

LA GRANGE PARK PUBLIC LIBRARY

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY CIRCULATION POLICY

As part of its mission to provide materials and services to assist patrons in meeting their informational, cultural, recreational, educational, and civic needs, the La Grange Park Public Library offers assistive technology for public use.

“Tools that help someone who may have a speaking, vision, hearing, mobility, or memory loss are called assistive technology (AT). It's assistive because it supports, bolsters or helps a person do something. It's technology because it is a [study] of what is known about a science to solve a problem.” (Illinois Assistive Technology Project)

The library's equipment includes, but is not necessarily limited to, the following:

CRIS Radio Receiver

The Chicagoland Radio Information Service (CRIS) is a radio reading service for the sight impaired or those with limited mobility. CRIS uses volunteers to provide verbatim readings of books, magazines, and newspapers. The CRIS radio receiver, which has a special crystal, is needed to listen to the broadcasts. The CRIS signal is carried on a sub-frequency of WBEZ-FM radio.

Freedom to Read Machine (in-library use only)

The reading magnification system has a color display feature as well as standard black and white. Text and graphics can be magnified from 3 to 165 times their original size.

Reading Edge Reading Machine (Kurzweil Reader) (in-library use only)

The reading machine enables those with limited vision or reading difficulties to listen to print materials. The machine is capable of reading printed materials, from books and magazines to letters and utility bills. Headphones must be used with the Reading Edge.

Voyager Telesensory Magnifier (in-library use only)

The magnifier, which has a black and white display feature only, makes it possible to enlarge papers, magazines, books, personal correspondence, and other printed materials. The magnifier can also be used to enlarge handwriting to make writing tasks easier, for example, writing a check.

Rules for Use of Equipment

Patrons may request use of assistive technology equipment at the Reference Desk. Reservations for use of the machines may also be made ahead of time by telephone, or other telecommunications device, fax, or e-mail.

The equipment may be used in the Library as long as needed if no other patron is waiting. When another patron is waiting, the equipment may be used for one hour.

Patrons may check the equipment out using a valid library card (except for the “in-library use only” machines noted above). The period of time for check-out will be three weeks. The equipment may be renewed for three weeks if no one is on a waiting list.

There is no charge to use the equipment.

Library staff will be glad to provide training in the use of the equipment. In the event the equipment is requested by a patron of the Library’s Homebound Delivery Service, a Homebound Delivery Service volunteer will provide instruction in the use of the equipment.