

Membership Application

Please make checks and money orders payable to: **Wisconsin Braille Inc.**

Date: _____

Annual Dues: \$10.00 _____

Sustaining membership,
annual dues: \$30.00 _____

Donation: _____

Total amount enclosed: _____

CHECK CASH MONEY ORDER
 NEW MEMBER RENEWAL

Donations to **WISCONSIN BRAILLE INC.**
are tax deductible.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

Format for printed material (choose one):

PRINT BRAILLE E-MAIL

What is your affiliation with the braille-reading community? (check all that apply)

BRAILLE READER PARENT
 TEACHER TRANSCRIBER OTHER

Return application and payment to:
WISCONSIN BRAILLE Inc.
Membership Chair
557 Milky Way
Madison, WI 53718








Wisconsin Braille Inc.



communication • coordination • education

Wisconsin Unites to Promote Braille

-  *All Those Concerned with the Availability and Quality of Brailled Materials in Wisconsin*
-  *Braille Readers*
-  *Teachers of Students with Visual Impairments*
-  *Parents of Children with Visual Impairments*
-  *Educational Assistants*
-  *Transcribers*
-  *Proofreaders*
-  *Producers*
-  *Orientation and Mobility Specialists*

For more information about

WISCONSIN BRAILLE INC.

visit our website at:

www.wisbrl.org



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What are the challenges?

There is the misconception that braille is too hard to learn, to difficult to teach.

Many children are not learning braille if they have some residual vision.

There is a misunderstanding that advancing technology for those with visual impairments eliminates the need for braille.

Often there is insufficient instructional time from itinerant teachers of the blind who have too many students on their caseloads, adversely affecting student progress on braille reading skills.

Given the limited pay that transcribers receive, it is difficult to attract and retain certified braille transcribers in the schools.

Braille transcribers are not given material in a timely fashion in order to produce braille so that children who are blind or visually impaired have their textbooks and daily handouts at the same time as their sighted peers.

Administrators balk at paying the costs for braille book production.

Studies have shown that of the 30% of blind people who are employed, approximately 85% of them know braille. These studies draw a clear link between braille, literacy, and successful employment.

How is **WISCONSIN BRAILLE INC.** meeting the challenges?

- 📖 Is providing storybooks in braille to parents and teachers of students with visual impairment free of cost through the Wisconsin Braille Special Book Project
- 📖 Is sponsoring a braille literacy project that pairs braille reading adult mentors with students who are blind or visually impaired
- 📖 Is conducting continuing education seminars and workshops for teachers, braille transcribers and parents of children with visual impairments
- 📖 Mentors parents learning braille
- 📖 Conducts braille transcribing classes and continuing education seminars in Wisconsin state correctional institutions
- 📖 Aids ex-inmate transcribers in finding employment

"There is a wonder in reading braille that the sighted will never know: to touch words and to have them touch you back."

--Jim Fiebig

- 📖 Assists persons taking the Library of Congress Braille Transcription Course
- 📖 Is working towards licensure and appropriate remuneration for braille transcribers employed by school districts
- 📖 Publishes a newsletter and maintains a web site to keep others current on braille literacy issues
- 📖 Is working closely with other state agencies concerned with blindness issues and braille literacy

*Wisconsin Braille needs you!
Please join us in meeting the
challenges facing braille literacy!*