifying Representative of the Lead Agency for the State of , I hereby assure the following:

- 1. The Lead Agency prepared and submitted this State Plan on behalf of the State of Wisconsin.
- 2. The Lead Agency submitting this plan is the State agency that is eligible to submit this plan and if an Implementing Entity is identified it is designated to implement the required AT Act activities.
- 3. The State agency has authority under State law to perform the functions of the State under this program.
- 4. The State legally may carry out each provision of this plan.
- 5. All provisions of this plan are consistent with State law.
- 6. A State officer, specified by title in this certification, has authority under State law to receive, hold, and disburse Federal funds made available under the plan.
- 7. The State officer who submits this plan, specified by title in this certification, has authority to submit this plan.
- 8. The agency that submits this plan has adopted or otherwise formally approved this plan.
- 9. The plan is the basis for State operation and administration of the program.
- 10. The Lead Agency will maintain and evaluate the program under this State Plan.
- 11. The State will annually collect data related to the required activities implemented by the State under this section in order to prepare the progress reports required under subsection 4(f) of the Act.
- 12. The Lead Agency will submit the annual progress report on behalf of the State.
- 13. The State will prepare reports to the Secretary in such form and containing such information as the Secretary may require to carry out the Secretary's functions under this Act and keep such records and allow access to such records as the Secretary may require to ensure the correctness and verification of information provided to the Secretary.
- 14. The Lead Agency will control and administer the funds received through the grant.
- 15. The Lead Agency will make programmatic and resource allocation decisions necessary to implement the State Plan.
- 16. Funds received through the grant will be expended in accordance with Section 4 of the Act, and will be used to supplement, and not supplant, funds available from other sources for technology-related assistance, including the provision of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services.
- 17. The Lead Agency will ensure conformance with all applicable Federal and State accounting requirements.
- 18. The State will adopt such fiscal control and accounting procedures as may be necessary to ensure proper disbursement of and accounting for the funds received through the grant.
- 19. Funds made available through a grant to a State under this Act will not be used for direct payment for an assistive technology device for an individual with a disability.
- 20. A public agency or an individual with a disability holds title to any property purchased with funds received under the grant and administers that property.
- 21. The physical facility of the Lead Agency and Implementing Entity, if any, meets the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) regarding accessibility for individuals with disabilities. Section 4(d)(6)(E)
- 22. Activities carried out in the State that are authorized under this Act, and supported by Federal funds received under this Act, will comply with the standards established by the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board under section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (20 U.S.C. 794d). Section 4(d)(6)(G)
- 23. The Lead Agency will coordinate the activities of the State Plan among public and private entities, including coordinating efforts related to entering into interagency agreements.
- 24. The Lead Agency will coordinate efforts related to the active, timely, and meaningful participation by individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives, and other appropriate individuals, with respect to activities carried out through the grant.