

## EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES

In addition to explicit and systematic instruction in phonological awareness and phonemic awareness, phonics and word recognition, spelling, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension...

- Self-monitoring strategies
- Memory techniques to remember processes
- Explicitly teach and practice skills for
  - organizing
  - time management
  - reviewing information



## POSSIBLE ACCOMMODATIONS TO BE DETERMINED BY COMMITTEE

- Note-taking assistance
- Additional time on class assignments and tests
- Reduced/shortened assignments (e.g., chunking assignments into manageable units, fewer items given on a classroom test or homework assignment without eliminating concepts, or student planner to assist with assignments)
- Alternative test location that provides a quiet environment and reduces distractions
- Priority seating assignment
- Oral reading of directions or written material
- Word banks
- Audiobooks
- Text to speech
- Speech to text
- Electronic spellers
- Electronic dictionaries
- Formula charts
- Adaptive learning tools and features in software programs

## RESOURCES FOR STATE TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS:

<https://tea.texas.gov/student-assessment/testing/student-assessment-overview/accommodation-resources>

## Contacts for Further Information

### State Dyslexia & Related Disorders Consultant

Texas Dyslexia Hotline: 1 (800) 232-3030  
[www.region10.org/dyslexia/index](http://www.region10.org/dyslexia/index)

### Region 13 Educational Service Center

**Dyslexia & Related Disorders contacts**  
<https://esc13.net/special-education/dyslexia>

### Taylor ISD Special Education Department

3101 N. Main Street  
Taylor, TX 76574  
(512) 365-1391

## Parent Resources

International Dyslexia Association  
<https://ida.org/>

Texas Education Agency- Dyslexia  
<https://tea.texas.gov/academics/special-student-populations/dyslexia-and-related-disorders>

The Dyslexia Handbook  
<https://tea.texas.gov/academics/dyslexia/>

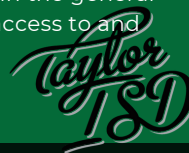
Texas Talking Books Program  
<https://www.tsl.texas.gov/tbp/index.html>

## IDEA/ 504/ MTSS

MultiTiered System of Supports (MTSS): a multistep, or tiered, approach to providing services and interventions at increasing levels of intensity to students who struggle with learning

Section 504: provides equal opportunity eligible students with disabilities when compared to their non-disabled peers. Provides support and interventions through general education.

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA): ensures that all children with disabilities have available to them a free appropriate public education. Provides individual supplemental educational services and supports in addition to what is provided to students in the general curriculum to ensure that the child has access to and benefits from the general curriculum.



TAYLOR INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Dyslexia Program Awareness for Parents & Educators

What is dyslexia?

How do we assess and identify for dyslexia?

What are effective strategies for students with dyslexia?

Who delivers instruction for students with dyslexia?

What accommodations are available for students with dyslexia?



## What is Dyslexia?

The current definition from the International Dyslexia Association states:

Dyslexia is a specific learning disability that is neurobiological in origin. It is characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities. These difficulties typically result from a deficit in the phonological component of language that is often unexpected in relation to other cognitive abilities and the provision of effective classroom instruction. Secondary consequences may include problems in reading comprehension and reduced reading experience that can impede growth of vocabulary and background knowledge.

*Referenced in 2021 Dyslexia Handbook*

## HOW IS DYSLEXIA ASSESSED FOR AND IDENTIFIED?

The law that applies to an individual student is determined by data and the student's individual needs. If a team determines that the data lead to the suspicion of a disability, the team must refer the student for an evaluation under IDEA. If a student is suspected of having a disability and the determination is made to evaluate through IDEA, all special education procedures must be followed.

If—based on the data—the team suspects that a student has dyslexia or a related disorder but does not believe that specialized instruction is necessary to meet the student's needs, the team must refer the student to the Section 504 committee. This committee will use the FIIE and develop an appropriate plan for the student without delay.

All public-school students are required to be screened for dyslexia while in kindergarten and grade 1. Additionally, students enrolling in public schools in Texas must be assessed for dyslexia and related disorders “at appropriate times” (TEC §38.003(a)).

Schools must recommend evaluation for dyslexia if the student demonstrates the following:

- Poor performance in one or more areas of reading and spelling that is unexpected for the student's age/ grade
- Characteristics and risk factors of dyslexia

When formal evaluation is recommended, the school must complete the evaluation process as outlined in IDEA. Procedural safeguards under IDEA and Section 504 must be followed. Formal evaluations would assess the academic skills and cognitive processes related to dyslexia. Decisions should be made by the ARD committee.

## QUESTIONS FOR DETERMINING DYSLEXIA:

1. Does the data show the following characteristics of dyslexia?
  - Difficulty with accurate and/or fluent word reading
  - Poor spelling skills
  - Difficulty sounding out words (decoding)
2. Do these difficulties result from a deficit in the understanding of the patterns of sounds in language? (phonology)
3. Are these difficulties *unexpected* for the student's age compared to their other academic skills?



## WHO DELIVERS INSTRUCTION?

A certified teacher who has been trained in dyslexia and related disorders as well as the curriculum of instruction the district has developed or purchased for use with students with dyslexia. These teachers are trained in instructional strategies that utilize individualized, intensive, multi sensory, phonetic methods in order to provide specialized designed instruction.