

TECHNOLOGY FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS (ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY)

Policy 363.3

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The District recognizes that students with disabilities and other students with special needs may require assistive technology devices and/or services to help them benefit from their educational program and achieve related standards and goals.

The District shall provide students with disabilities with special education and related services, based on their individualized education programs (IEP), as required by law. A student's need for assistive technology shall be determined on a case-by-case basis. If the IEP team determines that a particular assistive technology device and/or service are needed in order for the student to benefit from his/her education program, it will be included in the student's IEP.

For purposes of this policy and its implementation, an "assistive technology device" means any item, piece of equipment or product system, whether acquired commercially off the shelf, modified or customized, that is used to increase, maintain or improve functional capabilities of students with disabilities. "Assistive technology service" means any service that directly assists a student with a disability in the selection, acquisition or use of an assistive technology device.

Those students having special needs but not requiring a formal IEP according to law (for example, migrant students, homeless students, students living with poverty and English language learners); will also be considered for assistive technology devices and/or services on a case-by-case basis.

Legal References:

Wisconsin Statutes

Section 115.787(3)(b)5 [IEP development; required to consider assistive technology needs]

Federal Laws

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act [programs and services for students with disabilities]
Enhancing Education through Technology Act of 2001 (Title II, Part D) [educational technology plans, including state-required policies addressing technology concerns for students with special needs]

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