



Dyslexia Operating Procedures

Texas Education Code (TEC) §38.003 defines dyslexia and related disorders in the following way:

“Dyslexia” means a disorder of constitutional origin manifested by a difficulty in learning to read, write, or spell, despite conventional instruction, adequate intelligence, and sociocultural opportunity.

“Related disorders” include disorders similar to or related to dyslexia, such as developmental auditory imperception, dysphasia, specific developmental dyslexia, developmental dysgraphia, and developmental spelling disability.

TEC §38.003(d)(1)-(2) (1995)

<http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/ED/htm/ED.38.htm#38.003>

Students identified as having dyslexia typically experience primary difficulties in phonological awareness, including phonemic awareness and manipulation, single-word reading, reading fluency, and spelling. Consequences may include difficulties in reading comprehension and/or written expression. These difficulties in phonological awareness are unexpected for the student’s age and educational level and are not primarily the result of language difference factors. Additionally, there is often a family history of similar difficulties.

The following are the primary reading/spelling characteristics of dyslexia:

- Difficulty reading words in isolation
- Difficulty accurately decoding unfamiliar words
- Difficulty with oral reading (slow, inaccurate, or labored without prosody)
- Difficulty spelling

It is important to note that individuals demonstrate differences in degree of impairment and may not exhibit all the characteristics listed above.

Screening

A+ UP charter uses I-Station as its reading instrument to meet the requirements of both the dyslexia screening and to students in grade 7 who did not demonstrate proficiency on the state reading assessment for sixth grade.

A+ UP charter school will ensure that appropriately trained and qualified individuals administer and interpret the results of the selected screening instrument.

Individuals who administer and interpret the screening instrument must, at minimum, meet the following qualifications:



- An individual who is certified/licensed in dyslexia; or
- A classroom teacher who holds a valid certification for kindergarten and grade 1. (For a list of current certifications for kindergarten and grade 1, see the State Board for Educator Certification Teacher Assignment Chart at https://tea.texas.gov/Texas_Educators/Certification/.)

Evaluation

If A+ UP charter suspects a student has dyslexia or dysgraphia and needs services, they must ask for parent consent to conduct a Full Individual Initial Evaluation (FIIE) under IDEA. This ensures we are meeting the requirement under federal law to find and evaluate students who have or are suspected of having a disability and needing special education services. This requirement is called Child Find. Evaluations through the IDEA process makes sure that students who are eligible for special education services are identified and provided the supports they need.

Already Identified Students with Dyslexia

If your child is not receiving special education services but is identified with dyslexia and receiving intervention services from the school, your child's progress should be carefully monitored, and you should get regular updates. If your child is making good progress and you agree with the current supports and services, your child can continue with the same instruction, even if they are not receiving special education. However, if you are concerned about progress and/or suspect that your child may need special education services, you have the right to request an evaluation under the IDEA. If the school suspects your child may need special education services, they must refer your child for an evaluation. Based on the evaluation, you and the school may decide during an Admission, Review, and Dismissal (ARD) committee meeting that your child needs special education services.

Services and supports include, but are not limited to:

- [I-station](#)
- [Lexia Learning](#)
- [Amplio](#)
- [Seeing Stars](#)
- [Visualizing and Verbalizing](#)

RESOURCES

[Texas Education Agency](#)
[International Dyslexia Association](#)

LINKS

[2021 Dyslexia Handbook](#)
[Dyslexia Handbook 2021-English](#)
[Dyslexia Handbook 2021-Spanish](#)
[#CHILD_FIND-Dyslexia](#)