

Your Code # is:

The California Foundation for Independent Living Centers (CFILC) is a group working to improve the lives of people with disabilities. Together with the University of California, San Francisco, the University of Northern Colorado, and California State University, Northridge, we are researching technology used to help people with disabilities in their daily lives. Assistive Technology is any device that a person with a disability uses to live or work more independently. It can be a computer, a walker, or even Velcro on a pen.

One way to collect a lot of information from a lot of people is to use a survey. Across California people with disabilities will be supported in completing a survey by phone, in writing, in alternate format or in person. This survey will collect information about your **Assistive Technology** use.

This survey is considered research. There are rules about protecting people and their rights when doing research. You may choose not to send in the survey or only answer some questions. You can call us at 1-800-390-2699 to ask us about the survey or if you need help filling it out.

Sending in the survey by mail or over the Internet means you are choosing to answer the survey. No benefit or service will be given or taken away if you answer the survey. We are collecting this information because we believe it will help people understand why Assistive Technology is important. Your responses are welcome. No one will know that you have participated. Patricia Yeager is the Principal Investigator and can be reached by calling our office at 800-390-2699. Dr. Kenneth Galea'i, Research Support, can be reached at 970-351-1541.

The survey will take between 30 and 40 minutes of your time. It might take longer if you are using a translator or interviewer. If you would like to take the survey online, please go to <u>www.atnet.org</u>. The survey is also available in alternative formats by calling 800-390-2699.

To thank you for completing this survey, CFILC would like to send you a check for \$20.00. If you would like to receive this gift you will need to give us your name and address at the end of the survey. **IMPORTANT:** You may take this survey <u>only ONE time, and only ONE check will be issued</u> <u>per person!</u> You will receive your check from CFILC within 7 days of mailing. Checks will be mailed until monies run out. Once you have completed the survey, place the last page with your name and address in one of the postage-paid envelopes provided. Then, place the survey form in the other postage-paid envelope and mail both envelopes to CFILC.

For those answering the survey on the Internet: If you are unable to complete the survey in one session, please click on the "Finish Later" button at the bottom of the page. You will be given a Record Number and Password - **please write these down.** When you return to complete the survey, enter your Record Number and Password into the boxes at the beginning and continue filling out the survey where you left off.

The AT Network website (www.atnet.org) provides information about Assistive Technology and allows individuals to search online for devices and services. People can also receive information about Assistive Technology services and resources by calling the AT Network Information and Referral Service at (800) 390-2699 or through its TDD line at (800) 900-0706.

The Community Research for Assistive Technology project is looking at the use of AT in the lives of people with disabilities. Community disability leaders research AT in four main areas: employment, health, community inclusion and technology for function. For more information about the project, please visit our website at http://www.atnet.org/CR4AT/home.html or call Myisha Reed, Project Coordinator at: Phone (800) 390-2699, TDD (800) 900-0706 or e-mail: myisha@cfilc.org. You can also send mail to: 1029 J Street, Suite 120, Sacramento, CA 95814.

NONE OF YOUR RESPONSES WILL IMPACT YOUR BENEFITS.

- **1 DO YOU WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS SURVEY? IF YES** PLEASE CONTINUE.
- 2 IF NO, STOP HERE. YOU CAN ALSO ASK FOR MORE **INFORMATION- PLEASE SEE ABOVE FOR CONTACT** INFORMATION.

This survey uses the **shortened term "AT**" to refer to Assistive Technology.

WHAT IS ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY? (A definition)

Assistive Technology is "any item, piece of equipment, or product, whether acquired commercially, off the shelf, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities." You might call it a device, aid or tool.

Some of these questions **MIGHT NOT** apply to you. You may skip guestions or answer NA. Please call us if you need any help taking the survey.

1a. What language are you using for this survey?

English

Spanish

Sign Language

Other Language, specify:

1b. How are you filling out this survey? (Check **ALL** that apply)

By telephone
Through an ir
On the Intern
In writing, by

Through an interviewer

- On the Internet
- In writing, by myself

2. Do you use any technical aids or devices (AT)?

No, Please go to question #4.

3a. If you do not use any devices please go to question #4. This question is for people who do use devices. What do you use to help yourself? If you use more than one device, please identify the ONE device that is MOST IMPORTANT to you.

Cane, walker or crutches	Hearing aid
Manual wheelchair	Flashing / vibrating alerting
Scooter	device
Electric wheelchair	White cane
Ventilator	Magnifiers
Oxygen	TTY/text pager
Computer - Off the shelf	Relay services
Specialized software	(video/TTY/Internet)
Specialized hardware	Books on tape
Communication device (such as	Reacher / Grabber
an electronic speech output board)	Adapted vehicle
Adapted telephone	Other, please specify
Adapted eating / cooking utensils	
Talking devices (i.e.	
Thermometers, scales)	

Questions 3b through 3j are about the device you just identified as the most important to you. Please skip to Question 4 if you did not name a device.

3b. How old is this device?

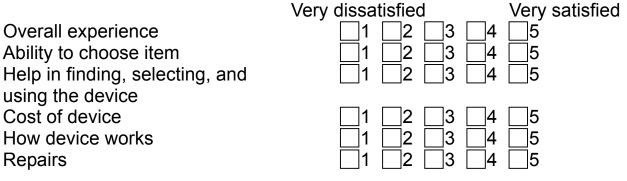
One year old or less
About 2 years old
About 3 years old
About 4 years old
5 to 10 years old
More than 10 years old

3c. Where did you learn about the actual AT device? (Check **ALL** that apply)

 Health professional California Dept of Rehabilitation Family/Friend 	
Yellow pages	
Independent Living Center	
AT Network	
Disability Business Technical Assistance Center	
Catalogue	
Disability Expo / Conference	
Television or radio	
Other, please specify	

3d. How satisfied are you with these issues regarding this device?

1 is very dissatisfied and 5 is very satisfied.



3e. Which problems make using this device difficult?1 is a big problem or not easy at all and 5 is not a problem at all or very easy.

Time delay in getting equipment Additional equipment needed Training not provided Equipment not fitting properly Frequent breakdowns Repairs taking too long **Big Problem**

Not a Problem

5

5

5

5

5

5

4

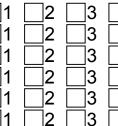
4

4

4

4

4



NA

3f. When this device breaks down, how long does it usually take to get it fixed and back to you for use? (Select **ONE**)

Less than one week
1-2 weeks
3-4 weeks
Over 4 weeks
It has never broken down
Don't know

3g. When (or if) this device breaks down, do you have a back-up device? (Select **ONE**)

Yes
No
I don't know

3h. How much did this device cost?

\$_____ Don't know

3i. Who paid for this device? (Fill in a number "1" by the primary funding source, fill in a" 2" by a secondary source, if applicable)

- ___ Private health insurance/HMO
- ____ Medicare
- ___ Medi-Cal
- California Department of Rehabilitation
- ___ Employer
- ___ School system
- ___ Regional Center
- California Children's Services
- ___ VA program
- ___ Independent Living Center
- ___ Community program
- ____ Free/Donated
- ___ Family
- ___ Self-pay
- Other. Please specify _____

3j. Some people use more than one device to help themselves. If you use any other devices, please identify the ONE device that is SECOND MOST IMPORTANT to you. If you do not use any other devices, please skip to Question 4.

Cane, walker or crutches	Hearing aid
Manual wheelchair	Flashing / vibrating alerting
Scooter	device
Electric wheelchair	White cane
Ventilator	Magnifiers
Oxygen	TTY/text pager
Computer - Off the shelf	Relay services
Specialized software	(video/TTY/Internet)
Specialized hardware	Books on tape
Communication device (such as	Reacher / Grabber
an electronic speech output board)	Adapted vehicle
Adapted telephone	Other, please specify
Adapted eating / cooking utensils	· · · · ·
Talking devices (i.e.	
Thermometers, scales)	

Questions 3k through 3r are about the device you just identified as the second most important to you. Please skip to Question 4 if you did not name a device.

3k. How old is this device?

One year old or less
About 2 years old
About 3 years old
About 4 years old
5 to 10 years old
More than 10 years old
About 4 years old 5 to 10 years old

3I. Where did you hear about or find the actual AT device? (Check **ALL** that apply)

Health professional
California Dept of Rehabilitation
Family/Friend
Yellow pages
Independent Living Center
AT Network
Disability Business Technical Assistance Center
Internet
Catalogue
Disability Expo / Conference
Television or radio
Other, please specify

3m. How satisfied are you with these issues regarding this device?

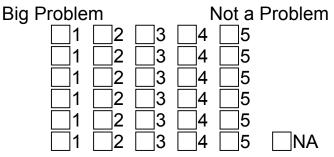
1 is very dissatisfied and 5 is very satisfied.

	Very dissatisfied	Very satisfied
Overall experience		5
Ability to choose item		5
Help in finding, selecting, and		5
using the device		
Cost of device		5
How device works		5
Repairs		5

3n. Which problems make using this device difficult?

1 is a big problem or not easy at all and 5 is not a problem at all or very easy.

Time delay in getting equipment Additional equipment needed Training not provided Equipment not fitting properly Frequent breakdowns Repairs taking too long



30. When this device breaks down, how long does it usually take to get it fixed and back to you for use? (Select **ONE**)

Less than one week	1-2 weeks
3-4 weeks	Over 4 weeks
It has never broken down	🗌 Don't know

3p. When (or if) your equipment breaks down, do you have a back-up device? (Select **ONE**)

Yes	No	I don't know

3q.	How	much	did	this	device	cost?
\$					Don'	t know

3r. Who paid for this device? (Fill in a number "1" by the primary funding source, fill in a" 2" by a secondary source, if applicable)

- ___ Private health insurance/HMO
- ___ Medicare
- ___ Medi-Cal
- ___ California Department of Rehabilitation
- ___ Employer
- <u>School system</u>
- ___ Regional Center
- __ California Children's Services
- ___ VA program
- ___ Independent Living Center
- ___ Community program
- ___ Free/Donated
- ___ Family
- ___ Self-pay
- __ Other, please specify _____

3s. Do you use any other devices? (Please select ALL that apply)

an electronic	elchair Elchair Off the shelf oftware ardware on device (such a speech output bo phone ng / cooking utens es (i.e.	ard) Adapted vehicle		
3t. Did funding fr	om other sources	(not yourself) affect your AT choices?		
Yes	No	I don't know		
3u. Did the price	of the device affe	ect your funding choices?		
Yes	No	I don't know		
We want to know if your assistive technology (AT) needs have been met.				
4a. Are there an	y AT devices and	/or aids that you need but do not have?		
Yes	🗌 No	If no, skip to question 6.		
4b. What aids or devices do you need? (Fill in the blank)				

5. If you need technical aids or devices, but have not been able to get them, please mark all the reasons why: (You may select AS MANY AS NECESSARY)

	Not covered l	y insurance	/Medi-Cal/Medicare
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Too expensive

My condition is not serious enough

I don't know where or how to obtain it

Devices are not available in my area

Some other reason. Specify:_____

6. Did you use AT devices in the past but then stop using them? If no, please skip to question 8

Yes No	Don't Know
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7. Why did you stop using your AT?

NA

8. Name an Assistive Technology (AT) device or equipment (you might not have it now) that could most help you to live independently in the community:

Don't know

9. I feel isolated due to my disability: (Select **ONE**)

Never. Please skip to Question 11.

Rarely. Please skip to Question 11.

Sometimes

Most of the time

Always

Don't know

Community Research for Assistive Technology – California AT & Consumers Survey

10. Does using AT help you cope with feeling isolated? (Select **ONE**)

Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Most of the time	Always
🗌 Not app	licable to m	e(IF you do <u>not</u>	use AT you select this	answer)

You might not use AT now, but if you think it would help in activities you do, please answer this question. **If not applicable please skip to #13**

11. For which activities in the home do you need AT? (Check **ALL** that apply to you):

Cooking/eating	Cleaning
Parenting	Watching TV
Alerting/Signaling	
Getting around	Writing
Computer Use	Personal care - includes dressing,
Reading	toileting, bathing, brushing teeth, etc.
Paying bills	
Other- please describe	

12. For which activities in the community do you need assistive technology (AT)? (Check **ALL** that apply to you)

Errands	Shopping
Family activities	Social/Community Activities
Health appointments	Taking classes
☐ Volunteering	Transportation
Sports and Recreation	Communicating with others
Reading	Employment (any type-full or part-time)
Other- please describe	
-	

CFILC would like to know **what changes would improve** the system that provides, funds and repairs devices and equipment (AT). Even if you do not use devices or AT right now, you still may have ideas.

13. If changes could be made to the AT system, what would you like to see happen? (Please check **ALL** that apply)

 Insurance system changed Try-out facilities for AT More affordable AT More universal design Expand definition of AT Better system for repairs National standardization for all agencies Collaboration amongst agencies 	 Case managers available Persons with disabilities included as decision makers in funding process Devices easier to get Persons with disabilities involved in the design process Training on use of equipment Don't know
Collaboration amongst agencies	Other

14a. Do you use a TTY/TDD? (Select only **ONE**)

🗌 Yes 🔄 No 🔄 Don't Know

If you answered NO or DON'T KNOW please go to question #16. If you answered YES please answer #14b.

14b. Do you use a relay service to communicate with people or businesses who don't have a TTY/TDD?

Yes

No

Sometimes

I don't know

15. When using your TTY/TDD **are you able to reach people** (with or without a relay service) at the following places? (Select **ONE** answer for each area)

15a. Your health professional's office:
Yes Sometimes No NA
15b.Your school or your children's school:
Yes Sometimes No NA
15c. Businesses, restaurants or stores:
Yes Sometimes No NA
15d. Community services, such as seniors center:
Yes Sometimes No NA
15e. Government agencies, such as SSI:
Yes Sometimes No NA

PLEASE REMEMBER: NO BENEFITS OR SERVICES ARE AFFECTED BY YOUR ANSWERS. WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW HOW ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY IS USED FOR YOUR HEALTH.

Health

16. Is your most important healthcare setting **accessible** to you? (Select **ONE**)

Not at all 🗌 Mostly not	Somewhat	Mostly	Totally
] Don't know			

17. Does your health professional have a **weight scale** that weighs you properly? (Select only **ONE**)

🗌 Yes	🗌 No	🗌 Don't Know
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18a. Which of the following do **you use while at the health professional's office**? Please check **ALL** that apply:

 □ X-ray □ Scale □ Mammography 	Ramps Braille/audio formats for information
Exam table	Non-English
Sign Language Interpreter	brochures/interpreters
Lifts to get on equipment or table	Lab tests – urine/blood testing,
from wheelchair	blood pressure
TTY's	None of the above
Electric doors	Don't know
Hand/grab rails	Other
Ultrasound machines	

18b. Which of the following **are you prevented from using because it isn't available or isn't accessible**? Please check **ALL** that apply:

🗌 X-ray	Ramps
Scale	Braille/audio formats for
Mammography	information
Exam table	Non-English
Sign Language Interpreter	brochures/interpreters
Lifts to get on equipment or table	Lab tests – urine/blood testing,
from wheelchair	blood pressure
TTY's	None of the above
Electric doors	🗌 Don't know
Hand/grab rails	Other
Ultrasound machines	

19. In your opinion, **how knowledgeable is your primary health professional** about the range of Assistive Technologies? (Select **ONE**)

Poor Fair Adequate Excellent Don't know

IN THIS NEXT SECTION WE WANT TO KNOW ABOUT USING ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY FOR EMPLOYMENT. SOME OF THESE QUESTIONS MAY NOT APPLY TO YOU.

Employment

20a. Please tell us about your employment situation. (Select all that apply)

I work	full	time
I work	par	t time

I work part time I am self-employed

I am sell-employed

I am working, but not as many hours as I would like

I am not currently working

20b Answer this question only if you are NOT currently working. (Select all that apply)

I would prefer to work

I feel I am able to work

I am looking for work

I am volunteering

I am in school, training for a job

None of the above

21. What assistive technology device or equipment would help you the most to get or keep a job, full or part time?

🗌 Don't know	Not applicable	

22. How well has AT helped you in searching for a job? (Select **ONE**)

□ Not at all □ Very little	Average	A lot] Immensely
Not applicable			

If you are NOT working now, please go to question #29.

23. Please check ALL devices or services you use to perform work duties:

Magnifier	Telephone headset
Wheelchair	Mouth stick
Wrist splints	Support for personal functions:
Service animal	eating, bathroom
Computer software to read the	Personal assistant
screen in synthesized voice	Adapted mouse
Computer hardware to output	Adapted computer screen, i.e.
in Braille	larger screen or flat screen
Voice activated software	Adapted keyboard
Hearing aid/amplification device	Support for mental limitations -
TTY/Pager/text communicator	job coaching
Automatic doors	Ergonomic table / chair
Ramps	Interpreters
Tape recorder	Readers
Amplified telephone	Other

24. Have you ever requested an AT device as an accommodation from your employer?

Yes No

Not Applicable to me

If yes, answer 25, If no, go to question 26

25. What was the **outcome when you requested a device** from your employer? (Select as **MANY** as applicable)

I got the device
My requested was denied
Referred to California Department of Rehabilitation
Referred to someone for an evaluation
Employer paid for all of it
I was asked to pay part
Employer said I had to buy it myself
Other

26. How did you acquire the AT devices you use at work? (Select up to **THREE**)

 Employer Health Insurance Donated California Department of 	 Self-pay Not applicable Other Rehabilitation
27. How well have AT device	es helped you at work? (Select ONE)

□ Not at all □ Very little	Average	A lot	Immensely
Not applicable to me	-		-

Please answer this question if someone else paid for your device(s).

28. If you changed jobs tomorrow, could you take the devices paid for by your employer, Department of Rehabilitation, or someone else from your current job to another job? (Select **ONE**)

Yes	🗌 No	Not sure	Not applicable
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This question is for anyone to answer.

29. If you had to **choose what MOST limits you from working** to your fullest ability, it would be: (Please rank the top 3 reasons with 1 being the most limiting and 3 being the least limiting)

- ___My disability
- __Lack of jobs
- Lack of education
- ___Problems with self-esteem
- ___Lack of assistive technology
- ___Attitudes of employers/the public
- ___Access in general to get in and around places
- ___Poverty, lack of financial stability
- ___Fear
- ___Potential loss of benefits / health coverage
- Communication Barriers
- Lack of transportation
- ___I do not feel limited
- __Other__

30. Did you know that employers can qualify for incentives to help pay for AT needed at work? (Select **ONE**)

🗌 Yes 🛛 🗌 No

31. Please answer this question if you use AT when working or volunteering; if not, please go to the next question. In the last month, the **use of AT in my work/volunteering has resulted** in (Mark **ALL** that apply)

a. Improved productivity Somewhat Yes No b. More paid work hours Yes Somewhat No c. Better attendance Yes Somewhat No d. Improved self-esteem Yes Somewhat No If you **do not have devices now, but might in the future please continue** by answering the following questions. Current users of AT devices should also answer.

32. Would you be willing to pay a share of the cost if it would speed up the process of getting the AT you need?

Yes, if I had the money No Don't know

33. How much would you be willing to spend if you had to pay for AT out of your own pocket? (Select only **ONE** range please.)

🗌 \$1 - \$99	\$1600 - \$2000
\$499 \$100-	More than \$2000
🗌 \$500 - \$999	Not applicable
🗌 \$1000 - \$1500	Don't know

TO HELP US UNDERSTAND THE ANSWERS TO THIS SURVEY WE NEED TO KNOW INFORMATION ABOUT PEOPLE WHO FILLED OUT THE SURVEY. WE NEED SOME INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR PERSONAL SITUATION.

34. Select **ALL** that apply:

I am a parent of children under 18

] I am providing care for my own parents

I am providing care for an adult with disabilities over 18

A family member provides attendant care for me

Paid caregivers (attendants and others) provide services to me

I provide my own care

35. Select the **ONE** answer that **best describes** your living situation this month:

I live independently by myself

I live with at least one other person (roommate, spouse, child)

I live with family (parents or adult relatives)

I live with a live-in caretaker

I am homeless

I live in a group home or supervised living environment

] I live in an institution or nursing home

None of the above

You may write in an answer that describes your situation best:

36. What is your Zip Code? _____

37. Select the **ONE** answer that best fits you:

🗌 Male 🗌 Female	Transgender	Intersexed
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38. Race & Ethnicity: (Select as many as apply)

White
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
Black/African American
Asian
American Indian/Alaska Native
Hispanic/Latino/a
Other, please specify
Decline to State

39. Select **ONE** category for your education level:

1-8 years
9-12 years without diploma
High school diploma or GED
Some college but no bachelor's degree
College graduate
Graduate or professional degree

40. Please estimate annual income for your entire <u>household</u> in 2004, by selecting **ONE** category:

Less than \$5,000	\$35,000-\$49,999
5,000-\$9,999	\$50,000-\$69,999
\$10,000-\$14,999	\$70,000-\$89,999
\$15,000-\$19,999	🗌 \$90,000 or more
\$20,000-\$24,999	Decline to state
\$25,000-\$34,999	🗌 Don't know

41. What is the **main source** of your income? (Select up to **TWO**)

Employment
Self-employment
Pension/Retirement
Federal government funding (SSI, SSDI TANF)
Student Financial Aid
Personal/family wealth
Inheritance
Child support
Insurance settlement for injury
Workers Compensation
Don't know
General Assistance
Other

42. What best describes your major activities in 2004? (Check up to **TWO** areas)

In school
] Working
Volunteering
Advocacy
Parenting
Keeping house
Developing independence
Caring for myself
Caring for others
] Hobbies and leisure activities

43. This question is for people that **no longer work**, **but did in the past**. If you used to work, but don't any longer, is it because of: (Select **ONE**)

	quired a	disability	or it	got
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worse

Normal retirement

Early retirement

] My disability benefits prevent me from working

44. How old are you today?

	18-24	25-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75-84	85+
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45. At what age did you first start having any difficulty or activity limitation?

Since birth	Under 18	18-44 [45-54	55-64	65-74
75-84	85+				

46. Which of the following statements apply to you (Check all that apply)

I am blind	
I have low vision	
I am Deaf	
I am hard of hearing	
I don't speak	
People have trouble understanding me when I speak	
I can't get around without help or equipment	
I have trouble walking or am limited in mobility	
I have mental retardation	
I have a developmental disability	
I have a learning disability	
I have a mental health or psychiatric disability	
I have some other type of disability Specify:	

The Community Research for Assistive Technology project would like to **thank you** for taking our survey. By filling out this survey, you are helping us get one step closer to understanding the gap in Assistive Technology for persons with disabilities.

A website (<u>www.atnet.org</u>) has also been developed to provide information about the AT Network. The AT Network website also provides articles on Assistive Technology and allows individuals to search online for Assistive Technology and services. Individuals can also receive information concerning Assistive Technology services and resources by calling the AT Network's Information and Referral Service at (800) 390-2699 or through its TDD line at (800) 900-0706. The AT Network can also be reached by fax at (916) 325-1699 and e-mail at <u>info@atnet.org</u>. Please fill out this form to receive your \$20.00 gift. Two self-addressed postage paid envelopes have been provided. Mail the completed form in the first envelope. In the second envelope, mail your completed survey. This helps us to maintain your confidentiality. If no envelopes are attached, please send to:

CFILC/AT Survey 1029 J Street, Suite 120 Sacramento, CA 95814

If you would like to receive the \$20.00 gift, please provide your name and mailing address below:

Street Address or P.O. Box: _____

City: _____

State:	Zip Code:	

IMPORTANT REMINDER: You may take this survey <u>only ONE time, and</u> <u>only ONE check will be issued per person!</u> You will receive your check from CFILC within 7 days of mailing. Checks will be mailed until monies run out.