Rhode Island Tech Support

The ATEL Program is looking to both **improve** **access** and **acquisition of technology**, to individuals with disabilities, which include most of our elderly, but also making sure that there are opportunities to receive **Tech Training** around the state both in person and virtual.

In addition to free Tech Training from **ATEL Tech Time**, we offer around the state. We also provide FREE landline or wireless devices (tablets or smartphones) to RI residents that have a hearing, speech or neuromuscular disabilities and meets an income criterion.

Tech Time

Technology has changed so much over the past few years that now instead of needing a special piece of equipment, there is an App for that, or a built in Accessibility Feature that can make smartphones or tablet benefit almost everyone. However, many older adults may need more training than their younger counterparts due to several challenges they may experience with using technology. ATEL Tech Time is a program focusing on helping to bridge the digital divide of older adults and individuals with disabilities.

We do trainings at Libraries, Senior Centers, Senior Housing, and public spaces; if you are aware of a location that needs support, please contact the ATEL Program at (401) 486-3325.

Classes are taught in English, but with advance notice, we can provide interpreters.

https://ors.ri.gov/programs/adaptive -telephone-equipment-loan-program- atel

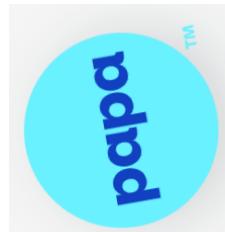Many of Rhode Island's Libraries and Senior Centers provide in person Tech Support:

Link to RI Libraries:

https://oslri.org/library-locator/

Link to RI Senior Centers:

https://oha.ri.gov/what-we- do/connect/senior-resource-centers

You may be eligible to use a company called Papa Pals that provides "in home" member support companion care services and support for everyday needs, **including tech support** with your smart devices, to Medicare Advantage, Medicaid, and Special Needs Health Plan members.

Check with your health plan or employer for eligibility and learn how Papa can help you. Qualifying members may enroll by calling Papa directly at (888) 303-5071.

https://www.papa.com/

If you are an older adult looking for tech help, call us toll-free at 844-217-3057, where train volunteers are standing by to answer their tech questions and to help them sign up for online training classes.

Book a 45-minute one-on-one phone call with a young person to get help with your device. A volunteer will call you at the date and time you have chosen.

- Sign up for daily webinars.
- Register online for a group session or one on one tech support.
- Access the over 1200 training tutorials.

Classes are taught in English, Spanish, and French.

https://cyberseniors.org/free-tech-help/

SCAN THE QR CODES FOR INFORMATION ON VIRTUAL TECH SUPPORT, ONLINE CLASSES, AND WEBINARS

(These programs are not affiliated with ATEL but great resources for tech training).

SENIOR PLANET
FROM AARP

Senior Planet is about much more than the latest gadgets, apps, and websites. We are a nonprofit organization that brings older adults together. Our free classes, articles, videos, and activities help seniors learn new skills, save money, exercise, make new friends, and so much more. Here's what you can explore daily with Senior Planet:

- Online classes
- In-Person classes
- Original articles for older adults
- Our social media platform Senior Planet Community – exclusive to seniors
- Additional resources, like tech tip videos, how to use Zoom, and more!

GetSetUp

Rhode Island Office of Healthy Aging has a statewide partnership with GetSetUp. Their mission is to help those over 55 learn new skills, connect with others and unlock new life experiences. The social learning platform helps over 4.6 million older adults in 160 countries stay mentally and physically fit, creates economic opportunities through jobs and reskilling, and provides a community where people find meaning and purpose by sharing their knowledge and passions and forming new connections.

Classes are taught in English, Spanish, Hindi, and Mandarin.

GetSetUp is now available to Rhode Island residents aged 55+, you can access these services by visiting:

https://getsetup.io/partner/ri