



STATE LIBRARY OF LOUISIANA  
*in cooperation with the National  
Library Service for the Blind  
and Physically Handicapped  
of the Library of Congress*

## Application for Free Library Service: Individuals

Return application to:

State Library of Louisiana  
Service for the Blind & Physically Handicapped  
701 North Fourth Street  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802  
**1-800-543-4702**

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### Part 1: Applicant Information (Please print or type)

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Name: (First) (Initial) (Last)

Street address:

(City) (State) (Zip) (Parish)

Telephone (evening): ( ) Date of Birth

Telephone (daytime): ( ) Sex: ☐ Male ☐ Female

Contact Person: Telephone: ( )

Relationship to applicant:

☐ Please check here if you have been honorably discharged from the armed forces of the United States. By law, preference in the lending of books and equipment is given to veterans.

Indicate the disability that prevents you from reading standard printed material.  
(See eligibility criteria on page 4). Please check only one.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Blindness**                      \_\_\_\_\_ **Visual Impairment**                      \_\_\_\_\_ **Deaf-Blind**  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Physical Disability**                      \_\_\_\_\_ **Reading Disability** (must be certified by M.D.)

In addition to any of the above conditions, do you also have a hearing impairment?  
If yes, indicate degree of hearing loss.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Moderate**—some difficulty hearing and understanding speech  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Profound**—cannot hear or understand speech

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## Part 2: Books, Equipment, and Accessories

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(a) You may borrow any of the following items. Check those that you wish to receive:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Books on tape and a cassette player (plays 2 and 4 track cassettes)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Braille Books      \_\_\_\_\_ Print/Braille (twin vision) Books
- \_\_\_\_\_ Large Print Books
- \_\_\_\_\_ Descriptive Videos (you must have your own VCR)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Catalogs from which to select books and magazines
- \_\_\_\_\_ Music scores and instruction. Recreational music is NOT available through this program.

(b) Special accessories for cassette players are available. Please check any you would like from the list below. Some accessories require a separate application form that will be mailed to you with further instructions.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Amplifier (only for profoundly hearing-impaired individuals).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Breath Switch (only for individuals confined to bed).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Extension Levers (for individuals who have limited use of their head and/or arms).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Pillow speaker (only for individuals confined to bed).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Remote Control Unit (only for individuals confined to bed).

Return of Equipment. Playback equipment and special accessories are supplied to eligible persons on extended loan. If this equipment is not being used in conjunction with recorded reading material provided by the Library of Congress and its cooperating libraries, it must be returned to the State Library of Louisiana, Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

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## Part 3: Reading Preferences

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(a) I do **not** wish to receive books that include the following:

- |                      |                        |                       |
|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| _____ Explicit Sex   | _____ Violence         | _____ Strong Language |
| _____ Male narrators | _____ Female narrators | _____ Long Books      |

(b) ☐ Check this box if you read English only. If you wish to receive books in other languages, list the languages: \_\_\_\_\_

(c) I wish to select my books by:

- \_\_\_\_\_ REQUESTS AND SELECTIONS. I prefer to make my own selections, but if my requests are not available, I will accept library selections from the reading categories.
- \_\_\_\_\_ REQUEST ONLY. Do not send selections. I will call to order my books.
- \_\_\_\_\_ AUTOMATIC SELECTION. Please send selections from the reading categories.

## Part 4: Reading Categories

(a) Check as many as you wish

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adventure stories      | <input type="checkbox"/> Drama                | <input type="checkbox"/> Occult, supernatural  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Animals, wildlife      | <input type="checkbox"/> Family stories       | <input type="checkbox"/> Philosophy            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bestsellers            | <input type="checkbox"/> Fantasy              | <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bible, religion        | <input type="checkbox"/> Folklore             | <input type="checkbox"/> Psychology, self-help |
| Denomination _____                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening            | <input type="checkbox"/> Romance               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biographies            | <input type="checkbox"/> Gothic novels        | <input type="checkbox"/> Science               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business, economics    | <input type="checkbox"/> Government, politics | <input type="checkbox"/> Science fiction       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Career, job training   | <input type="checkbox"/> Health               | <input type="checkbox"/> Short stories         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children's fiction:    | <input type="checkbox"/> Historical fiction   | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports                |
| reading level _____                             | <input type="checkbox"/> History-U.S          | <input type="checkbox"/> Spy stories           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children's nonfiction: | <input type="checkbox"/> History-world        | <input type="checkbox"/> Stage and screen      |
| reading level _____                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Humor                | <input type="checkbox"/> Suspense stories      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Classic novels         | <input type="checkbox"/> Music appreciation   | <input type="checkbox"/> Travel                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computers              | <input type="checkbox"/> Mysteries            | <input type="checkbox"/> War, war stories      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cooking, homemaking    | <input type="checkbox"/> Nature               | <input type="checkbox"/> Westerns              |

(b) Other reading interests or favorite authors: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(c) I would like to receive \_\_\_\_\_ books, every \_\_\_\_\_ weeks.

**Part 5: Applicant Disability Certification.** To be completed by a certifying authority. (See section B, page 4, for definitions.)

**Please print or type:**

Name of certifying professional: \_\_\_\_\_

Title and occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (       ) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that the applicant named on this application has requested library service and is unable to read or use standard print for the reason indicated on page one of this form.

**Signature\*** \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

*\*An original signature required. Copies or faxes cannot be accepted.*

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## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR LOAN OF LIBRARY MATERIALS

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**A.** The following persons are eligible for free library service:

- 1) Blind persons whose visual acuity, as determined by a competent authority, is 20/200 or less in the better eye with correcting lenses, or whose widest diameter of the visual field subtends an angular distance no greater than 20 degrees.
- 2) Other physically handicapped persons are eligible as follows:
  - (a) Persons whose visual disability, with correction and regardless of optical measurement, is certified by competent authority as preventing the reading of standard print materials.
  - (b) Persons who are unable to read or unable to use standard print as a result of physical limitations.
  - (c) Persons certified by competent medical authority as having a reading disability resulting from organic dysfunction and of sufficient severity to prevent their reading printed material in a normal manner (see below under B,2).

**B.** The following persons may certify (sign) your application:

- 1) In cases of **blindness, visual impairment, or physical limitations**, “competent authority” is defined to include doctors of medicine; doctors of osteopathy; ophthalmologists; optometrists; registered nurses; therapists; and professional staff of hospitals, institutions, and public or private welfare agencies (e.g., social workers, caseworkers, counselors, rehabilitation teachers, and superintendents). In the absence of any of these, certification may be made by professional librarians or by any person whose competence under specific circumstances is acceptable to the Library of Congress.
- 2) In the case of a **READING DISABILITY** from organic dysfunction, **competent authority is defined as doctors of medicine (M.D.) and doctors of osteopathy who may consult with colleagues in associated disciplines.**

**C.** Residency or U.S. Citizenship: Eligible readers must be residents of the United States, including the several states, territories, insular possessions, and the District of Columbia; or, American citizens domiciled abroad.

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### Lending of materials and classes of borrowers

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**Veterans.** Preference shall be given at all times to the needs of blind and other physically handicapped persons who have been honorably discharged from the armed forces of the United States.

**Institutions.** The reading materials and playback equipment for the use of blind and physically handicapped persons may be loaned to individuals who qualify, to institutions such as nursing homes and hospitals, and to schools for the blind or physically handicapped. These materials may also be used in public or private schools where handicapped students are enrolled; however, the students in public or private schools must be certified as eligible on an individual basis and must be the direct and only recipients of the materials and equipment.

**Confidentiality.** Records relating to your reading material are confidential except for those portions defined by local law as public information.