Benefits of Braille

Texas Education Code (TEC), Section 30.002 requires that the individualized education program for *any* student with a visual impairment must include instruction in braille and the use of braille, *unless* the student's Admission, Review, and Dismissal (ARD) committee determines and documents that braille is not an appropriate literacy medium for the student.

The committee's determination must be based on a current evaluation of the student's appropriate literacy skills and the student's current and future instructional needs. The determination of a student's literacy medium is an ongoing process, as a student's needs may change over time.

Braille instruction benefits students for whom braille is the appropriate medium in the following ways:

- Braille supports development of accessible and efficient reading and writing.
- Braille allows the student access to the same written materials in the classroom as sighted peers.
- Braille supports instruction in correct written language usage, such as structuring sentences, spelling, formatting paragraphs, and editing.
- Braille literacy can be crucial for future employment and success**.**

After reviewing _____ 's Learning Media Assessment (LMA) conducted on _____ , the ARD committee has determined that instruction in braille (circle one) **IS** or **IS NOT** an appropriate literacy medium for this student at this time. Based on the evaluation:

Students may use multiple literacy formats. Check all that apply:

> **Braille instruction** is a necessary component of this student's literacy program.
>
> **Print instruction** is appropriate, as student's speed and accuracy with print meets current and future literacy needs. Student reads _____ font at _____ words per minute for _____ minutes.
>
> **Braille and print instruction** will both be necessary components to include in this student's literacy program.
>
> **Other tactile forms** of literacy are appropriate at this time (for example, tactile symbols, objects):
>
> **Other non-tactile forms** of literacy instruction are appropriate at this time given student's age or abilities (examples - pictures, auditory access):