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BARD

{Braille and Audio Reading Download}



What is the Braille and Talking Book Library?

The Braille and Talking Book Library (BTBL) lends audio and braille books to Michigan residents unable to comfortably read standard print materials due to a visual, physical, or reading disability.

This program is part of a national network of cooperating libraries, made possible by the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (NLS), Library of Congress.

Apply for service to access over 135,000 books that can be downloaded directly with BARD, or request one of our Digital Talking Book Players and books can be delivered directly to you on cartridge through the regular U.S. postal service. And best of all, this service is FREE!

What is BARD?

The Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) is a free service that provides instant access to audio books, braille books, magazines, and music scores without waiting for mail delivery!

To utilize BARD, you can download the free BARD Mobile app to your smart device. BARD Mobile is available at the App Store for IOS or the Google Play Store for Android.

Don't have a mobile device but still want to download books? Get a free Digital Talking Book Player from BTBL and download to a flash drive.

What is Available?

Patrons may access books and magazines in the NLS collection, which have been selected on the basis of their appeal across a wide range of interests. Thousands of audio and braille fiction and nonfiction titles are available, including some in languages other than English. Issues of more than 90 magazine titles are also available. NLS adds new titles regularly, including a growing number of locally produced materials and music scores.

Eligibility

You are eligible for BARD if you are a registered patron of the Braille and Talking Book Library (BTBL). Call the library at 1-800-992-9012 to request an application for service.

Already a BTBL patron? Sign up for BARD immediately by visiting <https://nlsbard.loc.gov>

Contact us

Toll Free: 1-800-992-9012

Email: btbl@michigan.gov

www.michigan.gov/BTBL

Library Hours

Open for Calls: M-F, 8am to 5pm

Lobby: M-F, by appointment only

The Library is closed on all recognized state holidays

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