

**Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency
Vocational Rehabilitation Program
Assistive Work Technology - Client Services**

The Assistive Technology unit of the GVRA Vocational Rehabilitation program includes a one of a kind team of assistive work technology (AWT) specialists built around the Regional and Tri-Regional organization of VR. Each Tri-Region has a Rehabilitation Engineer, an Occupational Therapist, and a Rehabilitation Technician; each Region has a Rehabilitation Technologist.

The AWT staff begins client services after receiving a referral from either a VR Counselor or a Rehabilitation Employment Specialist. A comprehensive cost-free assessment is made of the client's abilities and disabilities to determine assistive technology requirements that will allow the client to meet the vocational goals of the Work Plan. The assessment process begins with the Rehab Technologist, and includes other team members as their specialties are required. AWT recommendations may involve anything from assistive work technology devices to education designed to determine and develop vocational skills.

After completion of the assessment, AWT staff will locate the commercially manufactured Assistive Work Technology device, including cost and provider, determine if training will be required, and address any additional fabrication or installation requirements. If the Assistive Work Technology device is not commercially available, the AWT Rehab Engineer will make every effort to work with the Occupational Therapist, Rehabilitation Technician and Technologist to design and make the necessary device. Costs to the employer are determined on a case-by-case basis if the device is needed for employment. If the device is needed to reach employment goals before an employer is involved, the counselor may approve an A/I to purchase items needed for fabrication.