

Collection Development: Accessible Formats

Standards and Statements from Professional Organizations

- [ALA's Diverse Collections: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights](#)
- [ALA's Services to People with Disabilities: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights](#)

Determining Community Needs

Consider the following factors to help determine your community's needs:

- Data on the number of Vermonters with disabilities from the Vermont Department of Health: [The Health of Vermonters Living with Disabilities](#)
- Feedback from community groups: Talk with local organizations, agencies, and professionals that serve people with disabilities.
- Patron requests and any disability advocacy groups that regularly interact with the library.

Categories of Materials

- Periodicals/Magazines
- Graphic novels
- Audiobooks
- Large print books
- High contrast picture and board books
- DVDs with closed captioning
- eBooks and e-Audiobooks

Consider purchasing materials that feature the experiences of people who are disabled or that have been written by an author who is disabled.

Also consider that people with disabilities in your community may come from a wide range of education levels, socioeconomic backgrounds, language abilities, and geographical origins when making purchasing decisions.

Promotion and Display

To increase the promotion and circulation of materials:

- Talk to local organizations, agencies, and professionals that serve people with disabilities in your community. Invite them to the library for a tour or ask if library staff can attend one of their events.
- Display materials in an attractive, convenient location.
- Use clearly visible signage to identify the area where materials are shelved.
- Weed existing materials to remove outdated nonfiction and materials in poor condition.

Book Reviews and Awards

- [Audie Awards](#): The Audie Awards®, sponsored by the Audio Publishers Association (APA), is the premier awards program in the United States recognizing distinction in audiobooks and spoken-word entertainment.
- [ALSC/Booklist/YALSA Odyssey Award for Excellence in Audiobook Production](#): This annual award is given to the producer of the best audiobook produced for children and/or young adults, available in English in the United States.
- [The Will Eisner Comic Industry Awards](#): Considered the “Oscars” of the comic book industry, the Awards are given out in more than two-dozen categories covering the best publications and creators of the previous year.
- [ALA’s Great Graphic Novels](#)
- [Schneider Family Book Award](#): Honors an author or illustrator for a book that embodies an artistic expression of the disability experience for child and adolescent audiences.
- [Dolly Gray Children’s Literature Award](#): Recognizes effective, enlightened portrayals of individuals with developmental disabilities in children’s books.
- [The Barbellion Prize](#): The Barbellion Prize is a book prize dedicated to the furtherance of ill and disabled voices in writing.

Training and Other Resources

- [The ABLE Library](#) serves blind Vermonters and anyone with a visual impairment or print, reading, or learning disability and provides library materials in a variety of accessible formats.
- Reaching Across Illinois Library System webinar: [Building Accessible Library Collections for Individuals with Disabilities](#)
- South Carolina State Library webinar: [DisAbility and Library Collections: How do we make collections accessible?](#)
- [ASGCLA’s AccessAbility Academy](#)