

Talking Books

The library circulates a varied collection of books and magazines on audiocassettes. Special cassette players are provided free of charge.

Braille

Braille books are available from the library collection. A special children's collection includes books combining print and braille so that blind and sighted readers may share them together.

Large Print

Large print books for readers who cannot easily read conventional-size print are available for browsing and checking out.

Deposit Collections

Deposit collections of large print, braille and cassette books may be loaned to libraries, schools, senior centers and long-term care facilities throughout the state.

Recording Service

The library produces audiobooks that encompass a wide variety of subjects. Special attention is paid to patron requests, Northwest topics and authors, and books for special programs.

Braille Service

Locally brailled books emphasize children's books and books about the Northwest and by Northwest authors. The library collections actively promote braille literacy for both adults and children. Special in-house materials have been designed for this purpose.

Radio Reading Service

Information of immediacy, such as newspapers, grocery ads, shopping news, magazines and special news for those who cannot easily read regular print, is provided in Puget Sound and most of Eastern Washington. Special radio receivers are provided free of charge. Access is also available via Web streaming.

Reference

The library offers disability-focused reference service to patrons and the public.

Youth Services

The library has a large collection of books in all formats for children and teens. A Youth Services Librarian is available to assist young patrons, families and schools. Special materials promote braille literacy and family reading. In the Orrico Children's Room, library visitors can explore sample materials and a collection of special needs and parenting information. A by-mail summer reading program is available for kindergarten to grade six.

Who Is Eligible?

Those eligible for this service include children and adults who are legally blind, deaf-blind, visually impaired (cannot easily read conventional-size print), physically disabled (cannot comfortably hold books or turn pages), or learning disabled due to organic dysfunction.

Online Access

Patrons connected to the Internet can find out about all the books in the library's collection. The online catalog is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The library's Web site: www.wtbbl.org

What Is the Cost?

All equipment and services, including the mailing of materials, are free to eligible users. The federal government (Library of Congress) supplies materials and equipment, the state of Washington provides basic operating costs, and the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) through the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) also provides funds. The Office of the Secretary of State administers the Washington Talking Book & Braille Library.

WASHINGTON STATE LIBRARY



Washington
Secretary of State
SAM REED



2008

Gifts

The library welcomes donations from corporations, foundations, service organizations and individuals. Call the library for more information.

Volunteers

More than 400 people donate over 30,000 hours each year to assist in making various library programs available. In addition to braille and taping books, volunteers provide clerical services, produce radio programs, repair equipment and cassette tapes, and carry out special projects.

How Can Eligible Individuals Get Services?

For additional information:
Washington Talking Book & Braille Library
2021- 9th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98121-2783

Seattle: (206) 615-0400
TTY: (206) 615-0418
Toll free outside Seattle dialing area:
Voice: (800) 542-0866
Fax: (206) 615-0437

E-mail: wtbbl@secstate.wa.gov
Web site: www.wtbbl.org

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