If you can’t read regular print, you can have books in alternative formats mailed directly to your door.
Eligibility for Services from Accessible Books and Library Services

Any North Carolina resident who meets one of the following criteria is eligible.

- You are legally blind, your vision in the better eye is 20/200 or less with corrective eyewear.
- You cannot see well enough or focus long enough to read standard print material.
- You are unable to handle print books, turn pages or track words on a page as a result of a physical condition even if this is temporary.
- You have a reading/learning disability that prevents you from reading standard print.
- Typical conditions meeting eligibility: blindness, macular degeneration, retinal issues, MS, Parkinson’s, arthritis, TBI, stroke, to name a few.
- Schools, nursing homes, public libraries, and other institutions serving people with disabilities also qualify for the service.

Free services to eligible patrons of all ages
The library has in excess of 100,000 titles available in Audio, Large Print, or Braille formats, and a variety of magazines available in Audio and Braille formats. Books, magazines, and NLS-provided reading devices are delivered right to your door, postage paid. Mailing costs are covered by the US Postal Service’s “Free Matter for the Blind or Handicapped” system.

NLS-Provided Reading Devices
Audio books and magazines on cartridge play only on specialized NLS-compatible playback machines, also provided at no cost.

Requesting materials
To request materials, you can call the library and speak with a reader advisor, email or mail in a request, or order online. Our reader advisors are happy to discuss your reading interests with you to tailor your service to your preferences.

How to apply
Fill out an application for service. An application can be sent to you by calling the library. You can also download the application at slnc.info/ABLS-Apply
If you need further assistance in filling out the form, call the library and a reader advisor will help you through the process.

The application must be signed by a competent authority
- “Competent authority” is defined to include doctor of medicine, doctor of osteopathy, ophthalmologist, optometrist, psychologist, registered nurse, therapist, and professional staff of hospitals, institutions, and public or welfare agencies (such as an educator, a social worker, caseworker, counselor, rehabilitation teacher, certified reading specialist, school psychologist, superintendent, or librarian).

slnc.info/ABLS-DCA

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