

BENEFITS OF BRAILLE INSTRUCTION

In 1991, House Bill 2277, the “Braille Bill” was passed into law by the Texas State Legislature. One provision of the bill, contained in Chapter 506, states that: “each person assisting in the development of a functionally blind student’s individualized education program shall receive information describing the benefits of Braille instruction.”

It has been determined that _____ is / is not functionally blind. The following information is being provided to you as a participant in the development of this student’s individualized education program (IEP).

Braille instruction benefits students who are functionally blind in the following ways:

- Braille allows reading and writing skills to be developed.
- Because literacy is based on the ability to read and write, Braille is the only media available for obtaining literacy for people who use their tactile sense as the primary means of gathering information.
- Braille allows the student who is functionally blind to have the same “written” information in the classroom as sighted peers.
- Braille allows for instruction in correct written language usage such as structuring sentences, spelling, formatting paragraphs and editing.
- Braille allows the selection of a book for the pleasure of reading independently at any time or place without additional equipment.