



State of Connecticut
Department of Developmental Services

Ned Lamont
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DDS

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Commissioner

Elisa Velardo
Deputy Commissioner

Notice of Opportunity

Assistive Technology/Enabling Technology/Remote Supports Qualified Providers - CCH, CLA, CRS, IHS

The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) is currently accepting proposals for Qualified Providers interested in receiving grants to fund **Assistive Technology (AT)** to benefit individuals who are currently supported by DDS and are living in a **Community Companion Home (CCH)**, **Community Living Arrangement (CLA)**, **Continuous Residential Supports (CRS)** or **who are residing independently with In Home Supports (IHS)**. Grants will assist with the procurement and utilization of Assistive Technology (AT), hardware, software, equipment, and internet connectivity* to enhance access to virtual supports and services including the development of remote supports. Grants may also include training, assessments, environmental modifications/adaptations designed to increase accessibility, safety and independence. The intent of the grant is to support and advance the creative use of AT to enhance independence and virtual interpersonal and community participation for individuals with intellectual disability.

***Internet Connectivity- May include: Broadband /Internet or cellular services provided at fair market value for the purpose of access to activities related to achieving documented person-centered goals & objectives. Internet services shall be capped at \$50.00 per month per residential setting for a period of up to one year, based on fair market value in CT.**

This opportunity is only available for providers that have been qualified by DDS to provide supports to individuals with intellectual disabilities. Qualified Providers interested in this opportunity should include the following information in their proposals to the department:

I. Descriptions of Specific Utility / Statement of Need:

- A) Type and location of Residential setting.** Please include specific programmatic and/or environmental considerations for the use of AT.
- B) Potential technology needs and hardship due to lack of AT.** Please include specific person-centered considerations for enhancing the health, safety, and/or autonomy of the proposed user(s).
- C) Proposed AT Equipment and name of vendor.** This may include the following items but is not limited to: Hardware; software; environmental modifications/adaptations; specialized durable AT products; or auxiliary items.

D) Proposed AT service(s) and name of vendor. This may include services such as: Assessment/Evaluations; Installation Services; Remote Supports; or On/Off-Site Training.

E) Cost of proposed AT equipment or services. (*Internet services shall be capped at \$50.00 per month per residential setting for a period of up to one year, based on fair market value in CT.*)

II. Rationale/ Program Parameters/ Intended Outcomes/ Longevity

A) How AT will enhance independence for the individual(s) supported. (Please be specific by providing measurable programmatic goals and potential outcomes, including duration & frequency, where applicable).

B) How AT will enhance the health & safety of the individual(s) supported. (Please be specific by providing measurable clinical /safety/ health related goals and potential outcomes).

C) Transition plan for introduction of AT. (Please be specific by providing measurable projected transition goals and potential outcomes, identifying duration & frequency, where applicable).

D) Funding plan on how these supports will be maintained once the grant ends. (Please be specific by providing projected measurable funding plan outlining how temporary or (one-time) costs, as well as on-going costs will be maintained, where applicable).

E) Fade plan for staff supports. (Please be specific by identifying projected measurable titration outcomes, including duration & frequency, where applicable).

Awardees will be expected to participate in follow-up analysis and reporting, as well as sharing the use and impact of the products or services awarded ([AT Survey Form](#)). In addition, select awardees may be expected to act as ambassadors for the use of AT.

Questions regarding this opportunity may be directed to Patricia Cymbala at patricia.cymbala@ct.gov. All questions must be received in writing via e-mail by June 8th, 2022. Answers will be posted to the DDS website in a [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document by June 17th, 2022.

Amendment Extended Time:

Proposals to this opportunity must be submitted via e-mail to Patricia Cymbala at patricia.cymbala@ct.gov by July 8th, 2022. Funding will be awarded by July 22th, 2022. Awardees must purchase equipment or subscribe to approved service no later than October 28th, 2022.

Respectfully,

Amy M. Blazawski, MSW, LCSW, CESP

Director of Services Development & Support - Self Determination / Assistive Technology State of CT, Department of Developmental Services