

Dyslexia and Related Disorders: Information for Parents

Characteristics of Dyslexia and Related Disorders:

What is Dyslexia?

Dyslexia is a brain-based learning disability that makes learning to read, write, or spell difficult.

Primary characteristics include difficulties with:

- ◆ Learning the sounds letters make
- ◆ Reading words in isolation or reading unknown words
- ◆ Reading smoothly with enough speed and accuracy to comprehend
- ◆ Spelling

What is Dysgraphia?

Dysgraphia is a related disorder of dyslexia and is a written language disability that involves both motor and language skills such as the finding, retrieving, and producing of letters.

Primary characteristics include difficulties with:

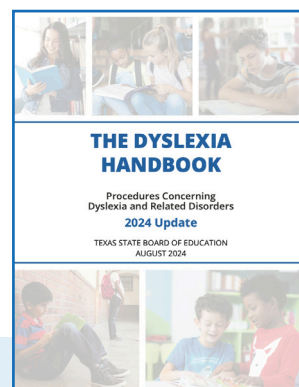
- ◆ Forming letters correctly
- ◆ Excessive erasures and cross-outs
- ◆ Poor spacing between letters and words
- ◆ Letter and number reversals beyond grade 2
- ◆ Awkward, inconsistent pencil grip
- ◆ Heavy pressure and hand fatigue
- ◆ Copy words correctly
- ◆ Completing writing assignments

The Texas State Board of Education (SBOE) requires, through their rule at [19 Texas Administrative Code \(TAC\) §74.28\(f\)](#), that each school district and open-enrollment charter school provide certain information about dyslexia and related disorders to parents of students enrolled in the district or school.



19 TAC §74.28, along with the SBOE's Dyslexia Handbook referenced in subsection (c) of that rule and which is also available at tea.texas.gov/dyslexia, describes common characteristics of dyslexia and related disorders, the evaluation and identification process when dyslexia or a related disorder is suspected, and the instructional requirements for an identified student. If you have any problems accessing the electronic version of the Dyslexia Handbook, or if you wish to receive a hard copy, contact your child's school.

[View the Dyslexia Handbook](#)



To find out more information about the qualifications and contact information for the professionals who provide dyslexia instruction to identified students in your district or open-enrollment charter school:

Contact Information: