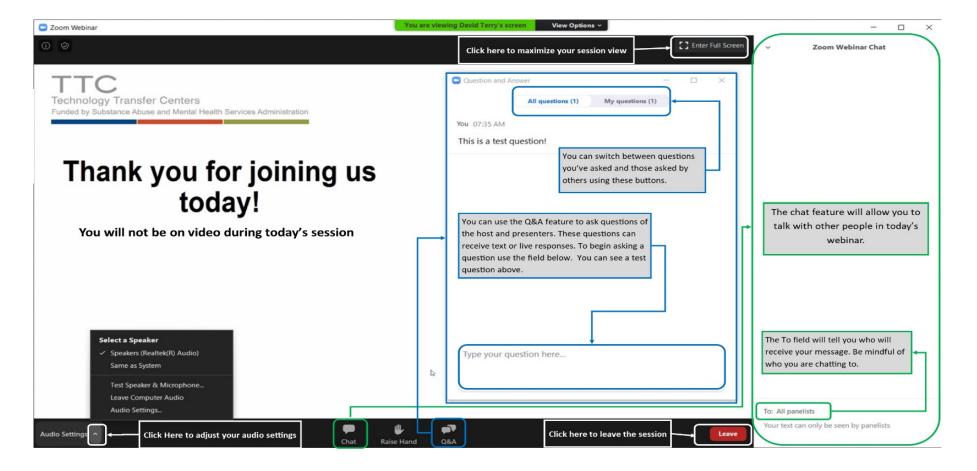
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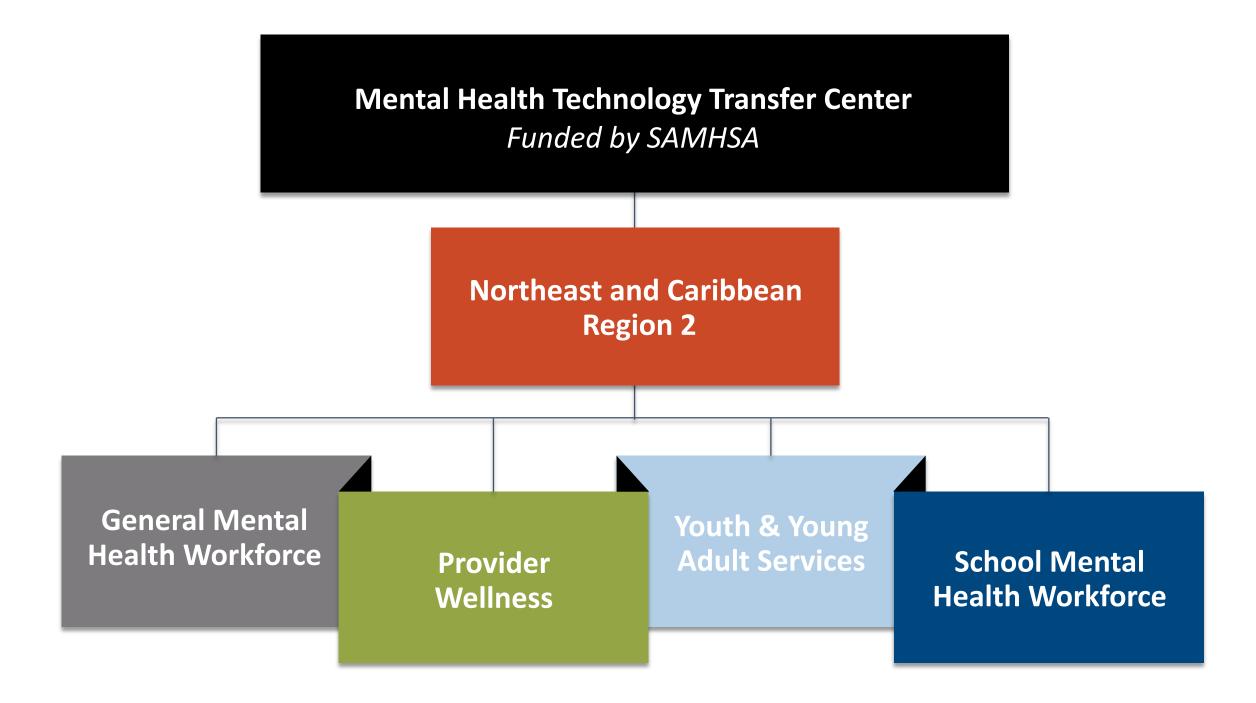
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Assistive Technology for Students with Mental Health Conditions in Post-Secondary Education Settings: Tools for Eliminating Barriers and Optimizing Success

> Amy Banko and Joni Dolce Department of Psychiatric Rehabilitation and Counseling Professions Rutgers School of Health Professions

9/14/23







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Northeast and Caribbean (HHS Region 2

Mental Health Technology Transfer Center Network Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

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Please Note:

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At the time of this presentation, Miriam Delphin-Rittmon served as Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use at SAMHSA. The opinions expressed herein are the views of the speakers, and do not reflect the official position of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), or SAMHSA. No official support or endorsement of DHHS, SAMHSA, for the opinions described in this presentation is intended or should be inferred.

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Question and Answers

- Q & A will occur at the end of the call.
- Type your questions in the Q & A feature in Zoom located on the task bar (hover over task bar).
- Note: your question is visible to all participants.

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988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

For people experiencing:

- Suicide, mental health, substance use crisis
- Emotional distress
- People concerned about someone in crisis

The MHTTC Network uses affirming, respectful and recovery-oriented language in all activities. That language is:

STRENGTHS-BASED AND HOPEFUL

INCLUSIVE AND ACCEPTING OF DIVERSE CULTURES, GENDERS, PERSPECTIVES, AND EXPERIENCES NON-JUDGMENTAL AND AVOIDING ASSUMPTIONS

INVITING TO INDIVIDUALS

PARTICIPATING IN THEIR

OWN JOURNEYS

PERSON-FIRST AND

FREE OF LABELS

RESPECTFUL, CLEAR AND UNDERSTANDABLE

HEALING-CENTERED AND TRAUMA-RESPONSIVE

CONSISTENT WITH OUR ACTIONS, POLICIES, AND PRODUCTS

Adapted from: https://mhcc.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Recovery-Oriented-Language-Guide_2019ed_v1_20190809-Web.pdf

Meet Today's Presenters



Amy Banko Rutgers University Lecturer



Joni Dolce Rutgers University Assistant Professor

Before we get started...

- What comes to mind when you hear Assistive Technology?
- Are there types of Assistive Technology that you might use in your personal and professional life that you are comfortable sharing?
- How have these AT tools assisted you?



Objectives

- Define supports, assistive technology, and accommodations in the post-secondary setting
- Explore the types of accommodations and assistive technology used to improve performance in post-secondary school settings.
- Observe a demonstration of assistive technology
- Apply resources and skills through service conceptualization.



Different Types of Supports for College Students

Natural Supportsfamily, friends, coworkers **Community Supports**libraries, public transportation, place of worship, adult education classes

Formal Supportspublic/private agencies that assist individuals with disabilities

Accommodations

Assistive Technology

Accommodations...



include changes to the application process to ensure an equal opportunity to apply for program enrollment, changes that enable a student with a disability to perform the essential functions of the academic program, and changes that enable a qualified student with a disability to enjoy equal benefits and privileges of the program (e.g., access to training).



may include specialized equipment, modifications to the work environment or adjustments to work schedules or responsibilities.



are determined by looking at how the condition interferes with performing the critical skills needed (essential functions) in the environment.

What are accommodations?

• Modifications or adjustments to the tasks, environment or to the way things are usually done that enable individuals with <u>disabilities</u> to have an equal opportunity to participate in an academic program or a job (U.S. Department of Education, 2007).



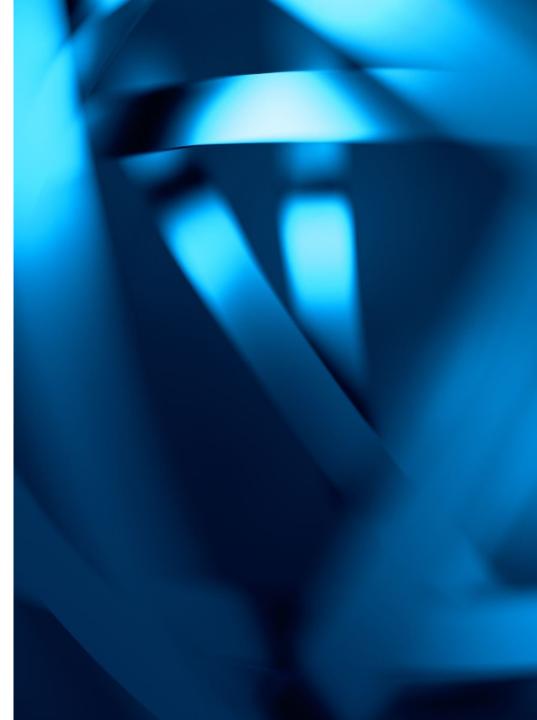
How do we develop accommodations?



Identify need: must be need based



Identify essential functions/technical standards



Examples of Accommodations/Adaptation

- Change in class schedule
- Extra break, segmented breaks
- Headphones/noise canceling headphones
- Job coach
- Memory cues such as labels or color coding
- Ergonomic workstation
- Smart pen
- Screen readers

Two Types of Accommodations

- Informal
- Formal









Executive Functioning and College Students

Accommodations & Assistive Technology





The Richard West Assistive Technology Advocacy Center (ATAC) of Disability Rights New Jersey

Overview and Demonstration



Assistive or Adaptive Technology

• Commonly refers to "...products, devices or equipment, whether acquired commercially, modified or customized, that are used to maintain, increase or improve the functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities..."

•

Assistive

Technology Act of 1998

Assistive Technology for Students with MHCs



Assistive Technology can be used for...

- visual impairment
- deafness and hearing loss
- speech and language impairments
- mobility limitations
- learning difficulties
- mental health conditions
- neurological disorders

Resource:

http://www.workwithoutlimits.org/employers/ra/at

Categories of Assistive Technology

- Communication Aids
- Computer Access Aids
- Daily Living Aids
- Education and Learning Aids
- Environmental Aids
- Ergonomic Equipment
- Hearing & Listening Aids

- Mobility & Transportation Aids
- Prosthetic & Orthotics
- Recreation & Leisure Aids
- Seating & Positioning Aids
- Vision & Readings Aids
- Services

Auxiliary Aids Some of the various types of auxiliary aids and services may include:

- taped texts
- note takers
- interpreters
- readers
- videotext displays
- television enlargers
- talking calculators
- electronic readers
- Braille calculators, printers, or typewriters
- telephone handset amplifiers
- closed caption decoders
- open and closed captioning

- voice synthesizers
- specialized gym equipment
- calculators or keyboards with large buttons
- reaching device for library use
- raised-line drawing kits
- assistive listening devices
- assistive listening systems
- telecommunications devices for deaf persons.

Assistive Technology for Post Secondary Students





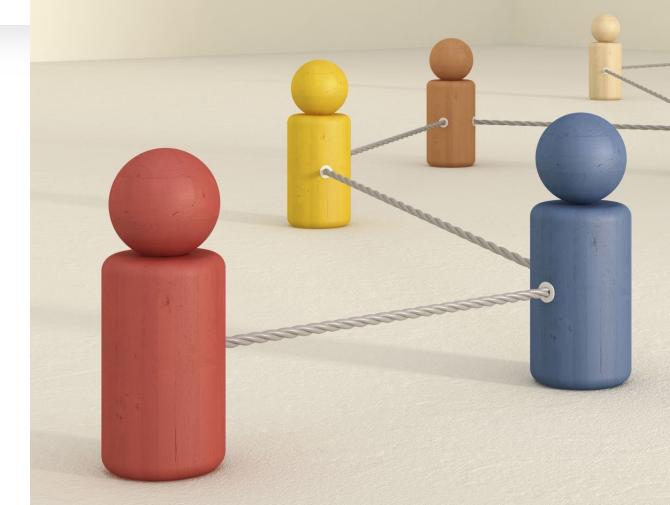
Putting it Together

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Ic2WcPDFTFnl WIr4tJ7ZWQYT19O-eIVp4JgYzIeaz1I/edit

SEd Service Conceptualization

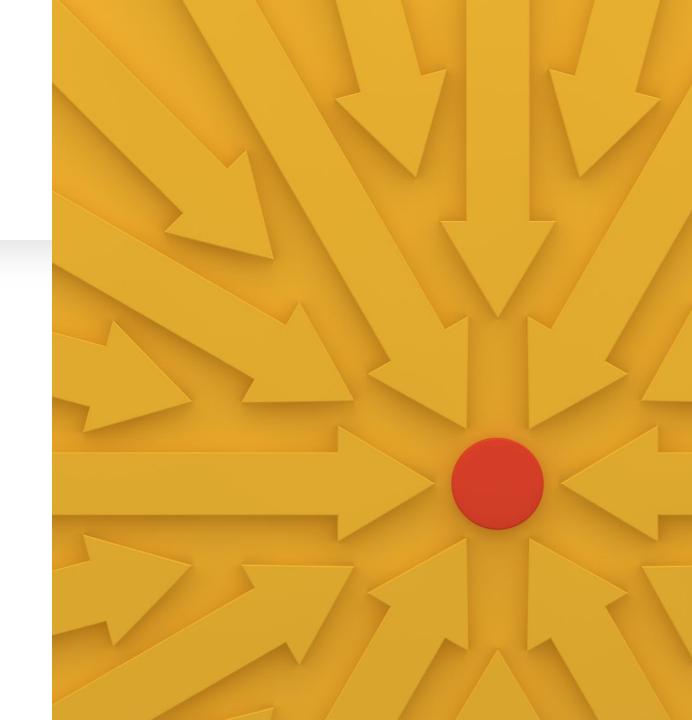
- Breakout groups
- Using the Service Conceptualization form, identify one person you are working with and review the questions with your group members.
- After time is up, report back to the larger group.

NO NAMES or OTHER IDENTIFYING INFORMATION



Resources

- <u>The Richard West Assistive Technology</u> <u>Advocacy Center (ATAC) – Assistive</u> <u>Technology Act in NJ (at4nj.org)</u>
- Advancing Opportunities Technology Lending Center: <u>https://www.assistivetechnologycenter.</u> <u>org/</u>
- Center for Assistive Technology & Inclusive Education Studies: <u>https://caties.pages.tcnj.edu/</u>
- Job Accommodation Network
 - (800) 526-7234 or <u>http://askjan.org</u>
- Americans with Disabilities Act
 - (800) 514-0301
 or <u>https://www.ada.gov/</u>



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Questions or Comments?

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The purpose of the MHTTC Network is technology transfer - disseminating and implementing evidence-based practices for mental disorders into the field.

Funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the MHTTC Network includes 10 Regional Centers, a National American Indian and Alaska Native Center, a National Hispanic and Latino Center, and a Network Coordinating Office.

Our collaborative network supports resource development and dissemination, training and technical assistance, and workforce development for the mental health field. We work with systems, organizations, and treatment practitioners involved in the delivery of mental health services to strengthen their capacity to deliver effective evidence-based practices to individuals. Our services cover the full continuum spanning mental illness prevention, treatment, and recovery support.

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