# Assistive Technology “Maker” Activities

More and more State AT Programs are including AT “maker” activities in their State Plan for Assistive Technology (AT) and reporting such activities in their Annual Performance Report (APR). AT maker or fabrication activities are typically conducted as a State Financing Activity and in some unique situations as a Reuse activity. This document provides an overview of AT maker and fabrication activities within the context of state level AT Act activities and data reporting.

## AT Maker Activities Defined

State AT Programs engaged in AT “maker” activities where a finished product is made/fabricated and provided to a consumer to meet an AT need are conducting an “acquisition” activity.  Making and providing the AT device for no cost or for less than a similar manufactured device would cost (e.g. just charging for materials) is a way for the consumer to acquire the device.

## AT Maker Data Reporting

Most frequently the consumer that acquired the made AT will own it and that data should be reported in Other State Financing that creates Savings.  There is a drop-down choice for “AT fabrication or AT maker program” for this activity in the Annual Progress Report.

It is possible that a consumer acquires made AT with the understanding that it should be returned to the program when it is no longer needed by the consumer.  In that case, the acquisition event can be reported under reuse (open-ended loan).

The same basic AT data savings data is reported for either Other State Financing that Results in Savings or Reuse with an estimated retail price of a comparable product to that which is being fabricated/made, along with a sale price (or costs for the fabrication material) and a calculated savings amount.  In some cases, the AT Program may need to identify multiple similar devices and average to estimate the retail price.

Regardless of how AT maker activities are reported (as Other State Financing or Reuse) **the same acquisition performance measure data is collected.**  Detailed instructions along with the forms to be used for collecting acquisition performance measures using OMB approved language can be found on page 44 of the [State Grant for AT Annual Progress Report (APR) OMB approved Dec 2017](https://catada.info/assets/files/State-Grant-for-AT-Annual-Progress-Report-APR-OMB-approved-Dec-2017.pdf).

State AT Programs should be a consistent as possible in how AT Maker activities are reported in the APR across fiscal years. If the activities can be reported as Other State Financing please do so as that is the most appropriate mechanism for reporting these activities.

*Last updated March 2020*