

### Q. What should I do if I think my child has dyslexia or another learning disability?

- A. Parents should inform their child’s teacher or School Building Level Committee (SBLC) Chairperson of concerns that the child may have dyslexia or another learning disability. Teachers and other school staff may make a dyslexia referral; however, it is recommended that parents request, preferably in writing, a dyslexia assessment as soon as they suspect a disability.

### Q. Is my child entitled to dyslexia services if I believe he/she has dyslexia?

- A. [Bulletin 1903](#) outlines specific referral and assessment procedures to assist teams in determining if students should receive special services. Parental input and involvement are highly encouraged in this team-based decision making process.

### Q. Is my child required to have a dyslexia evaluation from an outside agency to get educational services?

- A. No. Parents are not required to obtain a dyslexia evaluation from an outside agency. School districts are equipped to conduct assessments that determine whether a child exhibits *characteristics of dyslexia*. Bulletin 1903 describes a school-level process in which multiple sources of information, including outside reports provided by a parent, should be considered when making eligibility decisions about dyslexia services. However, outside reports are not the sole determinant of services. A student may receive dyslexia services if a school team determines that the student meets eligibility criteria described in the bulletin.

### Q. Will my child with dyslexia be placed in a special education program?

- A. Students with dyslexia may or may not be eligible to receive special education services. The team-based referral and screening process, which involves the parents, determines whether a child is evaluated for possible special education programming. Not all students with dyslexia qualify for special education. Some students are referred for Dyslexic specific and/or Section 504 services. These supports are primarily provided in the general education setting.

### Q. What services could my child receive if the school determines he/she has characteristics of dyslexia?

- A. Three service options are available to eligible students with dyslexia. On a case-by-case basis, a committee of knowledgeable persons determines which of the following services is most appropriate.
1. Special remediation is provided to students who meet Bulletin 1903 criteria as a child with *characteristics of dyslexia*. Specialized instruction in a Multisensory Structured Language (MSL) Program should be provided to these students for a minimum of 150 minutes per week.
  2. Students identified with *characteristics of dyslexia* are often eligible for Section 504 accommodations, auxiliary aids, and supports in addition to instruction in an MSL program. Services for these students are documented on an Individual Accommodation Plan (IAP).
  3. Students with dyslexia who qualify for special education services are typically identified as a student with a *specific learning disability*. These students receive special instructional programming and related services which may or may not include remediation in an MSL program. Services for these students are outlined in an Individualized Education Program (IEP).