

Kentucky Talking Book Library Branch (KTBL)

The Kentucky Talking Book Library (KTBL) provides free public library service to Kentuckians who are unable to read standard print because of visual or physical disabilities. Public library patrons who use audio or large print books may be interested in signing up for Talking Books. KTBL can provide libraries with posters, brochures, and applications, or they may be downloaded from the KTBL website.

- The Kentucky Talking Book Library (KTBL) is part of a nation-wide network of similar libraries administered by the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS), Library of Congress.
- Anyone who cannot see well enough to read standard print or who cannot hold a book and turn the pages is eligible. Some people diagnosed with reading disabilities may also be eligible. Institutions who serve eligible individuals may establish an institutional account. Libraries may establish a demonstration account to introduce prospective users to the service.
- Applicants must have their visual or physical disabilities certified by a competent authority. Librarians are considered competent authorities, along with health professionals, teachers, social workers, and government agency staff. Only medical doctors may certify reading disabilities. KTBL will be glad to provide your organization with applications to keep on hand. To receive applications, contact Barbara Penegor by email at barbara.penegor@ky.gov or by phone at 502.564.8300 ext. 282.
- KTBL provides digital audio books and Braille books, along with players and accessories necessary for playback. Other available items include Braille and audio magazines and Braille or audio music scores and music instruction.
- Reading materials can be mailed via the U.S. Postal Service, with no postage necessary.
- Registered Talking Book users may get instant access to books by downloading them from the Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) website: <https://nlsbard.loc.gov/login/KY1A>.
- Those with an iOS mobile device may use the [BARD Mobile app](#) to download and read Talking books on an iPhone, iPad, or iPod Touch. An Android app is in development.
- KTBL digitally records Kentucky fiction, history, biographies, and other topics of particular interest to its users.
- KTBL librarians offer personalized service via telephone, email and in person, as well as catalogs for book selection.

For more information about the Kentucky Talking Book Library and how you can help serve the visually impaired or handicapped patron, go to: <http://kdla.ky.gov/librarians/talkingbook/Pages/default.aspx> or visit KTBL on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/KDLA.KTBL> or YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/KyTalkingBookLibrary>.

If you have other questions regarding the Kentucky Talking Book Library, contact Barbara Penegor by email at barbara.penegor@ky.gov or by phone at 502.564.8300 ext. 282.