# Vocational Rehabilitation Services Manual C-200: Technology Services

Revised July 1, 2022

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## C-202: Assistive Technology Unit Services

The mission of the Assistive Technology Unit (ATU) is to work in partnership with Texas Workforce Commission Vocational Rehabilitation (TWC-VR) customers who have a primary disability of vision loss and with staff to provide AT evaluations to help VR customers identify which AT products will best meet their educational and vocational goals.

In addition to providing AT evaluations, ATU tests and trains the contracted AT services training and evaluation providers, reviews new AT products, and maintains the information resources that AT services providers use to deliver services to VR customers.

### C-202-1: Referral to the Assistive Technology Unit

VR counselors must contact the employment assistance specialist (EAS) for an initial consultation before referring a customer for an ATU AT evaluation. Once the EAS consultation report or basic consultation report is entered into ReHabWorks, the VR counselor sends a service record to ATU for an AT evaluation.

### C-202-2: Services

#### Evaluation

An ATU evaluator shows a customer products listed in specific categories based on the recommendations in the EAS or basic consultation report to help the customer determine which technology most effectively meets his or her vocational and educational needs. An AT evaluation usually lasts two to three hours.

### C-202-3: Prerequisites for Evaluation

An EAS consultation report or basic consultation report is required for all referrals to ATU except for referrals to evaluate stand-alone and portable video magnifiers.

### C-202-4: Follow-Up

The ATU evaluator enters a case note titled Report—Equipment Recommendation which contains specific AT recommendations with proper justification, as appropriate.

An AT Evaluation Report may include recommendations for specific AT training for products that the customer selects in the AT evaluation. VR purchases AT services, including evaluation and training from contracted AT services providers.

For information on AT evaluation and training available from providers to help customers succeed at work, school, and/or in vocational training, refer to the [VR Standards for Providers Chapter 9: Assistive Technology Services for Customers with Visual Impairments](https://twc.texas.gov/standards-manual/vr-sfp-chapter-09).

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