

CHAPTER 6  
LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

[Prior to 7/1/87, see Blind, Commission for[160] rule 2.4]

[Prior to 9/21/88, see Blind, Division for the[423] Ch 6]

**111—6.1(216B) Function.** The library for the blind and physically handicapped provides library services to Iowans who are blind, reading disabled and physically handicapped, as delineated in rule 6.3(216B), who cannot use information in standard print formats.

**111—6.2(216B) Services.** Services include, but are not limited to, provision and circulation of books, magazines and videos in braille, recorded disc, recorded cassette, electronic text, descriptive video, or large-type formats; provision and maintenance of playback equipment; transcription, production and duplication of standard print material into braille, recorded cassette, or electronic text formats; and research, acquisition by loan or purchase, or production of instructional materials.

**6.2(1)** Transcription of standard print reading materials into alternative media. Transcription of standard print reading materials into the alternative media of braille, cassette tape, or electronic text shall be provided to the extent that resources are available and following research of the library for the blind and physically handicapped and other libraries, volunteer production agencies, and vendors which confirm that the requested item is not available in any alternative media which can be effectively used by the library patron; or that the item exists, but cannot be acquired by loan, purchase, or duplication. Priority will be given to requests which enable persons to meet a vocational or educational need. Transcription is one method of providing access to standard print reading materials, and will be used in combination with other resources in order to provide as much support as possible to each person requesting transcription services.

Other requests will be honored contingent upon availability of resources.

**6.2(2)** Reserved.

**111—6.3(216B) Eligibility.** The following persons are eligible for services:

Blind persons;

Physically handicapped persons—

1. Whose visual disability, with correction, regardless of visual measurement, prevents the reading of standard print material, or
2. Who are unable to read or unable to use standard print material as a result of physical limitations, or
3. Who have a reading disability resulting from organic dysfunction, and of sufficient severity, to prevent the reading of print material in a standard manner.

**6.3(1)** Library services are available to children and adults.

**6.3(2)** Eligibility will be determined in compliance with applicable federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age, race, creed, color, sex, national origin, religion, or disability.

**111—6.4(216B) Application procedures.** The Application and Certification of Eligibility for Library Services form must be completed, and must be signed by a competent authority.

**6.4(1)** In cases of blindness, visual disability or physical limitations, “competent authority” is defined as a doctor of medicine; doctor of osteopathy; ophthalmologist; optometrist; registered nurse; therapist; or member of the professional staff of a hospital, institution, public or welfare agency (i.e., a social worker, case worker, counselor, rehabilitation teacher or superintendent). In the absence of any of these, certification may be made by a professional librarian or by any person whose competence under specific circumstances is acceptable to the department and the Library of Congress.

**6.4(2)** In the case of reading disability from organic dysfunction, “competent authority” is defined as a doctor of medicine or doctor of osteopathy who may consult with colleagues in associated disciplines.

**6.4(3)** Applicants who use only large print materials need not obtain the certification of a competent authority.

**111—6.5(17A) Forms.** Rescinded IAB 6/26/02, effective 7/31/02.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code section 17A.3 and Iowa Code chapter 216B.

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