

Services for Persons with Print Impairments

Special library services funded by the Illinois State Library make it easier for persons with print impairments to access vital information.

Talking Book Program

- The Talking Book and Braille Service provides a tax-supported audio and braille library service via mail or digital download to any Illinois resident who is unable to read standard print material due to a permanent or temporary visual or physical disability.
- The Library of Congress provides free braille and audiobooks and playback equipment.
- More than 154,000 titles — some in foreign languages — are available, including best-sellers, light fiction, westerns, classics and nonfiction. Around 100 magazine titles are also available with new titles continually added to the collection.
- More than 17,000 patrons in Illinois will read nearly 700,000 books this year. Anyone who is permanently or temporarily unable to hold or read regular print material comfortably due to a physical or visual disability is eligible for the service, regardless of age. Registered patrons also may borrow descriptive videos and old-time radio shows. Contact the Illinois State Library Talking Book and Braille Service for more information (see reverse side).

Illinois Radio Information Service

- Radio Reading Services in Illinois are supported in part by grants from the Illinois State Library, a division of the Office of the Secretary of State.
- Eleven stations in Illinois provide current information from local newspapers. Free closed-band receivers allow patrons to listen to broadcasts of local news, grocery ads and other information not available through the Talking Book program. For more information, contact any customer service center or visit www.ilbph.org.

NFB-Newsline®

- The Illinois State Library Talking Book & Braille Service, in cooperation with the National Federation for the Blind, sponsors NFB-NEWSLINE®. This service provides subscribers toll-free access to audio versions of more than 300 newspapers, including the "Chicago Tribune," "Sun-Times" and the "Daily Herald," from any touch-tone telephone anywhere in the United States.
- Free and available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, NFB-NEWSLINE® allows readers to select the newspapers and articles they want to hear.

The Illinois State Library Talking Book & Braille Service, Radio Information Services and NFB-NEWSLINE® are free to eligible Illinois patrons.

For more information or to register, please call the Talking Book & Braille Service at 800-665-5576, opt. 1.

Contact the Illinois State Library

Talking Book & Braille Service

800-665-5576, ext. 1

800-426-0709

800-757-4654

www.ilbph.org