SEC. .1. DYSLEXIA AND RELATED DISORDERS

The Board shall ensure that procedures are implemented for identifying and providing appropriate, evidence-based instructional services to students for dyslexia and related disorders. These procedures shall be implemented in accordance with the State Board of Education's *Dyslexia Handbook: Procedures Concerning Dyslexia and Related Disorders* (*Dyslexia Handbook 2018 Update*). *19 TAC 74.28*. Texas Leadership Public Schools shall provide a copy or a link to the electronic version of the *Dyslexia Handbook* to parents of children suspected to have dyslexia or a related disorder.

SEC. .2. IDENTIFICATION AND TESTING

Students enrolling in Texas Leadership Public Schools shall be screened or tested, as appropriate, for dyslexia and related disorders at appropriate times in accordance with a program approved by the State Board of Education. This program includes a screening at the end of each school year for each student in kindergarten and each student in first grade.

Texas Leadership Public Schools must make available a process for early identification, intervention, and support for students at risk for dyslexia and related disorders in accordance with the *Dyslexia Handbook*. Texas Leadership Public Schools may not use early intervention strategies, including multi-tiered systems of support, to delay or deny the provision of a full and individual evaluation to a child suspected of having a specific learning disability, including dyslexia or a related disorder.

Screening and further evaluation should only be done by individuals or professionals who are trained to assess students for dyslexia and related disorders.

19 TAC 74.28(d), (j).

a) Parent Notification

At least five school days before any identification or evaluation procedure is used with an individual service, Texas Leadership Public Schools must provide written notification of the proposed identification or evaluation to the student's parent. The notice must be in English, or to the extent practicable, the individual's native language. The notice must include:

1. A reasonable description of the evaluation procedure to be used with the individual student;
2. Information related to any instructional intervention or strategy used to assist the student prior to evaluation;
3. An estimated timeframe within which the evaluation will be completed; and

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4. Specific contact information for the campus point of contact, relevant parent training and information projects, and any other appropriate parent resources.

b) IDEA Notice

Before a full individual and initial evaluation is conducted to determine whether a student has a disability under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act ("IDEA"), Texas Leadership Public Schools must notify the student's parent of its proposal to conduct an evaluation consistent with 34 CFR 300.503, provide all the information required in the above notice, and provide an opportunity for written consent for the evaluation. Texas Leadership Public Schools must also provide a copy of the IDEA procedural safeguards notice required under 34 CFR 300.504 and a copy of Section 504 information required under Education Code 26.0081.

c) Options and Services

Parents of a student with dyslexia or a related disorder must be informed of all services and options available to the student, including general education interventions under response to intervention and multi-tiered systems of support models as required by Education Code 26.0081(d).

19 TAC 74.28(f)-(h).

SEC. .3. TREATMENT

Texas Leadership Public Schools shall provide each identified student access at his or her campus to instructional programs and to the services of a teacher trained in dyslexia and related services. Texas Leadership Public Schools may, with the approval of each student's parents or guardians, offer additional services at a centralized location, so long as such centralized services do not preclude each student from receiving services at his or her campus. *19 TAC 74.28(i)*.

a) Reading Program

Texas Leadership Public Schools shall purchase a reading program or develop its own reading program for students with dyslexia and related disorders that is aligned with the descriptors found in the *Dyslexia Handbook*.

Teachers who screen and treat these students must be trained in instructional strategies that utilize individualized, intensive, multi-sensory, phonetic methods and a variety of writing and spelling components described in the Dyslexia Handbook. The professional development activities specified by each school and/or campus planning committee shall include these instructional strategies.

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19 TAC 74.28(e).

b) Reassessment

Unless otherwise provided by law, a student determined to have dyslexia during testing or accommodated because of dyslexia may not be retested for dyslexia for the purpose of reassessing the student's need for accommodations until Texas Leadership Public Schools reevaluates the information obtained from previous testing of the student.

SEC. .4. PARENT EDUCATION PROGRAM

Texas Leadership Public Schools shall provide a parent education program for parents of students with dyslexia and related disorders. This program must include:

1. Awareness of characteristics of dyslexia and related disorders;
2. Information on testing and diagnosis of dyslexia;
3. Information on effective strategies for teaching dyslexic students;
4. Information on qualifications of those delivering services to students with dyslexia and related disorders;
5. Awareness of information on modification, especially modifications allowed on standardized testing;
6. Information on eligibility, evaluation requests, and services available under IDEA and Section 504; and
7. Contact information for the relevant regional and/or district specialists.

Education Code 38.003; 19 TAC 74.28(l).

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