

**National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped**

**Please complete this application and mail to:**

West Virginia Library Commission Special Services  
Culture Center 1900 Kanawha Blvd. E. Charleston, WV 25305 For  
assistance, call 304-558-4061 or 1-800-642-8674 Fax: 304-558-6016  
Email - talkbks@wvlc.lib.wv.us If you are not a West Virginia resident, call  
1-888-657-7323 to be connected with the library serving your area.

**Please Print or Type:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City) (County) (State) (Zip)

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
(Area Code + Daytime) (Area Code + Evening)

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Gender \_\_\_\_\_ (M/F) (00-00-0000)

Please give the name of a person to contact if you cannot be reached for  
an extended period:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
(Area Code + Daytime)

\_\_\_\_ Please check here if you have been honorably discharged from the  
armed forces of the United States Indicate the primary disability preventing  
you from reading regular printed material. See definitions under eligibility  
criteria.

Check only one box.

Blindness  Physical handicap  Deaf-blindness

Visual Handicap  Reading disability

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

Moderate- Some difficulty hearing and understanding speech.

Profound - Cannot hear or understand speech.

**Note:** Records relating to recipients of Library of Congress reading materials are covered by the Confidential Nature of Certain Library Records, WV Code 10-1-22.

### **Eligibility of Blind and Physically Handicapped Persons for Loan of Library Materials:**

The following persons are eligible for the National Library Service: Residents of the United States, including territories, insular possessions, the District of Columbia, and American citizens living abroad.

- Blind persons whose visual acuity, as determined by competent authority, is 20/200 or less in the better eye with correcting lenses, or whose widest diameter of visual field subtends as an angular distance no greater than 20 degrees.
- 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 regular printed material.

(b) Persons certified by competent authority as unable to read or unable to use regular printed material because of physical limitations.

(c) Persons certified by competent authority as having a reading disability resulting from organic dysfunction and of sufficient severity to prevent reading regular printed material in a conventional manner.

**Certifying authority:**

- In cases of blindness, visual impairment, or physical limitations, “competent authority” includes 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, case workers, 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.

In the case of a reading disability from organic dysfunction, competent authority is defined as doctors of medicine and doctors of osteopathy who may consult with colleagues in associated disciplines.

**To be completed by Certifying Authority:** (Definitions are listed above)

I certify that the named applicant requesting library service is unable to read or use regular printed material for the reason indicated on this form.

Signature\_\_\_\_\_

**Please Print or Type:**

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_

Title/Occupation\_\_\_\_\_

Organization\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City/County/State/Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone\_\_\_\_\_

(Area Code + Daytime)

(Area Code + Evening)

Note: Recorded music for recreational listening is not available through this program, for assistance, call 304-558-4061 or 1-800-642-8674 Fax: 304-558-6016 Email - talkbks@wvlc.lib.wv.us If you are not a West Virginia resident, call 1-888-657-7323 to be connected with the library serving your area.

## **Lending of Materials and Classes of Borrowers:**

**Veterans:** According to PL 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 the lending of books, recordings, playback equipment, musical scores, instructional texts, and other specialized materials.

**Institutions:** Institutions such as schools, residential care facilities, hospitals, and other establishments regularly attended by blind and/or physically handicapped individuals may borrow special format reading materials and playback equipment solely for the use of persons certified as eligible, who must be the direct and only recipients of the materials and equipment provided by NLS.

### **Reading Preferences:**    Check A or B

A.  Do not select books for me. Send only the specific titles that I request.

B.  I wish to have books selected for me.

Note: If you wish to have books selected for you, the library needs information about your reading interests. Please check the types of books or subjects you prefer. You may also write your reading interests in the space provided below.

- Adventure Stories     Animals & Wildlife     Best Sellers
- Fiction     Best Sellers-Non Fiction     Bible     Biographies
- Black Concern     Business & Economics
- Children's Fiction Grade level \_\_\_\_\_
- Children's Non Fiction Grade level \_\_\_\_\_
- Christian - Fiction     Christian - Romance     Current Affairs
- Drama     Family Stories     Fantasy     Gothic Novels
- Health     Historical Fiction     History - U.S.
- History-World     Homemaking     Humor

- Inspirational  Mysteries - Cozy  Mysteries – Hardboiled  
 Mysteries - Medical  Mysteries - Police  Mysteries - Suspense  
 Occult - Fiction  Occult - Non Fiction  Philosophy  
 Poetry  Politics  Psychology  Religion  Romance  
 Science – Fiction  Science - Non Fiction  Self Help  
 Short Stories  Social Science  Sports  Technology  
 Travel  War - Fiction  War - Non Fiction  Westerns  
 West Virginia  Young Adult – Fiction  
 Young Adult - Non Fiction

**Other Preferences:** \_\_\_\_\_

Check this box if you wish to receive books in English only.  
 If you wish to receive books in other languages, list the languages

I do not wish to receive books that contain, check all that apply: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Language  Violence  Sex

**Patron Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Books, Magazines, Materials, and Equipment Accessories:**

**Please check the box provided for any of the following items and/or services that you wish to receive:**

- Books recorded on digital cartridge  
 Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) – Contact  
     Special Services for requirements  
 Braille Books  Braille Magazines

**Accessories for playback equipment:**

- Headphones - Issued solely for use where speakers are not  
     permitted.  
 Pillow Speaker - Issued solely to readers confined to bed.

## **Music Materials:**

- Music instruction on digital cartridge
- Music magazines in Braille
- Music scores in Braille
- Music scores in large print

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## **Special Services - books, magazines, newspapers and descriptive videos**

- Large print books
- Goldenseal - magazine of West Virginia traditional life
- Wonderful West Virginia - magazine about the Mountain State
- Newslines - newspaper service accessed through one's telephone
- Descriptive videos

## **Return of Equipment:**

Playback equipment and special attachments 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 West Virginia Library Commission.