

## Facts about print disabilities

- It is estimated that more than three million Canadians have print disabilities, but less than 5% of published materials is available in accessible formats.
- The Canadian Copyright Act allows for the creation of accessible formats of works for print disabled patrons by non-profit organizations. This is what allows organizations such as CELA & NNELS to operate.

### Questions?

Ask your Library Services Consultant if you have questions about print disabilities or the services provided through NNELS and CELA.

Visit [marigold.ab.ca/printdisabilities](http://marigold.ab.ca/printdisabilities) for more information including the official CELA Welcome Kit and NNELS FAQ for patrons.



### Marigold Library System

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Strathmore, Alberta T1P 1K4  
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[www.marigold.ab.ca](http://www.marigold.ab.ca)



# Services for Print Disabled Patrons

Staff Guide

## What is a print disability?

A print disabled person is any person who is unable to read standard print materials.

See a more detailed definition on the last page.

## How can I assist a print disabled patron?

Print disabled patrons have access to two services which have been created to ensure equitable access to materials:

- **CELA** (Centre for Equitable Library Access)
- **NNELS** (National Network for Equitable Library Service)

Both services are free-of-charge for print disabled patrons. Patrons may wish to access the services of both CELA & NNELS.

## A Comparison between CELA & NNELS

### CELA

- **Physical & digital collection** of books & magazines in audio, e-text & braille; newspapers in e-text; described videos; children's pictures books with braille added. Includes French content.
- Delivery to patrons via direct download to computer, mobile or DAISY device or mail-delivery of audio CDs, braille or described movies.
- Deposit collections available.

### NNELS

- **Digital collection** of downloadable audiobooks includes popular fiction and non-fiction. Some young adult & children's material.
- Predominantly DAISY audio; some e-braille & e-text.
- Delivery to patrons via direct download to a computer, mobile or DAISY device.
- Titles selected/created based on reader demand.



## Print Disabilities Defined

Both CELA and NNELS define print disability according to the Canadian Copyright Act, which defines "perceptual disabilities" as including:

- **Learning disability:** An impairment relating to comprehension
- **Physical disability:** The inability to hold or manipulate a book
- **Visual disability:** Severe or total impairment of sight or the inability to focus or move one's eyes

**Note:** a person may be temporarily print disabled and still eligible to use CELA & NNELS (e.g., a person who has been temporarily blinded).

## Other Resources

- Making Library Programs Accessible  
<http://celalibrary.ca/iguana/www.main.cls?url=CELA-LibraryPrograms>
- Making the TD Summer Reading Club Accessible  
<http://celalibrary.ca/iguana/www.main.cls?url=CELA-TDSRC>
- NNELS Community Forums  
<https://nnels.ca/forum>

Learn more about CELA & NNELS at [marigold.ab.ca/printdisabilities](http://marigold.ab.ca/printdisabilities)

## CELA FAQs, continued

### 4. What kind of content is available from CELA?

CELA's collection includes books in English and French for all ages and interests. Materials are available in a variety of formats:

- Books and magazines in audio, e-text and braille
- Newspapers in e-text (from the "Newsstand" on celalibrary.ca)
- Access to Bookshare (bookshare.org)
- Described videos
- Children's picture books with braille added

### 5. How do patrons access CELA content?

Patrons with print disabilities can get accessible materials from CELA in several ways:

- Download materials to mobile device or DAISY player using Direct to Player service or from celalibrary.ca
- Receive audio CDs, braille or described movies by mail, direct to home. (No postage is required to return).
- From deposit collections or interlibrary loans in the library.

### 6. How do I set up a deposit collection in my library?

DAISY audiobooks on CD are available from CELA on long-term deposit. Titles are selected for you based on a profile of preferences. New titles are shipped automatically every 6-12 months. Small libraries receive 100 titles each year. You may return CDs, with no postage-costs, at any time. To request a deposit collection or more information visit celalibrary.ca.

**Deposit collections must be catalogued at Marigold Headquarters.  
Send in titles using conversion flags.**

Libraries who have previously set up deposit collections through the CNIB partners program may wish to contact CELA and confirm their information is up to date.

To learn more about CELA & keep informed about news and additions to the collection, join the CELA listserv by emailing [members@celalibrary.ca](mailto:members@celalibrary.ca)

## What are accessible formats?

Materials for print disabled patrons are available in a variety of formats, some of which are physical materials (e.g., braille) and some digital (e.g., DAISY mP3 files).

### Audio

Currently available through CELA & NNELS

DAISY (Digital Accessible Information System) is an audio file format which can be read in the same way as you would read a print book. DAISY has advanced features in addition to those of a traditional audiobook; users can search, precisely navigate line by line and regulate the speaking speed without distortion. DAISY files can be listened to on mobile devices (e.g., iPhones, iPads & Android devices), DAISY readers, computers and can also be burned on CDs.

### E-text

Currently available through CELA & NNELS

Books, newspapers, magazines, etc., in e-text can be read with adaptive technologies such as a screen reader or the text-to-speech feature on a mobile device.

### Braille/Printbraille

Currently available through CELA

Braille can be in print or electronic (e-braille).

### Described movies

Currently available through CELA

Movies with a special audio track that describes settings and actions.

CELA & NNELS consistently add new formats & titles to their collections; check back often to keep informed about their collections.

## NNELS

<https://nnels.ca>

NNELS provides access to a growing collection of downloadable audiobooks and other accessible formats restricted to people with print disabilities. NNELS was created in partnership with the BC Libraries Cooperative and the Provincial and Territorial Public Library Council.

Materials are accessed through <https://nnels.ca>

## FAQs

### 1. Who is eligible to use NNELS?

NNELS has been produced for people who have a print disability. Libraries may ask patrons to complete a self-declaration form before providing access to NNELS.

### 2. How do patrons access NNELS content?

Patrons must be assigned the "Print Disabled" patron code in their library patron record. Once updated, they can sign into the NNELS website using their library barcode & PIN. Some libraries may require patrons to complete a self-declaration form before providing access to NNELS.

### 3. What kind of content is available from NNELS?

NNELS content is predominantly popular fiction and non-fiction, with some titles for children and young adults. Formats currently available include DAISY audio and some e-Braille & e-Text.

If a title is not available on NNELS, patrons (or library staff) may request it be added by emailing [support@nnels.ca](mailto:support@nnels.ca). NNELS titles are added based on reader demand.

### 4. How can patrons listen to NNELS talking books?

Patrons can download and transfer NNELS content onto listening devices such as iPods, iPads, smartphones, tablets, Victor Readers and other DAISY players and personal computers. They may also burn NNELS files to a disc to be played in DAISY readers with no ability to transfer content.

## CELA

[www.celalibrary.ca](http://www.celalibrary.ca)

CELA provides public libraries with accessible format collections and also provides libraries with community outreach and summer reading program support, training and advice on accessibility matters.

Materials are accessed through deposit collections, by mail or by direct download through [celalibrary.ca](http://celalibrary.ca)

## FAQs

**Note:** To register patrons for CELA, you must first create a **library account** on <https://registration.celalibrary.ca>. Tutorials/help are available on <https://registration.celalibrary.ca/>

### 1. How do patrons access CELA content?

Patrons register for CELA services at their local library. Library staff fill out the registration form on <https://registration.celalibrary.ca/> which asks for contact information, preferred reading format and delivery (online or mail), etc. **Once registered, patrons can access and request materials from CELA independently.**

### 2. Who is eligible to use CELA material?

CELA is for people who have print disabilities. Patrons require a current library membership and self-identify as having a print disability. Once the registration form is submitted, service will begin within 5 business days to eligible patrons.

### 3. How does the CNIB relate to CELA?

CNIB is a volunteer organization dedicated to assisting Canadians who are blind or living with vision loss. CNIB clients who express interest in having access to books in alternative formats will be referred to their local library for registration with CELA. With the patron's permission, their contact information will be forwarded to their library system. Libraries will contact patrons to describe their library's accessible holdings and services, including access to CELA's collection. They are registered for access to the service as described above.

[See more FAQs about CELA on the next page...](#)