U.S. Currency Meaningful Access — BEP's Free iBill Reader Programme and an 18-Year Wait for Tactile Notes After a Court Order

Digital Inclusion · Good practice · United States of America

Quality score: 88/100

Evidence strength: Strong

Summary

After a 2008 court ruling that U.S. cash denied blind people meaningful access, the BEP gave away 47,000+ iBill readers and released apps. GAO found delays and an unevaluated programme, and the first tactile note, the $10, is only targeted for late 2026.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Innovation level	2/5
Sustainability (ongoing)	1/1
Evaluation evidence	1/1
Demonstrated reach	1/1
Documented learning	1/1

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-11-24

Bureau of Engraving and Printing (U.S. Department of the Treasury), with the Library of Congress NLS — accessed 2026-11-24

BEP — U.S. Currency Reader Program — accessed 2026-11-24

BEP press release (2017) — 47,000+ readers distributed — accessed 2026-11-24

GAO-14-823 — Reader Program Should Be Evaluated — accessed 2026-11-24

American Council of the Blind — Accessible currency update (2023) — accessed 2026-11-24

Library of Congress NLS — U.S. Currency Reader Program — accessed 2026-11-24

Cite this — Evidoria. *U.S. Currency Meaningful Access — BEP's Free iBill Reader Programme and an 18-Year Wait for Tactile Notes After a Court Order*. Persistent ID: f183493a-5574-4a91-ae21-f8b151f4e19e.