



## RESNA Assistive Technology Professional Certification

*A Global Standard. Professional Recognition*

**RESNA**

## RESNA ATP Certification

The Assistive Technology Professional (ATP) Certification was developed by the Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America (RESNA) as a way to instill quality assurance offered by professionals who support people with disabilities.



ATP certification is a clear way to identify professionals who have expertise in helping people with disabilities select the proper assistive technology that meets their needs, such as persons in need of wheelchairs, access to computers, aids for communications, etc. The ATP Certification recognizes professionals who have reached an internationally accepted standard of knowledge in assistive technology, promoting RESNA's code of ethics and highest ethical standards.

### Why Become ATP Certified

Certified individuals have found that undergoing the ATP Certification process not only increased their confidence, but gave them more credibility among their employers, co-workers, consumers and funding sources. There are other benefits to becoming ATP certified, some of which include:

- Professionals with different educational and practice backgrounds can communicate with a common language and understanding about assistive technology (AT).
- There is a process of adjudication to protect the public and other members of the broad field of AT when a certificant is in violation of a standard of practice or code of ethics.
- New employment opportunities, greater earning potential, and career advancement.
- Requirement of ongoing continuing education and work experience promotes current knowledge and practice.
- Certification provides a basis for trusting a certificant's work.
- Certification promotes best practices in the field.

### Certification Requirements

To become certified as an Assistive Technology Professional, you must be approved for and pass a 200-item examination that tests competency in the broad field of assistive technology practice. Suggested resources on [www.RESNA.org](http://www.RESNA.org) in the Certification section, under the Resources link, will help you prepare for the exam.

In order to take the exam, candidates must first meet both the Educational and Work Experience Requirements for one of the combinations listed on the RESNA website.

*Over 4,000 rehabilitation engineers, occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech and hearing pathologists, suppliers, educators and other professionals have successfully received their certification.*

### The Process

The certification process allows professionals in AT to evaluate their strengths and weaknesses, reviewing the principles and standards of assistive technology in a two-step process:

**Application:** successful completion of the certification application demonstrates that a candidate meets the minimum requirements for certification.

**Written Exam:** The exam tests the candidate's knowledge of assistive technology, concepts, tools and code of ethics. The exam cover basic principles on 10 main areas:

- Psychology and Sociology
- Human Anatomy, Physiology, Kinesiology and Biomechanics
- Basic Etiologies and Pathologies
- Learning and Teaching
- Assessment Procedures
- Service Delivery Systems and Funding for Assistive Technology
- Design and Product Development
- Basic Product Knowledge of Assistive Technology Devices
- Integration of Person, Technology and the Environment
- Professional Conduct

*"My RESNA Certification has provided me a sizeable marketing advantage with key user groups like the Muscular Dystrophy Association, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis and Spinal Cord Injury support groups. With all of the changes in the rehab equipment environment, people need to know they are working with credible vendors. The RESNA certification provides me with that credibility!"*

**Ryan D. Martin, OTR, ATP**  
Seating and Mobility Specialist  
United Seating and Mobility

*"RESNA is an excellent tool that provides me with education, mentorship and networking in the area of assistive technology. The people and programs have helped me to strengthen my career and broaden my knowledge of assistive technology. I am excited to be a part of RESNA and share knowledge as we continue to strengthen our profession's involvement in the field."*

**Theresa F. Berner, MOT, OTR/L, ATP**  
Rehabilitation Team Leader  
The Ohio State University Medical Center

## **About RESNA**

RESNA is a non-profit professional organization whose members serve people with disabilities seeking technology applications to maximize their ability to function in their environment. RESNA's membership consists of researchers, clinicians, suppliers, manufacturers, consumers and educators who work in nonprofit and for-profit companies. In addition to the ATP certification, RESNA also offers a Rehabilitation Engineering Technologist (RET) certification for engineering professionals.

All members are dedicated to promoting the exchange of ideas and information for the advancement of assistive technology.

For more information on the ATP certification, visit [www.resna.org](http://www.resna.org)



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