Idaho
Talking Book Service (TBS)

An Overview of Services
TBS Program Supervisor
LeAnn Gelskey

Shipping Receiver Handler
Linda Cash

Volunteer Services Coordinator
Colleen Clark

Office Specialist
Nancy Holt
Who is Eligible for Service?

Individuals who are unable to read standard print due to:

- Blindness
- Visual Impairment
- Physical Disability
- Reading Disability
Individuals Apply for Service

Application Approval Certified by Competent Authority

- Librarians and library staff
- School counselors and teachers
- Ophthalmologists
- Social Workers and Activities Directors
- Medical Professionals
Eligibility for Loan of Library Materials
Please note that all fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.
To be eligible for the Idaho Talking Book Service, you must have a condition preventing you from reading standard printed material. If you qualify, please check one:

- Legally Blind - Visual acuity is 20/200 or less in the better eye with correcting glasses, or widest diameter of visual field subtends an angular distance no greater than 20 degrees.
- Visual Impairment - Needing aids other than regular glasses for reading standard printed materials.
- Physical Impairment - Unable to turn pages or hold a book for extended periods of time.

The above conditions must be certified by one of the following: Librarian, Doctor of Medicine, Doctor of Osteopathy, Ophthalmologist, Optometrist, Nurse, Nurse Practitioner, Therapist, or a professional of a hospital, institution, or social welfare agency.

☐ Reading Disabled - Having a reading disability resulting from an organic brain dysfunction preventing the reading of printed matter. For more information regarding this category, call 1-800-458-3271 or visit https://www.loc.gov/nls/about/eligibility-forms/talking-books-reading-disabilities/

A reading disability must be certified by a Medical Doctor or a Doctor of Osteopathy who may consult with colleagues in associated disciplines.

To Be Completed By Certifying Authority
(Cannot be certified by a family member)

*Name of Certifying Authority  *Title and Occupation

*Street  *City  *State  *Zip

*Telephone Number  Email

I certify that the applicant named has requested library service and is unable to read or use standard printed material for the reason indicated above.

*Signature of Certifying Authority  *Date

The Idaho Talking Book Service is brought to you by the Idaho Commission for Libraries, the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.
Service Options

Books, Magazines, Materials, and Equipment
Please check the box provided for any of the following items and/or services that you wish to receive. Check one or more:

- Audio Player
- Audible Books
- Audio Magazines
- Headphones
- Download audio and/or braille books and magazines (BARD)
- Braille books and/or magazines
- Newsline (Free access to current local and national newspapers)
- Talking Book Service newsletter format:
  - Large type
  - Audio
  - Electronic/Email notification

Service Type—Check all that apply
- I wish to receive a replacement for each book I return.
- I wish to request from the Library’s catalogs. Format:
  - Large type
  - Audio
  - Online
- I will contact the library when I wish to receive books.

Referral: Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired
The Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired provides FREE services to blind and visually impaired residents of the state.

- Yes
- No
- I would like a representative of the Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired to contact me to explain their services.

Loan Policy Agreement
A player will be supplied to you as long as it is being used for audio materials provided by the Idaho Talking Book Service. To remain active, users must borrow at least one book a year or be subscribed to a magazine provided through the service.

I agree to abide by the loan policies of the Idaho Talking Book Service; a copy will be provided.

*Patron Signature ____________________________ Date __________

According to Public Law 89-522, blind and other physically handicapped persons who have been honorably discharged from the armed forces of the United States must receive preference in receiving NLS materials and equipment.

Reading Preferences
To have audio books selected for you, please check the types of books or subjects you prefer, or use the space below to write in your reading interests.

Listening/Reading Comprehension Level:
- K-3 grade
- 4-6 grade
- Junior/Senior High
- Adult

Fiction
- Adventure
- Animal Stories
- Classics
- Family (Single, Multi Generation)
- Fantasy
- Gothic
- Historical: Time Period __________________
- Historical Romance
- Holiday
- Mysteries
- Mysteries (With a Detective)
- Northwest & Idaho
- Occult and Horror
- Pioneer
- Religious Fiction
- Romance
- Science Fiction
- Sea Stories
- Spy Stories
- Suspense
- War Stories: Era __________________
- Westerns

Non Fiction
- Astronomy & Aviation
- Biography & Autobiography
- Business & Career
- Cooking & Housekeeping
- Contemporary Issues and Politics
- Crime and True Detective
- History: Time Period: __________________
- Humor
- Inspirational
- Movies, Radio, and Television
- Native American Interest
- Northwest & Idaho
- Poetry
- Psychology & Sociology
- Religion __________________
- Science: Area __________________
- Self Help
- Sports: Sport __________________
- Travel
- War: Era __________________

Other Subjects, Authors, or Series: __________________

Sacred Texts
- The Bible
- The Book of Mormon
- The Torah
- The Quran

I wish to receive books in the following languages:
- English
- Spanish
- Other

I do not wish to receive books that contain:
- Strong Language
- Violent
- Sex
- Foreign Accents

For Staff Use: # of BKs ___________
Pleas send: ICBV Referral ___
Catalogs: TST ___________
Magazine List ___
How do you know when to send me books?
Institutions

Institutions serving current and prospective patrons can become members. Institutions include:

- Public Libraries
- Schools and School Libraries
- Colleges and College Libraries
- Healthcare facilities
Oh fantastic! We can send you some applications in the mail, or you can go to our website and print them there.
What Happens Next?

• TBS staff registers the new applicant and contacts the new patron, answers any questions
• Patrons receive our Welcome Packet and library materials
• Customer Service Representatives are available to help!
Formats to Meet Individual Needs

- Audio books and magazines on cartridge
- **BARD**: **B**raille and **A**udio **R**eading **D**ownload
  - Download books & magazines in audio and e-braille
Equipment to Meet Individual Needs

- Talking Book Player
- NLS High-Volume Player
- Headphones
- Breath switches
- Download accessories
Reading Materials to Meet Individual Needs

- Books and magazines
- Variety of fiction and nonfiction
- Books in multiple languages
- Music appreciation and scores
- Materials added weekly
- TBS does not lend textbooks
Receive Materials through BARD

- Access to thousands of audio and braille books, magazines, and music scores available from NLS
- Download through a computer or mobile app
- Titles available immediately
- No loan periods
- New books added weekly
- Accessible platform
Download books through Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD)

Compatible with BARD:

- Commercial players are compatible with BARD
- Refreshable braille display
- Braille note-taker
- Media player
Receive Materials through Mail

• Materials are sent based on reading levels and preferred genres or authors.

• Patrons can select specific titles by submitting requests through our online catalog or by contacting our library directly.

Books ship for free through the U.S. Postal Service
Learn about New Titles

The NLS produces two bimonthly publications that provide a small sampling of the new audio and braille titles added to our collection:

• Talking Book Topics: highlights audio books
• Braille Book Review: highlights braille books
NFB NEWSLINE

A free audio service for those who cannot read regular newsprint. Newsline offers access to newspapers, magazines, and other news resources.
How can public libraries connect their community members to The Talking Books?

- Display Promotional materials
- Demo equipment
- Demo BARD account
- Online catalog log-in
- Promote through library websites and social media
Thank you to our partner.
Questions / Comments

208-334-2150
800-458-3271

https://libraries.idaho.gov/tbs/