What is Library by Mail?
Library by Mail is a free service from the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library that brings library materials to the homebound through the mail on a long-term or short-term basis.

Who can use Library by Mail?
Library by Mail is a service available to any Erie County resident who is either temporarily or permanently unable to go to a physical library – including having a lack of transportation, a long-term or short-term disability or illness making them homebound.

What types of library materials can be borrowed?
Books (regular and large print), audiobooks, international language materials, music CDs, and DVDs.

Is there a limit to the number of materials that can be borrowed?
Yes, there is a limit of 3 items at one time.

How long is the borrowing period?
Materials will be checked out for six weeks and may be renewed for another six weeks. To renew an item contact Library by Mail staff by phone or email.

Are there any fines or fees to this program?
There are no fees to participate in Library by Mail. However, if materials are lost or damaged replacement fees will be the responsibility of the borrower.

How do the library materials arrive?
Materials will arrive in a pre-paid canvas bag to the residence listed in the application.

How do I return the materials?
To return materials, simply place items back in the bag and reverse the address label on the outside, so that the Library address is showing. Then return via U.S. Mail. The Library pays for all postage.

Can I choose what material I want?
Yes, or library staff will choose materials for you based on your interests.

Do I need a library card?
Yes. As an Erie County resident, if you do not have a current Buffalo & Erie County Public Library card, we can issue you one.

How do I sign up?
Complete and mail application to the address below. Library staff will call you to confirm receipt of your application.

Library by Mail
Buffalo & Erie County Public Library
Central Library
1 Lafayette Square Buffalo, NY 14203

Questions? Call 716-858-7156 or email librarybymail@buffalolib.org