

Accessibility for Everybody in the Information Age

At AT&T, we're committed to connecting people to the world around them — to connecting **everybody** with their world, **everywhere** they live, work, and play. And **we're committed to connecting everybody better than anyone else.**



According to the FCC, people with disabilities could realize opportunities “perhaps more than any other group of Americans” from access to new technologies.¹ We're proud of our record and our efforts, and we look forward to the opportunity to continue to serve people with disabilities with an array of exciting, innovative products and services.

Millions of Americans live with disabilities and rely on technology in their daily lives.



57 million people live with disabilities in the U.S.² **50% of adults 65 or older** live with disabilities.³



78% of people with disabilities use the internet for health information, according to the PEW Research Center.⁵



More Americans with disabilities — **an additional 29%** — would join the workforce if telecommuting were a viable option.⁴

79% of caregivers can access the internet — the vast majority (88%) of these people look online for health information.⁶

AT&T leads the way in working to serve people with disabilities.

In 2012, AT&T launched our Corporate Accessibility Technology Office (CATO) to help make all our products and services accessible to people with disabilities.

- AT&T's CATO works with the disability community, manufacturers, and AT&T business units to incorporate accessibility technology in product design and development.
- AT&T's CATO conducts outreach campaigns to educate people with disabilities and their caregivers on accessibility features in wireless devices.
- In 2017 alone, AT&T's CATO processed nearly 6,100 submissions for accessibility review, and had over 1,500 accessibility impacts.



AT&T works hard to provide features and services that help people with disabilities.

- In 2016, we took TV-viewing to the next level with the **DirecTV Talking Guide** feature, which allows audio output that improves the television experience for people with visual disabilities.
- AT&T's **Digital Life** platform — a wireless-based home security and automation service — helps support safe, independent living for people with disabilities and older adults. Our **Digital Life** platform has features like sensors to alert caregivers about a patient's activity and detectors that can automatically shut off water near a flooding bathtub or sink.
- We support **"Universal Design"** to consider accessibility and usability in the design and development of new communications products and services.

AT&T aggressively solicits input on accessibility issues through relationships with leading members of the disability community serving on the [AT&T Advisory Panel on Access and Aging](#).

AT&T proactively seeks to hire people with disabilities into the AT&T workforce.

- AT&T is a leader in *The 5,000 Initiative: Autism in Tech Workforce*, which seeks to employ 5,000 people on the autism spectrum in technology positions by 2020.

AT&T is recognized for our efforts to improve accessibility for people with disabilities.

At AT&T, we're honored that the National Organization on Disability (NOD) and other leading groups have recognized AT&T for our efforts to improve accessibility for people with disabilities. Some of these awards and certifications include:

- *Leading Disability Employer Seal™*, National Organization on Disability (2017).
- *Top 50 Employer*, [Careers & the disABLED](#) (2017).
- National Business Inclusion Consortium *Best-of-the-Best Corporation List* (2017).
- *100% Disability Equality Index*, U.S. Business Leadership Network (2017).
- *Disability-Friendly Company*, [DIVERSEability Magazine](#) (2017).
- *Disability Matters Award*, Steps to Success (2016).
- *Marketplace Innovator of the Year – Disability Inclusive Advertising/Marketing*, U.S. Business Leadership Network (2016).
- Key staff of AT&T's Corporate Accessibility Technology Office (CATO) conferred as *Certified Professionals in Accessibility Core Competencies*, International Association of Accessibility Professionals (2016).



1. Federal Communications Commission, Inquiry Concerning the Deployment of Advanced Telecommunications Capability to All Americans in a Reasonable and Timely Fashion, Second Report, CC Docket No. 98-146, 15 FCC Rcd 20913, 21000 (2000); 2. United States Government, Census Bureau (2010 Census Data); 3. United States Government, Census Bureau (2010 Census Data); 4. Anita Shafer Aaron, The Hill, The Growing Benefits of Broadband for Americans with Disabilities (Jul. 28, 2010) (available at <http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/technology/111481-the-growing-benefits-of-broadband-for-americans-with-disabilities>); 5. PEW Research Center, Profiles of Health Information Seekers (Feb. 1, 2011) (available at www.pewinternet.org/2011/02/01/profiles-of-health-information-seekers); 6. PEW Research Center, Family Caregivers Online (Jul. 12, 2012) (available at <http://www.pewinternet.org/2012/07/12/family-caregivers-online>).

