Implementing Trials with Assistive Technology

In order to determine which assistive technology will work effectively for a student, that student must have an opportunity to try the assistive technology. In some cases, a brief trial during a short visit with one of the team members reveals an effective solution. More typically, a longer trial of several days, weeks, or in some cases, months is necessary. Whether the trial is short or long, documenting the student's performance while they try the assistive technology is critical.

Included are two planning tools that can help the team as they prepare for a more extensive trial with one or more assistive technology devices. The Assistive Technology Trial Use Guide is a form that guides the team through a sequence of important questions that must be addressed prior to implementing trial use of assistive technology and after the trial.

WATI Assistive Technology Trial Use Guide

Student: _____ Age: _____ Placement/Classroom: _____

AT to be trialed: _____ Length of trial: _____

If trial is successful, we expect to see the student be able: _____

_____

Acquisition of AT for Trial:

Source of the AT to be Trialed	Person Responsible	Date(s) Available	Date Received	Date Retuned

Operation and Training:

Person primarily responsible to operate (or learn to operate) this AT: _____

Others to be trained	Nature/Content of Training Required	Date Begun	Date Completed

Management/Support:

Locations where AT is to be used	Support to be provided (e.g. set up, trouble short, recharge, program, etc.	Person Responsible And Contact Information

Student Data from AT Trial:

Date	Time Used	Location	Task(s)	Outcome(s)

WATI Assistive Technology Trial Use Summary

Student _____ Age _____ Date Completed _____

Person(s) Completing Summary _____

Task Being Addressed During Trial _____

Criteria for Success _____

AT Tried	Dates Used	Criteria Met?	Comments (e.g. advantages, disadvantages, preferences, performance)

Recommendations for IEP: _____