



# Rankin County School District

TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

2023 / 2024

## Dyslexia Intervention Guidelines



## Rankin County School District Dyslexia Guidelines

Rankin County School District provides a variety of intensive reading interventions that address specific reading deficits (phonological awareness, phonics, vocabulary, high-frequency word recognition, fluency, comprehension of literature and information text and writing) as part of the Multi-tiered System of Supports.

One of our Tier III reading interventions specifically addresses reading deficits associated with dyslexia for students who qualify in grades one through five. Our goal is to implement instructional interventions that best matches the student's needs and ensure that students are identified early and receive appropriate interventions to address their needs in a timely manner.

If it is determined that a student needs to be dismissed from dyslexia interventions a meeting will be scheduled to inform the parents of this decision and explain the next steps and support that will be provided to the students.

Students will not be assessed until they have completed a full year of kindergarten.

According to Rankin County Dyslexia Policy Code IEBA Rankin County School District shall screen students for dyslexia in the spring of Kindergarten and the fall of Grade 1. The component of the screening must include:

1. Phonological awareness and phonemic awareness;
2. Sound symbol recognition;
3. Alphabet knowledge;
4. Decoding skills;
5. Encoding skills; and
6. Rapid naming.

If a student fails the screener, the parent or legal guardian will be notified of the results of the screener. If a parent or legal guardian of a student who fails the dyslexia screener exercises the option to have a subsequent evaluation performed, such evaluation shall be administered by any of the licensed professionals, including: Psychologists, Psychometrists, or Speech Language Pathologists, and the resulting diagnosis of the subsequent evaluation must be accepted by the school district for purposes of determining eligibility for placement within a dyslexia intervention program.



## Referral/Requests Procedures First Grade Students

1. First grade teachers will complete the teacher checklist that is part of the state approved first grade dyslexia screener.
2. Dyslexia Interventionists will give the state approved first grade dyslexia screener if any items are checked “yes” on the teacher checklist (other than items #1 and #5).
3. A Teacher Support Team (TST) meeting will be scheduled to review the screener results, i-Ready scores, class and test performance, teacher narrative, student profile, previous tiered intervention data, Quick Phonics Screener, and diagnosis of dyslexia if available. Students may be referred for a Multi-Disciplinary Evaluation Team (MET) Meeting. At this meeting it may be determined that a comprehensive evaluation should be completed to determine the most appropriate support for the student.

### Current Students Receiving Dyslexia Interventions

Students currently receiving dyslexia intervention services will continue to receive support for the 2023 – 2024 school year. Progress will be monitored for all students to ensure appropriate placement in the dyslexia intervention program.

### Outside Testing Review

1. If a student has obtained an outside evaluation that provides a diagnosis of dyslexia the parent or guardian will request a MET meeting to review all available data for the student and determine if dyslexia intervention services are needed at that time.
2. The MET may consider additional testing to determine if there is a more appropriate intervention or placement for the student. Student data is used to make decisions regarding appropriate instructional intervention placement.
3. In order to receive services, a non-resident student must first meet transfer requirements in accordance with state statute and district policy JBCB.
4. Parents will receive written notification regarding dyslexia eligibility decisions. Schools will conduct eligibility meetings and return all signed documentation to the Language and Intervention Specialist to be kept on file.
5. Files for cumulative folders: Record of Dyslexia Diagnosis Page



## Parent/School Personnel Request

1. The parent or school personnel will request a MET meeting to determine if a comprehensive evaluation is needed.
2. The MET will review all available information and determine if dyslexia testing is recommended at that time.
3. If the student receives a diagnosis of dyslexia the Language and Intervention Specialist will schedule a meeting to determine the most appropriate academic intervention.
4. If it is determined that the student would benefit from Dyslexia Intervention Services a meeting will be scheduled with the school and parent to obtain signatures and schedule the start date for services.
5. Schools will return all signed documentation to the RCSD Language and Intervention Specialist to be kept on file.
6. Files for cumulative folders: Eligibility page



## Criteria for Determination of Dyslexia Services

The profile of strengths and weaknesses of an individual with dyslexia varies with age, educational opportunities and the influence of co-occurring factors such as emotional adjustment, ability to pay attention in learning situations, difficulties with health or motivation. Clusters of distinguishing characteristics are frequently noted.

Background Information: Information from parents and teachers will be collected utilizing the teacher checklist and the parent interview. Some of the information gathered may include:

Family history	History of delayed speech or language
Previous interventions or tutoring supports	School attendance

Cognitive Ability: Average to above average cognitive ability indicated on a standardized measure.

Oral Language: Indicators of higher-level oral language skills should be documented to include being able to understand age-appropriate stories and spoken language, use words that are age appropriate and carry on conversation.

Word Recognition: The ability to read single printed words both accurately and with fluency.

Decoding: The ability to read unfamiliar words by using letter-sound knowledge, spelling patterns and chunking the word into smaller parts, such as syllable.

Spelling: The ability to spell individual words from memory using their knowledge of letter-sound pairings and patterns of letters that cluster together.

Phonological Processing: Students must be able to correctly sequence sounds in words in order to learn to link letters to sounds for reading and spelling. There may be difficulty present in identifying, pronouncing, and recalling sounds.

Reading Comprehension: Students may be able to perform adequately on a reading comprehension test because they have developed skills to read shorter passages and refer to the story to answer questions, but they may still have difficulty reading and understanding longer reading assignments in their grade-level texts.

Vocabulary Knowledge: A difficulty in learning language or with memory can affect the ability to learn the meanings of words.

Formal Education: Student must have completed at least one year of kindergarten to ensure instruction has occurred.



## Resources

Mississippi Department of Education Dyslexia Support Guide

[https://www.mdek12.org/sites/default/files/Offices/MDE/OAE/OEER/Dyslexia/mde\\_dsylexia\\_handbook\\_01.16.23\\_updated.pdf](https://www.mdek12.org/sites/default/files/Offices/MDE/OAE/OEER/Dyslexia/mde_dsylexia_handbook_01.16.23_updated.pdf)

Rankin County School District Dyslexia Parent Guide [Dyslexia Parent Guide 2023.docx](#)

Rankin County School District Activity Packet [Dyslexia Activities.docx](#)

Rankin County School District Dyslexia Policy

<https://rankin.msbpolicy.org/DistrictPolicies/Views/SelectedDocumentReadOnly/tabid/2551/Default.aspx?docId=296554>

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

The Yale Center for Dyslexia and Creativity <https://dyslexia.yale.edu/>

Academic Language Therapy Association <https://altaread.org/>

The International Multisensory Structured Language Education Council <https://www.imslec.org/>