

## Assistive Technology Center Library Manual

**Qatar National Library** is committed to ensuring that all our resources are accessible to everyone. Our main collection includes materials produced for those with disabilities. Our **Assistive Technology Center** is specially designed for people with disabilities, with adjustable workstations and the latest equipment and software.

### What is assistive technology?

Assistive technology comprises devices or computer-based accommodation that helps an individual with special needs to work around or compensate for disability and enhance individual ability. In simple words, assistive technologies refer to products, devices or equipment that are used to maintain, increase, or improve the functional capabilities of people with disabilities.

### Who might need assistive technology?

- ❖ Hearing impaired/deaf
- ❖ Visually impaired/blind/low vision
- ❖ Physically handicapped/physically disabled

### Assistive technology devices and tools

All assistive technology devices/tools are for **LIBRARY USE ONLY**. To borrow a device, please complete the [Assistive Technology Device Loan Form](#).

### Focal points for assistance:

#### English:

- Ellen Floro – [efloro@qnl.qa](mailto:efloro@qnl.qa)
  - Ext. no. – 4454 6017
  - Mobile – 5595-9667

#### Arabic:

- Hanan Zaidan – [hzaidan@qnl.qa](mailto:hzaidan@qnl.qa)
  - Ext. no. – 4454-2996
  - Mobile – 7758-7307

## Available assistive technology devices/tools

### For the hearing impaired/deaf

**Ubi Duo** – Face-to-face communicator for the hard of-hearing.

**How it works:** <https://youtu.be/BYIX9ZI-H18>

**Location:** Information Desk



**Geemarc LoopHEAR** – A unique sound system used by those who wear **T- hearing aids**. The device sends a wireless, magnetic signal to an individual's hearing aid, delivering certain sounds directly to their ears. These systems are incredibly useful for those who are hard of hearing. They help them to remain independent and communicate with others in both public and domestic settings.

**How it works:** <https://youtu.be/-8IO1iyT1aA>

**Location:** Information Desk



### **For people with low vision**

**HumanWare Electric Magnifier** - Used for reading documents and books at the Library, it is perfect for all situations (standing, reclining in a chair, or sitting at a table) while delivering sharp and clear images at your fingertips.

**How it works:** <https://youtu.be/pCFo9-GkdZo>

**Location:** Information Desk



**EyePal Solo OCR** – Stand-alone scanning and reading equipment with optical character recognition and read-aloud capabilities.

**How it works:** <https://youtu.be/3TgihkVxzJo>

**Location:** Assistive Technology Center



**Oversize Keyboard with Arabic Layout** – A keyboard with large keys for easy location and operation for the visually impaired.

**How it works:** Plug and play, like a standard keyboard.

**Location:** Assistive Technology Center.



**CERATECH Accuratus High Visibility Keyboard** – A standard keyboard with high-contrast keys for people with low vision.

**How it works:** Plug and play, like a standard keyboard

**Location:** Assistive Technology Center.



### **For the visually impaired/blind**

**Braille Display/Reader** – Precise, efficient and responsive braille input keyboard with command keys located on each side of the display.

**How it works:** Plug and play, like a standard keyboard

**Location:** Assistive Technology Center



**HumanWare Victor Reader Stream** – Handheld media player for the blind and visually impaired that allows content to be transferred from PC to removable flash memory card and provides advanced navigation of multiple formats including DAISY, MP3, NISO and electronic text.

**How it works:** <https://youtu.be/IVji9wFiULw>

**Location:** Assistive Technology Center



**Braille Embosser/Printer** – Translate computer-generated text into braille.

**How it works:** For a braille printing request, please send the MS Word document to [asksus@qnl.qa](mailto:asksus@qnl.qa)

**Location:** Assistive Technology Center



## **For people with reading difficulties/dyslexia**

Dyslexia and other reading difficulties are learning difficulties that primarily affect the skills involved in accurate and fluent reading and spelling.

### **C-Pen Reader and USB Scanning Pen with Headphones**

**How it works:** <https://youtu.be/rOj7umGYnTU>

**Location:** Assistive Technology Center



## **For people with physical disabilities/difficulties**

**Gold Touch Ergonomic Keyboard** – Ergonomic keyboard that helps straighten the hands, wrists, shoulders and back.

**How it works:** <https://youtu.be/TCaZFBUBtU0>

**Location:** Assistive Technology Center



**PRETORIAN n-Aber Trackball Mouse** – Emulates a computer mouse but with fingertip control and configuration for left-handed operation.

**How it works:** <https://youtu.be/kISglQ4qgIY>

**Location:** Assistive Technology Center



**PRETORIAN Optima Joystick** – Specifically designed for cursor navigation and precise targeting of objects on the computer screen.

**How it works:** <https://youtu.be/kISglQ4qgIY>

**Location:** Assistive Technology Center





**Humanscale Switch Variable/USB Mouse** – A mouse solution that accommodates both left and right-handed users

**How it works:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w3JDqpRpaPA>

**Location:** Assistive Technology Center



**Accessible Online Resources**



مكتبة قطر الوطنية  
Qatar National Library

This guide offers support for people with reading disabilities. It will facilitate the reading of online material by setting dyslexic fonts in selected databases and using different devices to adapt best practices.

To set up dyslexic fonts and download online resources click the below links for step-by-step instructions.

To view the **English** guide, click [here](#).

To view the **Arabic** guide, click [here](#).

### **Recommended online resources for the blind or those with low vision or dyslexia**

**ABC Global Book Service** – Formerly known as the TIGAR Service, ABC is an online catalogue that allows participating libraries and organizations serving people who are print disabled (known as authorized entities) to easily obtain accessible content. The service supports the goals of the Marrakesh VIP Treaty at a practical level. To request a book title, please use this form (<https://registration.qnl.qa/abc#no-back>).

Note: A **Bookshare** account is required for this service. You can register for an account here (<https://registration.qnl.qa/bookshare#no-back>). Once you receive confirmation of your registration, you may send your title request.

**Bookshare** – An online database library that makes reading accessible for people who cannot read standard print. Members can listen to a book, follow along with highlighted text, read in braille, or customize their experience in ways that make reading easier. Accounts can be obtained through this link (<https://registration.qnl.qa/bookshare#no-back>).

NOTE: A **Bookshare** account also gives you access to the complimentary book title request from the ABC Global Book Service.

**OverDrive** – Provides popular ebooks, audiobooks, and magazines for most devices.

**Libby** is the app version of OverDrive.

For the web-based app, visit <https://libbyapp.com/>

For the **iOS** app, visit <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/libby-by-overdrive-labs/id1076402606>

For the **Android** app, visit

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.overdrive.mobile.android.libby>