



TEXAS STATE LIBRARY  
AND  
ARCHIVES COMMISSION

### **What is the Texas Talking Book (Audio Book) Program?**

The Talking Book Program is a free library service for people unable to read standard print because of a visual, physical, or reading disability. The Talking Book Program (TBP) is a division of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Since 1931, TBP has participated as a regional library of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, a division of the Library of Congress.

### **Who is eligible?**

Anyone with a valid Texas address who is unable to read standard print because of a visual, physical, or reading disability.

Eligible veterans receive priority service.

### **What does it cost?**

Nothing. All TBP services and the use of playback equipment are free, including return postage.

### **What formats are available?**

Books and magazines come in various formats, including: Downloads to a computer, transferable to a flash memory cartridge or thumb drive; Books and magazines in Braille, audio, and large print format are also available by mail.

### **How long can I keep books checked out?**

You may borrow books for 45 days.

### **How do I get books?**

Two ways. First, select from the 80,000 books and 50 magazines, complete an order form, and send it in. Second, talk with a Reader Consultant who can suggest other books as well as help order books and answer questions.

### **I speak and read Spanish better than English. Can I use Talking Books?**

Yes. Some TBP staff members speak both Spanish and English. TBP's Web site, applications, and newsletters are in both languages. Many books and some magazines are available in Spanish.

### **What kinds of books to do you have?**

Many. TBP has both fiction and non-fiction books in many categories including: mystery, romance, western, science fiction, history, biography, cookbooks, how-to books, and nutrition.

### **Can you help with other issues related to my disability?**

Yes. The reference librarian at the Disability Information and Referral Center can answer questions about health and disability issues. Call toll-free at 1-800-252-9605.

### **How do I get started?**

Complete an application and send it in. TBP will call you to set up an account. To learn more, contact the Talking Book Program.

- Call toll-free 1-800-252-9605
- Web site [www.TexasTalkingBooks.org](http://www.TexasTalkingBooks.org)
- Email: [tbp.services@tsl.texas.gov](mailto:tbp.services@tsl.texas.gov)