



## ***Is It Semantics or Is There a Difference between an Assistive Technology (AT) Evaluation and an Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) Evaluation?***

Absolutely, there is a difference!

Assistive Technology (AT) is an umbrella-term that includes any equipment or process that is used to improve the capabilities of children with disabilities. AT can be low-tech, or high-tech in nature, taking many forms from a simple pencil adaptation to a sophisticated computer and software system.

Under the AT umbrella is Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC), which is a subset of AT focusing on methods of communication for those students with speech-language impairments. AAC systems can be as basic as a picture-exchange system, or an advanced computerized communication device.

The simple question to answer is, “Does my student struggle with ACCESS to the curriculum or COMMUNICATION within the classroom and school environment?”

The Assistive Technology Program Team at P.G. Chambers School can help you decide by reviewing your student’s existing

- Communication skills
- Organizational strategies
- Keyboarding and computer skills
- Speech intelligibility

For more information on the topic, [Contact us.](#)