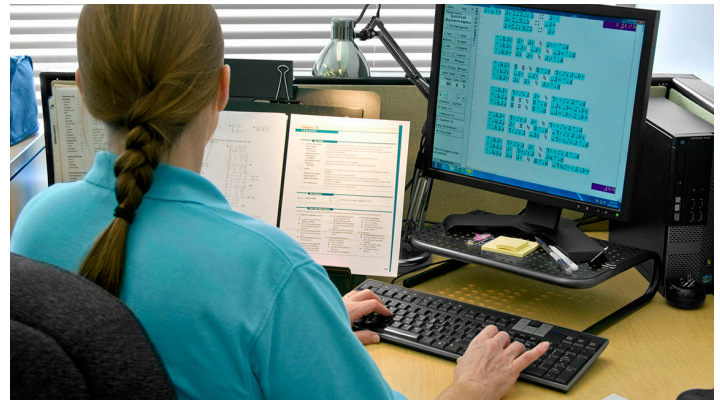




BRAILLE CERTIFICATION



Below are seven certifications braille transcribers can earn:

1. Washington Literary Exam: Applicable for Washington State only and administered by Washington State School for the Blind.

2. Literary Certification:

- Minimum requirement to transcribe in the United States
- Teaches the basic principles of braille
- Course material: 19 lessons from the instruction manual for braille transcribing, Unified English Braille Edition, 2015
- Exam: submit a “manuscript” — a volume of 35 braille pages from a non-textbook (passing is 80 and above, i.e., 20-point deduction allowed, each error 2 points)
- Based on Unified English Braille (UEB) rules
- Administered by the National Library Service (NLS)

3. Formats Certification:

- Teaches formatting for textbooks
- No course material
- Exam: One submission only—no correction phase (passing is 80 and above, i.e., 20-point deduction allowed, each error 1 point)
- Based on the Braille Authority of North America (BANA) rules in applying the Formats guidelines in the Principles of Print to Braille Transcription, 2016
- Administered by the National Braille Association (NBA)

4. Nemeth Certification:

- Prerequisite: Must wait six months after passing the Literary certification exam to take the course
- Teaches additional rules for math and science textbooks
- Course material: 19 lessons from the instruction manual, An Introduction to Braille Mathematics Using Nemeth Code within UEB Contexts: A Course for Transcribers
- Previously the exam consisted of two phases: first submission is returned with a partial correction report; second submission is returned with pass/fail. Must wait nine months from beginning date of lessons to take the test. (passing is 80 and above, i.e., 20-point deduction allowed, each error 1-2 points)
- Based on the Nemeth Braille Code for Mathematics and Science Notation, 2022 (not complete at this time) rules
- Administered by National Federation of the Blind (considered an NLS certification)

5. Music - Associate Certification:

- Teaches rules of music transcription
- Course: Completion of lessons 1-28, from the Introduction to Music Braille Transcription, Beta Edition
- No exam
- Based on the BANA Music Braille Code 2015 rules
- NLS certification

6. Music - Full Certification:

- Teaches additional rules of music transcription
- Course: Completion of the remaining lessons (currently under revision)
- Exam: transcription of a music piece chosen by the instructor (grading criteria by instructor is unknown)
- Based on the BANA Music Braille Code 2015 rules
- NLS certification

7. Literary Proofreading Certification:

- Teaches proofreading of Literary material, with a minor focus on Formats
- Course: Five lessons are mailed to student and returned for grading
- Exam: Two volumes of braille with errors – submit an error report for grading
- NLS certification