

## AT Assessment – Program Change Highlights 2021

ESDFVR aims to advance our AT Assessments, through Early Intervention and private payors, by expanding this service to offer formal communication assessments, extended observation/ trials of light hierarchy, feature analysis matching for 3 extended trials of individualized high tech communication devices in order to effectively integrate the optimal communication system into the child’s natural environments by providing training to the child’s therapy team and caregivers via remote and in center service delivery options.

### Overview of AT Evaluation Services Offered through Easterseals DFVR: Then and Now

Early Intervention Definition of Assistive Technology Services	ESDFVR 2020 AT Assessments offer:	ESDFVR 2021 AT Assessments offer:
The assessment of the needs of a child with a disability, including a functional assessment of the child in the child’s natural environment	Yes	Yes
Purchasing, leasing, or otherwise providing for the acquisition of AT devices by children with disabilities;	No	Yes, trial/leasing as recommended
Selecting, designing, fitting, customizing, adapting, applying, retaining, repairing, or replacing AT devices	Yes – Selecting and fitting only	Yes
Coordinating and using other therapies, interventions, or services with AT devices, such as those associated with existing education and rehabilitation plans and programs.		Yes
Training or technical assistance for a child with a disability or, if appropriate, that child’s family		Yes
Training or technical assistance for professionals who provide services to children with disabilities through Early Intervention Program		Yes

\*Ch. 7 pg. 1 Illinois Department of Human Services; Division of Family and Community Services; Bureau of Early Intervention . (2016). And pg. 2 Illinois Department of Human Services; Bureau of Early Intervention - Assistive Technology CFC. (2007).

ESDFVR 2021 AT Assessment Flowchart

<b>Initial Assessment</b>		
<b>Comprehensive Assessment:</b> 2 sessions  (Evaluation)	<b>First Session – LVV</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In home observation and parent interview</li> </ul>	ST/OT – 60 Minutes
	<b>Second Session – In center</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Formal assessment of language and communication skills and feature matching</li> </ul>	ST/OT – 60 Minutes  (EI Auth Total - 180 minutes with write-up)
<b>Recommendations Determined by Eligibility Criteria</b>		
<b>Communication Solutions Options</b>  (Diagnostic Treatment)	<b>Does Not Meet Criteria</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No Further AAC Recommended</li> </ul>	Report includes therapy recommendations: No additional skilled AAC services requested
	<b>Communication Solutions for Language Growth and Play Solution for Access</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Non-Digital Communication Hierarchy</li> <li>Identify Language and Vocabulary Repertoire</li> <li>Identify Access method for digital play</li> </ul>	1-episode skilled AAC treatment recommended <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>diagnostic therapy of non-digital communication hierarchy</li> <li>4-8 sessions – ST</li> </ul>
	<b>Communication Solutions for Language Growth and Play Solution for Access Plus Digital Solutions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Non-Digital Communication Hierarchy</li> <li>Identify Language and Vocabulary Repertoire</li> <li>Identify Access method for digital play</li> <li>Feature Matching for Speech Generating Device</li> </ul>	2 episodes of skilled AAC treatment recommended <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1<sup>st</sup> episode                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>diagnostic therapy of non-digital communication hierarchy</li> <li>4-8 sessions – ST</li> </ul> </li> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> episode                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 one-month trials per device                                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>required to compare 3 speech generating devices</li> </ul> </li> <li>12 sessions – ST</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Consultation</b>		
<b>Team Meeting</b>	<b>Training Communication Partners</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Train team members about communication solution to integrate system into natural environment</li> </ul>	IFSP – 30 minutes