TECH OWL
TECHNOLOGY FOR OUR WHOLE LIVES

Funding Technology Guide

by the PA Technology Champions

Temple University
College of Education and Human Development
Institute on Disabilities

PENNSYLVANIA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL

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The PA Technology Champions is a community of individuals with developmental disabilities from PA. This guide is a resource to make technology accessible to everyone.

This guide is for: People interested in learning about how to fund technology in PA.

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CHAPTER 1
What is Funding?

Funding is using money to buy something.

Sometimes technology can cost a lot of money. We can use our own money, if we have it. Other times we may need help.

Groups, non-profits and programs can help fund technology for you.

CHAPTER 2
Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation — PATF
(PA only)

PA Assistive Technology Foundation helps people with disabilities pay for technology.

They give low and no interest loans. They also help people find other funding programs and resources.

PA Assistive Technology Foundation has a website **patf.us** Check it out!

CHAPTER 3
Schools and Medical Insurance

Schools can pay for technology to help you learn at school and home.

Private and public medical insurance (Medicaid and Medicare) can pay for technology.

A doctor must write a letter about why you need the tool or medical device.

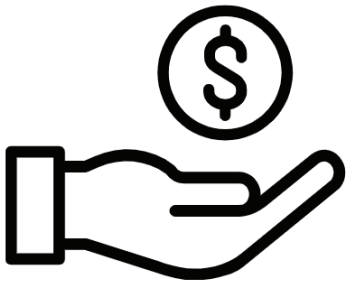
CHAPTER 4
TechOWL Programs
(PA only)

TechOWL 3D prints many different tools you need for free. This pill popping device is one example. Click to learn more: **3D Printing Program**

TechOWL runs the iCanConnect Deafblind program to fund communication technology. Click to learn more: **DeafBlind Services**

The Free Special Phone Program is for people with low income who need a phone (including cell phones). Click to learn more: **TDDP Program**

CHAPTER 4
TechOWL Programs
continued



The Virginia Delsordo Fund is a one time grant of $400 for technology. Other funding must be used first. Click to learn more: **Help to Pay**

The Reused Equipment Program (REEP) has donated technology and mobility items for free. Check out our Reuse website to check the **REEP closet**.

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Click **techowlpa.org** to learn more about all of these programs.

CHAPTER 5
PA Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

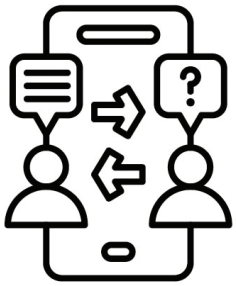
The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation supports employment of people with disabilities. Click to learn more: **PA Office of Vocational Rehab**

They can fund technology to help you get a job or make a job more accessible for you.

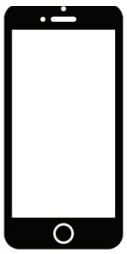
A computer is one example of technology they can fund.

CHAPTER 6
Phone Funding

Lifeline is a program for people with low income to get a phone and phone service for free or low cost. Learn more at **lifelinesupport.org**.



Search for companies near you who offer Lifeline on **Universal Service website**.



These companies help fund home phones and cell phones.

CHAPTER 7
Crowdfunding

Crowdfunding is one way to ask your community to help you pay for technology.

You can ask your local church or any community group you belong to.

Many web based funding pages can help you get technology you need. You can also post on your own social media page.

Organizations like Help Hope Live help fund medical needs. Learn more at helphopelive.org.

CHAPTER 8
Where to Learn More!

- TechOWL
  (https://techowlpa.org/)
- Pennsylvania Assistive Technology Foundation (PATF)
  (https://patf.us/)
- Lifelinesupport.org
  (https://www.lifelinesupport.org/)
- HelpHopeLive
  (https://helphopelive.org/)
- Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network (PaTTAN)
  (https://www.pattan.net/)
- GoFundMe
  https://www.gofundme.com/
- Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR)
  (https://www.pa.gov/services/dli/apply-for-vocational-rehabilitation-services.html)

More Resources: TechOWL Assistive Technology Resource Centers (ATRCs)

- **TechOWL - Institute on Disabilities**
  Address: 1301 Cecil B. Moore Ave., Phila, PA 19122
  Phone: (800) 204-PIAT (7428) or (215) 204-5967
  Email: techowl@temple.edu
- **Center of Independent Living of North Central PA (CILNCPA)**
  Address: 24 East Third Street, Williamsport, PA 17701
  Phone: (570) 327-9070 ext. 214
  Email: AT@cilncp.org
- **Community Living and Support Services (CLASS)**
  Address: 1400 South Braddock Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15218
  Phone: (412) 683-7100 ext. 2179
  Email: rnesbitt@classcommunity.org
- **Resources for Independence (CRI)**
  Address: 3410 West 12th Street, Erie, PA 16505
  Phone: (814) 838-7222
  Email: rwayne@crinet.org
- **Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living (LVCIL)**
  Address: 713 N 13th Street Allentown, PA, 18102
  Phone: 610-770-9781 Ext.111
  Email: atinfo@lvcil.org

TechOWL Assistive Technology Resource Centers (ATRCs)
continued

- **Life and Independence for Today (LIFT**
  Address: 503 East Arch Street, Saint Marys, PA 15857
  Phone: (814) 781-3050 or 1-800-341-5438 ext. 204
  Email: atc@liftcil.org
- **Transition Paths to Independent Living (TRPIL)**
  Address: 42 West Maiden Street, Washington, PA 15301
  Phone: (724) 223-5115 ext. 8601
  Email: mrockwell@vficil.org
- **United Cerebral Palsy of Central PA (UCP Central)**
  Address: 55 Utley Drive, Camp Hill, PA 17011
  Phone:1-800-998-4827 or (717) 737-3477 ext. 152
  Email: ATUCP@ucpcentralpa.org
- **United Cerebral Palsy of North Eastern PA (UCP NEPA)**
  Address: 3410 West 12th Street, Erie, PA 16505
  Phone: (814) 838-7222
  Email: rwayne@crinet.org
- **Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living (LVCIL)**
  Address: 425 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, PA 18503
  Phone: (877) UCP-TECH or (570) 347-3357
  Email: atrc@ucpnepa.org

If you have trouble with these steps, ask a trusted person for help.

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Reach out to TechOWL to learn more about accessible technology.

800-204-7428

TechOWL@temple.edu

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