

Frequently Asked Questions

What is dyslexia?

Dyslexia is a language-based learning disability. Students with dyslexia often experience difficulties with both oral and written or other language skills, such as writing, and pronouncing words and writing. Dyslexia is the most common cause of reading, writing and spelling difficulties. Dyslexia affects males and females nearly equally as well as, people from different ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds nearly equally.

What are the effects of dyslexia?

The impact that dyslexia has is different for each person and depends on the severity of the condition. The core difficulty is with reading words and this is related to difficulty processing and manipulating sounds. People with dyslexia can also have problems with spoken language, even after they have been exposed to good language models in their homes and good language instruction in school. Dyslexia can also impact a person's self-image. A student with dyslexia may feel less intelligent and capable than they actually are.

How do people “get” dyslexia?

The causes for dyslexia are neurobiological and genetic. Chances are that a parent, grandparent, aunt, or uncle of the student also has dyslexia. Individuals with dyslexia can succeed in school with the proper instruction, hard work, and support from their family, teachers, and others.

What will happen if my student is identified as being at risk for dyslexia?

If the results of your student's Universal Screener indicate that the student may be at risk for dyslexia, the school will inform you of the underperforming subset areas and request written consent to administer a Level 1 Screener to gather more information about your student's strengths and weaknesses. This information will be used to provide appropriate interventions and classroom accommodations. In its more severe forms, a student with dyslexia may qualify for special education with specially designed instruction, and as appropriate, accommodations.