

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Attached is a Proof of Disability form from Bookshare.org. Bookshare is a library for digital books and other digital materials. Individuals with print disabilities (blind or severely visually impaired, or learning disability in the area of reading, or physical disability so as not able to hold a book or turn pages) may obtain copyrighted and non-copyrighted materials free of charge from Bookshare. This includes many books, textbooks and periodicals.

If you would like your child to have access to the digital material from Bookshare, please complete the top portion of the attached form and return it to your child's special education teacher. Please sign and date the form. The special education teacher can then complete the bottom portion of the form and send it to the assistive technology professional to add your child as a member to Bookshare. Once the form is processed, digital materials can be downloaded for your child.

The school may download your child's textbooks and other books for your child to use from Bookshare.

If you would like to download digital materials for your child for use at home, there is a second form for you to complete. This form is the Bookshare Individual Membership Registration Form. You can complete this form online after the Proof of Disability form is completed and your child is added as a member to Bookshare.

If you choose to use digital materials with your student at home, you will also need a screen reading software program. The following screen reader software programs are available free of charge from www.bookshare.org

- **Bookshare Web Reader** – a screen reader that works in your Internet browser
 - Simply select “Read Now” to open the book in your browser
 - Read with text-to-speech and word highlighting in Chrome or Edge.
 - Read with a screen reader in Firefox, and Safari (no word highlighting)
 - Customize reading with font size, colors, and display format
- **Dolphin Easy Reader** – a screen reading software program designed to be used by individuals with a learning disability in the area of reading.

If you have questions or concerns about using digital materials for your child, please contact your child's special education teacher or the assistive technology team leader.

Thank you for your consideration.

Diane Bicknell, Assistive Technology Professional
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**Bookshare Membership Application
Written Proof of Disability Form**



Step 1 – Identifying Information

To be filled out by the Applicant (All fields are required. Please type or print.)

Name:

Address:

City:

State / Province / Region:

ZIP / Postal Code:

Country:

Email Address:

Date of Birth (if under 18):

School or Group Account Name (if applicable): *Charles County Public School*

Please indicate the disability that prevents you from effectively reading standard print by placing an "x" next to the one that applies:

Visual impairment, including blindness

Learning disability

Other physical disability

Parent Signature:

Date:

Step 2 – Proof of Disability

To be filled out by Certifying Professional: (please type or print)

I attest, under penalty of perjury, to the physical basis of the visual, perceptual or other physical disability limiting the applicant's ability to effectively use standard print, and that I have the professional qualifications to make such a certification.

Name of Certifying Professional:

Title:

Organization: *Charles County Public Schools*

Address:

City:

State / Province / Region:

Zip / Postal Code:

Country:

Daytime phone:

Email:

Signature:

Date:
