

Talking Book Program

Senate Bill 2075, passed by the 86th Legislature, requires school districts to notify the parent or guardian of a student determined, on the basis of screening under TEC 38.003 or other basis, to have dyslexia or a related disorder, or determined, on the basis of reading instrument results, to be at risk for dyslexia or other reading difficulties of The Talking Book Program (TBP) maintained by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. The TBP provides free library services to qualifying Texans with visual, physical, or reading disabilities. It is part of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, a program administered by the Library of Congress. While TPB does not offer textbooks, the program does offer thousands of books that students can use at home and at school. Books are available by download to portable devices using the Braille and Audio Recording Download (BARD) service and through iOs and Android mobile apps and on digital cartridge, in Braille, and in large print. To learn more about the TBP, including eligibility requirements, please visit <https://www.tsl.texas.gov/tbp/index.html> or call toll free at 1-800-252-9605 in Texas or 512-436-5458 in Austin.

Accessible Books for Texas (Bookshare)

Accessible Books for Texas is a Benetech project funded by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) that provides on-the-ground training and support to Texas public K-12 educators, parents, and students on accessible educational materials (AIM). Bookshare is an accessible online library which has over 500,000 titles available to individuals with print disabilities. Through an award from the U.S. Department of Education Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), Bookshare offers free memberships to U.S. schools and qualifying U.S. students. For more information on Bookshare, including eligibility requirements, contact your child's school or visit <https://www.bookshare.org/cms/state/texas>.

Learning Ally

Learning Ally has over 80,000 human-narrated audio books available to students with print disabilities. The materials can be delivered through internet downloads and accessed using various mainstream and assistive technology devices. Through a contract with TEA, Learning Ally offers free memberships to Texas K-12 public and charter schools with qualifying students. For more information on Learning Ally, including eligibility requirements, contact your child's school or visit <https://learningally.org/Solutions-for-School/school-grants/Texas>.