

September 2022

## Assistive Devices for the College Student

**Christopher Reeve**, known for his Superman roles in the 70's and 80's was an American actor, director, activist, and disability activist, once said,

*“A hero is an ordinary individual who finds the strength to persevere and endure in spite of overwhelming obstacles.”*

One of the main objectives of the NASNTI grant program is to focus on helping students in the classroom. For starters, NASNTI has established an Access Lab on campus to provide flexible access to computers equipped with assistive devices and software for students who identify with a disability. What is an assistive device?

According to the Organization for Autism Research, you might find assistive technologies helpful if you need extra help academically in college, whether with taking notes in class, writing a paper, or studying for a test. Assistive technologies include devices or programs that help people with challenges related to their disabilities.

During the fall 2022-2023 academic year, NASNTI will offer assistive devices to students who identify with a disability to help them with their courses. What classifies a student with a disability?

According to the ADA National Network, an organization that supplies information, training, and guidance regarding the Americans with Disability Act, states, *ADA defines a person with a disability as a person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities*. During spring 2023, join the NASNTI staff in the grand opening of the Access Lab! View accessibility devices and tools available to make your academic journey successful!

### Assistive Technology Devices used in the NASNTI Access Lab



#### Kensington Expert Mouse Trackball

Designed for PCs and Mac's, the Expert Mouse employs optical technology for smooth, precise, cursor movement!



#### Seat Boost

This easy uplift cushion helps you safely get up and sit down!

NASNTI is 100% federally funded in the amount of \$450,000 annually.

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## NASNTI Assistive Technology Device Loaner Program

NASNTI will strengthen support for online students with disabilities by training faculty and staff in best practices, implementing/offering new assistive devices and technology, and redesigning foundational courses.

Throughout the five years, the program will also develop and pilot new services, resources, and opportunities to promote holistic student development that will support students' persistence through college and prepare them for their next steps in higher education and, ultimately, their careers. As an initiative, NASNTI has established a device loaner program.



### The Livescribe Symphonic Pen **AVAILABLE Spring Semester 2023!**

With the Livescribe Symphony Smart Pen and Livescribe + mobile app, simply write in the Livescribe notebook and watch it instantly appear on your tablet or smartphone. This smartpen delivers the traditional benefit of pen and paper along with the augmented value of an instant backup, easily shareable content, and the ability to transcribe handwriting into notes. Notes become infinitely more useful when they are tagged, organized, searchable, or even converted to text. You can also easily add recorded audio that's synced with your handwriting to relive important moments. *(Image from Livescribe)*

Visit your Brightspace page and click on Livescribe Symphony Pen to gain an in-depth look at the Livescribe Symphony Smart Pen!

## How to Take Care of Your Device

**Do not** leave assistive technology devices unattended.

**Do not** leave assistive technology devices in cars.

**Do not** leave assistive technology devices in plain view in homes or leave them in an unlocked home or garage.

**Do** leave assistive technology devices in locked cabinets or locked offices within school buildings.

**Do** keep assistive technology device information password-protected (if applicable).

**Protect** from liquids or dampness and extreme temperatures (i.e., do not leave in a truck or car for long periods of time).