

Reading Resources for Those in Need

Your New York State Library
Offers Solutions



Talking
Book and
Braille
Library
(TBBL)



A free library
of braille and
audio materials
circulated to
eligible borrowers



New
York State
Library

nysl.nysed.gov/tbbl

New York State Talking Book and Braille Library (TBBL)

An Overview of Services

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Learning Outcomes

- Understand the Talking Book and Braille Library and its mission to eliminate barriers to reading and encourage lifelong readers
- Empower eligible individuals to apply for and receive free, alternate format reading materials, and long-term loans of assistive technology devices
- Greater familiarity with TBBL services/materials and ability to help individuals apply for TBBL service.



Eligibility for Service

Print Disability

Inability to use standard text due to:

- ❖ Visual impairment
 - ❖ Low or declining vision
 - ❖ Blindness
- ❖ Physical conditions
- ❖ Perceptual disorders such as reading disabilities, dyslexia
- ❖ May be temporary or permanent

Competent Authority Certification

- ❖ Librarians and Library associates
- ❖ Doctors, optometrists, ophthalmologists, nurses
- ❖ Therapists
- ❖ Professional staff of hospitals, institutions, and public or private welfare agencies
- ❖ Educators, social workers, case workers, counselors, rehabilitation teachers
- ❖ Certified reading specialist, school psychologist, superintendent

Individuals Apply for Service

- ❖ Apply using our library application, English or Spanish
- ❖ Under 18 requires a signed Parental Acknowledgment Form
- ❖ Certified by Competent Authority
- ❖ Submit application to TBBL by email, fax, or mail



That All May Read –Books for All



- ❖ Fiction and nonfiction titles
- ❖ Books in over 40 languages
- ❖ Music appreciation and scores
- ❖ Braile on **D**emand program
- ❖ Popular magazines in audio or braille
- ❖ Materials added weekly
- ❖ TBBL does not lend textbooks

Equipment to meet Individual needs



Refreshable Braille
eReader



Digital Talking Book
Machine



BARD Mobile App

Receive Materials through BARD

- ❖ BARD, Braille and Audio ReadinG Download
- ❖ Access to thousands of audio and braille books, magazines, and music scores available from NLS
- ❖ Download through a computer or mobile app
- ❖ No waitlists
- ❖ No loan periods – Read at your own speed
- ❖ New books added weekly
- ❖ Accessible platform





What Differentiates Our Services

- ❖ Stay at home to receive service. No need to go to the library.
- ❖ Physical items shipped free via U.S. mail
- ❖ No waiting or holds, even on popular titles
- ❖ Navigable audiobooks
- ❖ No fines or shipping costs
- ❖ Long term lending – Keep items for as long as you like.

Additional Resources

1

NFB-NEWSLINE - A free audio service for those who cannot read standard newsprint. Newsline offers access to newspapers, magazines and other news resources. Available in audio and eBraille formats. TBBL Reader Services can sign patrons up for this service.

2

Bookshare - Access to **textbooks**, bestsellers, children's books, career resources, and more for individuals with reading barriers. Books available in e-book, audio, and braille formats. **Free** for all patrons of Heiskell & TBBL.

3

Learning Ally - Textbooks and other educational materials in audio format for students (kindergarten through post-graduate studies) with print disabilities. There is an annual fee to use the service.

4

Resource Center at the NYS School for the Blind and Visually Impaired – Assists with requesting textbooks in braille or large print for eligible students.

5

WMHT-RISE - Twenty-four hour radio reading service for those who cannot read standard newsprint.

How can TBBL benefit your work?

- ❖ Institutional accounts for schools, libraries, and more
- ❖ Identify children who need our services
- ❖ Suggest our resources to enhance lifelong learning
- ❖ Help families fill out the application for their child
- ❖ Facilitate use of resources between school and child
- ❖ Call on us for presentations or outreach opportunities



Thank you for taking the time to learn about the NYS Talking Book and Braille Library(TBBL) – Questions?

Contact us:

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- TBBL: tbbl@nysed.gov
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Find our blog: <https://nyslibrary.libguides.com/blogs/tbbl/news>