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RE: Certification of Assistive Technology Providers

Persons with a disability can benefit in many ways from the use of assistive technology to help facilitate independent living, employment, recreation, education, and to help manage medical risks. For these persons, access to technology can be critical, but acquiring technology can be expensive and time-consuming. Provision of inappropriate technology leads to technology abandonment, waste, and user dissatisfaction. It is important to have a way to identify qualified persons who specialize in evaluation or supply of assistive technology services and devices, and who can provide the necessary training on their use.

RESNA, the Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America, has developed two credentials that recognize a demonstrated level of competence in Assistive Technology.

ATP: for service providers primarily involved in evaluation of a consumer's needs, fitting, and training in use of a particular device
ATS: for service providers primarily involved in the sale and service of commercially available devices.

The customer, whether an end user, an insurance company, or a government agency, can have confidence that an individual certified through RESNA offers the following:

- 1) Education and experience required to meet eligibility criteria
- 2) Demonstrated knowledge of assistive technology, as shown by passing the credentialing exam
- 3) Professionalism and ethical practice, as prescribed by RESNA Standards of Practice
- 4) Professional oversight by the RESNA Professional Standards Board

Individuals certified by RESNA are listed in a directory of credentialed providers and earn the right to use the initials ATP or ATS to designate their certification.

Attached is detailed information regarding RESNA's credentialing program and the Standards of Practice. A Candidate's Information Bulletin, which outlines the certification process in greater depth, is available by contacting the RESNA office, or by visiting our website. Should you have any questions not answered in the attached material, feel free to contact the RESNA office:

Phone: (703) 524-6686 ext. 300
Fax: (703) 524-6630 Attn: Credentialing Program
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