

## Who is eligible?

The Pennsylvania Regional Libraries for the Blind and Physically Handicapped provide services to the following individuals:

- **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 visual field subtends an angular distance no greater than 20 degrees.
- Persons whose **visual disability**, with correction and regardless of optical measurement, is certified by a competent authority as preventing the reading of standard printed material.
- Persons certified by a competent authority as unable to read or unable to use standard printed material as a result of **physical limitations**.
- Persons certified by a competent authority as having a **reading disability resulting from organic dysfunction and of sufficient severity** to prevent their reading printed material in a normal manner.

**Hospitals, nursing or convalescent homes, senior centers, schools or other facilities** serving persons with visual or physical disabilities may also register with the library.

**The Regional Libraries cannot legally serve a person who is functionally illiterate or developmentally disabled unless a specific visual or physical disability preventing use of standard print accompanies the other limitations.**

## How do I apply?

To apply for free library services from the Pennsylvania Libraries for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, **complete the attached application and reader interest survey**. The **information you provide is confidential** except where defined by state law as public information. Then **have your application certified by a competent authority**, that is, signed by one of the persons as described below.

In the case of **visual or physical disability**, a competent authority is defined to include **physician; osteopath; ophthalmologist; optometrist; registered nurse; therapist; professional staff of hospitals, institutions, and public or welfare agencies (e.g., social worker, case worker, counselor, rehabilitation teacher, or superintendent)**. In the absence of these, certification may be made by a **professional librarian** or by any person whose competence under specific circumstances is acceptable to the Library of Congress.

**NOTE:** By federal law, applications for **persons with reading disability** must be certified by a **doctor of medicine** or a **doctor of osteopathy**.

DETACH HERE

# APPLICATION

Individual

Facility (Contact Person for Facility \_\_\_\_\_ )

Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name Middle Initial Last Name

Street or Box/Route Number \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Male  Female Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

If you cannot reach me for an extended period, you may contact:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

I 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.

## To be completed by certifying authority

**I certify that the applicant named is unable to use standard printed material due to:**

Blindness  Visual disability  Physical disability  Reading disability

Applications for persons with **blindness, visual impairment, or physical disability** must be signed by one of the following: **physician; osteopath; ophthalmologist; optometrist; registered nurse; therapist; professional staff of hospitals, institutions, and public or welfare agencies (e.g., social worker, case worker, counselor, rehabilitation teacher, or superintendent).** In the absence of these, certification may be made by a **professional librarian** or by any person whose competence under specific circumstances is acceptable to the Library of Congress.

Applications for persons with **reading disability** must be signed by a **doctor of medicine** or a **doctor of osteopathy.**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Agency \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Street or Box/Route Number \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to **Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Leonard C. Staisey Building, 4724 Baum Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA 15213-1389; telephone: toll-free (800) 242-0586.**

## SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT

**Audio services.** Equipment is provided on free loan to registered borrowers.

**Digital Service** \_\_\_\_\_

Digital books and downloadable books and magazines require a special player that operates by electricity or rechargeable battery pack.

**Standard digital player.** This machine has eight controls and includes built-in audio instructions.

**Advanced digital player.** This machine has five additional controls that enable bookmarking and navigating book levels.

**Cassette Service**

**Number of books per month?** \_\_\_\_\_

Cassette books and magazines require a special player that plays by electricity or rechargeable battery pack.

**Braille books and/or magazines**

**Number of books per month?** \_\_\_\_\_

Braille service is provided by the Philadelphia library. We will forward a copy of your application to them. Their toll-free telephone number is (800) 222-1754.

**Large print books**

These books with larger-than-standard type are available to **individual readers**. We send two books to start the service and replace each returned book.

**Described videos**

These videos carry audio descriptions of action without disrupting dialog or other sound. To play these, you must have access to a VHS video cassette machine (VCR). (The library does not provide VCRs on loan.) Because we do not have public performance rights, described videos are available to **individual users only**.

## ACCESSORIES FOR EQUIPMENT

**These may help with cassette listening:**

- Headphones** are available for readers who need them to use the service.
- Pillowphones** aid readers who spend long periods of time in bed.
- Extension Keys** assist readers to depress keys on the C-1 cassette player.

**We will send a special application for any of the following:**

- Remote Control** helps readers with severely limited use of hands.
- Breath Control** helps readers with severely limited use of hands.
- Amplifier** aids readers with severe hearing impairment.

**I understand that if I no longer need materials from the Regional Library, I must return equipment and accessories.**

## PUBLICATIONS

You will automatically receive these publications based on the services you checked on the previous page. Please indicate the format you prefer.

***Talking Book Topics*** is a listing of new **cassette books**.

- cassette       large print

***Première*** is a listing of new **described videos**.

- cassette       large print

## MAGAZINES

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>American Heritage</i>                          | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Musical Mainstream</i>                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Analog Science Fiction and Fact</i>            | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Nation</i>                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Asimov's Science Fiction</i>                   | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>National Geographic</i>                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Atlantic Monthly</i>                           | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>National Review</i>                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Bon Appétit</i>                                | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>New York Times Book Review</i>                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Consumer Reports</i>                           | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Outdoor Life</i>                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Contemporary Soundtrack</i>                    | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>People</i>                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Das Beste aus Reader's Digest*</i><br>(German) | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>People en Español</i> (Spanish)                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Diabetes Forecast</i>                          | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>QST</i>  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Discover</i>                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Quarterly Music Magazine</i>                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Ebony</i>                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Sélections du Reader's Digest*</i><br>(French) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine</i>            | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Smart Computing</i>                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Foreign Affairs</i>                            | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Sound &amp; Vision</i>                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Good Housekeeping</i>                          | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Sports Illustrated</i>                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Guideposts</i>                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Travel &amp; Leisure</i>                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Health and Nutrition Newsletters</i>           | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>True West</i>                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Horticulture</i>                               | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Vanidades</i> (Spanish)                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Journal Français</i> (French)                  | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>The Week</i>                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Magazine of the Month</i>                      | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Writer</i>                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Money</i>                                      |  |
- I would like to receive a **Magazine List** that describes each **CASSETTE** magazine the library provides.
- I would like to receive information on magazines, like ***Reader's Digest\**** in **English** and ***Newsweek***, available in various formats from sources other than the library.

**Magazines specifically geared to children and teens may be found in the Young Adult Reader Interest Survey.**

# ADULT READER INTEREST SURVEY\*

**I would like books from the following subjects:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adventure                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Humor   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aging                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Inspirational   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Animals/Nature                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art/Architecture                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Modern Writing  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bestsellers                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Music (Books about music/musicians)                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biography/Personal Narrative                | <input type="checkbox"/> Mystery   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business/Economics                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Occult/Horror   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Careers                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Philosophy  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computers                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Plays   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cooking                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disabilities                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Psychology  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Interest (PA, OH, WV, etc.)<br>specify _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ethnic/Minority Experience<br>specify _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion<br>specify _____                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Romance   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fantasy/Folklore                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Science Fiction                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign Language<br>specify _____           | <input type="checkbox"/> Science/Technology                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Short Stories   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historical Fiction                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Issues   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> History                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports/Recreation                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hobbies<br>specify _____                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Travel  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Home Management                             | <input type="checkbox"/> War   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Westerns  |

**I am also interested in these topics** (examples: parenting, spy, Civil War, archaeology, fishing, gardening, diabetes, politics, etc.) **And these are some of my favorite authors.**

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**Many books, especially bestsellers, contain strong language, explicit descriptions of sex, and/or graphic violence.**

- |  |                                     |                                    |
|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>I will accept strong language.</b>                  | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> |
| <b>I will accept explicit descriptions of sex.</b>     | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> |
| <b>I will accept graphic descriptions of violence.</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> |

\***YOUNG READER INTEREST SURVEY** may be found in the next section.

# YOUNG READER INTEREST SURVEY

I would like to receive the following CASSETTE magazines:

- Cricket /National Geographic World* (for ages 8-13)
- Spider* (for ages 6-9)
- Sports Illustrated for Kids* (for ages 8-13)
- Teen People* (for ages 13-19)
- Young Adult Magazine of the Month* (for ages 11-17)

I would like to receive books from the following subjects:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adventure                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Holidays  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aging                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Humor   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Animals/Nature                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biography/Personal Narrative                | <input type="checkbox"/> Modern Writing  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Careers                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Music (Books about music/musicians)                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computers                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Mystery   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cooking                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Plays   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disabilities                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Interest (PA, OH, WV, etc.)<br>specify _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ethnic/Minority Experience<br>specify _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion<br>specify _____                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Romance   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fantasy/Folklore                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Science Fiction                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Science/Technology                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historical Fiction                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Short Stories   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> History                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports/Recreation                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hobbies<br>specify _____                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Travel/Geography                                      |

**I would also like to receive books on these topics** (examples: fairytales, dinosaurs, baseball, nursery rhymes, etc. Mention your favorite authors and activities if you wish).

**I would like books at the following grade level:** \_\_\_\_\_

Compared to others my age, I want books which are: (circle one) easier, harder, same level.

School \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Street or Box/Route Number \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

# Any Questions? Contact:

**Library for the Blind  
and Physically Handicapped  
Leonard C. Staisey Building  
4724 Baum Boulevard  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-1389  
(800) 242-0586 (Toll-Free)**

**[lbph@carnegielibrary.org](mailto:lbph@carnegielibrary.org)  
[www.carnegielibrary.org/lbph](http://www.carnegielibrary.org/lbph)**



**Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh**

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