



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 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
- Email: tbp.services@tsl.texas.gov