



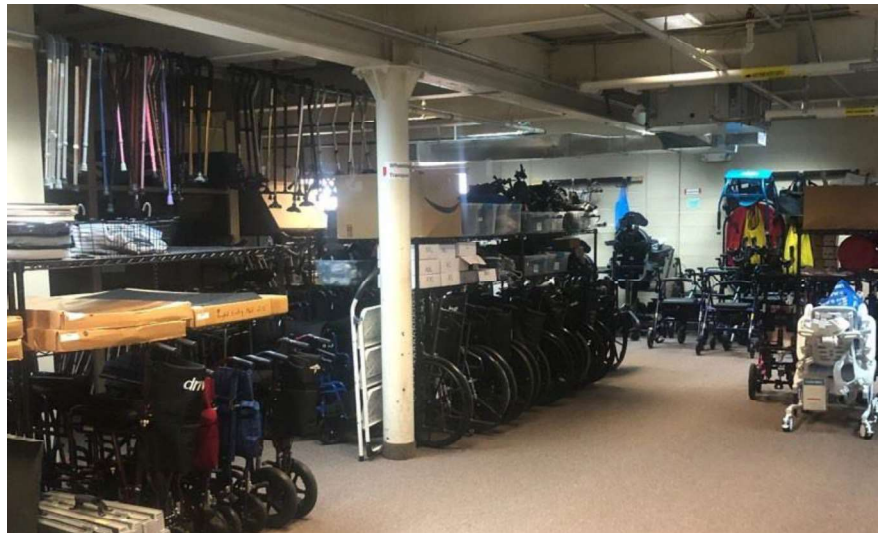
### **What is TRAIID?**

The Technology Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Program, or TRAIID, is a federally funded program administered by the NYS Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs (Justice Center.) Twelve Regional TRAIID Centers are located throughout the state.

TRAIID's goal is to promote greater independence in the lives of people with disabilities of all ages by using Assistive Technology (AT) devices to improve an individual's everyday functional abilities in education, employment and community living. TRAIID serves individuals of all ages and disabilities across the state.

### **What is Assistive Technology?**

An assistive technology device is any item, piece of equipment, or product system, whether acquired commercially, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities. Devices can be as simple and low-tech as a modified toothbrush handle to something as complex and high-tech as a voice-activated computer system and software.



### **What types of services does TRAIID offer?**

TRAIID provides assistive technology devices (AT) for people to borrow, similar to a library. A local TRAIID center can loan AT devices on a short-term basis (generally up to 60 days), to allow an individual to see if it will be a good match for their needs, while learning more about the device. All borrowed devices must be returned so the TRAIID can clean, update, and loan it out to other borrowers who will benefit from trialing the device.

The TRAIID staff can also provide demonstrations of different AT devices, so an individual

can compare and contrast options that may work best for their needs.

TRAID staff can offer trainings and technical assistance on various AT topics like funding options, transition planning, accessibility considerations, advocating for AT in service plans, and more.

TRAID does not provide financial loans or purchase devices for people to keep.

### **Who can benefit from TRAIID services?**

TRAID serves individuals of all ages and all needs. Anyone can contact a TRAIID Center with questions about services and to borrow equipment including:

- Individuals with Disabilities
- Family Members
- Disability Service Providers
- Educators
- Employers



### **What documentation do I need?**

Some specialized equipment might require documentation, for example an Alternative Augmentative Communication Devices (AAC) should have recommendations from a Speech Language Pathologist to ensure that the borrower is using the device correctly. Each piece of equipment is unique, your local TRAIID Center staff can provide more information on specific policies.

### **Does TRAIID accept old equipment that is no longer needed?**

TRAID is often able to accept new or lightly used equipment, so that it can be redistributed to individuals in the community who can use it. It is unable to accept medical devices like CPAP machines or large items like hospital beds. Equipment must be in decent working condition or need minimal repairs. Each TRAIID Center has its own protocols for donations, so please contact your local TRAIID Center to learn more about what items they accept.

**To contact your local TRAIID Center please click [here](#)**