



Dyslexia Therapist & Dyslexia Practitioner Licensing Program

Licensure requirements, the application process, renewals, and frequently asked questions

Why would someone choose to be licensed?

- To be identified as a dyslexia remediation professional who has met the minimum standards set forth by the state of Texas
- To maintain and upgrade skills and knowledge by taking the required continuing education hours to further foster high quality services
- To increase public confidence in the dyslexia remediation profession by being regulated by the state of Texas
- To act as a resource for those with questions regarding dyslexia

What are the requirements for licensure?

○ Licensed Dyslexia Therapists

- A **master's degree** (or a more advanced degree)
- Successful completion of an IMSLEC accredited training program that includes, at a minimum:
 - **200** contact hours of coursework
 - **700** hours of supervised clinical experience
 - **10** demonstration lessons
- Successful completion of the Alliance National Registration Examination for Multisensory Structured Language Education **Therapist** Level administered by ALTA

What are the requirements for licensure?

○ Licensed Dyslexia Practitioners

- A **bachelor's degree** (or a more advanced degree)
- Successful completion of an IMSLEC accredited training program that includes, at a minimum:
 - **45** contact hours of coursework
 - **60** hours of supervised clinical experience
 - **5** demonstration lessons
- Successful completion of the Alliance National Registration Examination for Multisensory Structured Language Education **Associate / Teaching** Level administered by ALTA

Where can I find an application?

- www.dshs.state.tx.us/dyslexia



TEXAS
Department of
State Health Services

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Advanced

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Dyslexia Therapist and Dyslexia Practitioner Licensing Program Home Page

Welcome to the new home page of the DSHS Dyslexia Therapist and Practitioner Licensing Program. The 81st Texas Legislature enacted House Bill 461, relating to the regulation of dyslexia therapists and practitioners, and the bill was signed by Governor Rick Perry on June 21, 2009. Select the "Statutes/Laws" link at right to view or print a copy of House Bill 461.

Questions regarding House Bill 461 or the dyslexia therapist and practitioner licensing program may be directed to dyslexia@dshs.state.tx.us

Last updated October 26, 2010

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**Dyslexia Therapist and
Dyslexia Practitioner
Licensing Program**

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What information do I put on the application?

- Name, address, social security number, phone number, etc.
- Check the correct line next to the type of license for which you are applying.

10. TYPE OF LICENSE FOR WHICH YOU ARE APPLYING

Please mark the space next to the type of license for which you are eligible. You may need to read the information provided in items **11-14** in order to make this determination.

➡ **DYSLEXIA PRACTITIONER - I hold a BACHELOR'S degree** (or an advanced degree) from a regionally accredited college or university and I have completed the additional training, experience, and examination qualifications for licensure as a dyslexia practitioner. (See item **11** below for more information.)

➡ **DYSLEXIA THERAPIST - I hold a MASTER'S degree** (or a more advanced degree) from a regionally accredited college or university and I have completed the additional training, experience, and examination qualifications for licensure as a dyslexia therapist. (See item **12** below for more information.)

What do I include on question #7?

7. Do you possess any professional or occupational licenses, registrations, certificates, or permits issued by any state, jurisdiction, or territory? _____ YES _____ NO
If YES, state profession or occupation; license or certificate number; name of the issuing jurisdiction, and date issued:

- Check "YES" if you hold any type of professional license, certificate, registration, or permit issued by the state of Texas or any other state (i.e. certified teacher, speech therapist, licensed social worker, etc.)

What do I send in as sufficient proof of meeting these requirements?

- **All** applicants must submit an original transcript showing the highest degree earned
- If you **are** a current member of ALTA, send in a photocopy of your current ALTA card or certificate. It is not necessary to send in your training program certificates or proof of passing the required exam.
- If you **are not** a current member of ALTA, you *must* send in photocopied certificates from your training program showing the number of completed coursework hours, supervised clinical experience hours, and number of demonstration lessons. You *must* also submit proof of passing the required exam.

How do I renew my license?

- It is the responsibility of the licensee to renew his/her license!
- Renewal notices will be sent out approximately 30 days prior to expiration
- Fill out the form and mail them back
- Failure to receive notice does NOT excuse a licensee from late fees

Renewal Form

----- CUT ALONG THIS LINE -----

Texas Department of State Health Services
Billed: January 4, 2013
Client Code: 6302
Application#: 000

License#: 0000
Budget/Fund: ZZ107/001
Amount: \$158.00
Due: October 31, 2012

LICENSEE NAME
ADDRESS
CITY, STATE 78754

Please indicate changes necessary to keep your records current:

Address: _____

City/St/Zip: _____

Primary Place of Employment (Address & Phone): _____

Since your last renewal, have you been convicted, pled guilty to, or received deferred adjudication for a felony or misdemeanor, other than a minor traffic violation? (Please note that Driving While Intoxicated is not a minor traffic violation.) Yes No N/A

Have you completed the continuing education requirements as set out in state law and/or agency rule?
 Yes No N/A

CASH RECEIPTS BRANCH, MC 2003
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES
PO BOX 149347
AUSTIN, TX 78714-9347

What do I do if I am “selected for audit”?

----- CUT ALONG THIS LINE -----

Texas Department of State Health Services
Billed: January 4, 2013
Client Code: 6302
Application#: 0000

License#: 0000
Budget/Fund: ZZ107/001
Amount: \$158.00
Due: October 31, 2012

Please indicate changes necessary to keep your records current:

LICENSEE NAME
GENERIC ADDRESS
CITY, STATE 78754

Address: _____
City/St/Zip: _____
Primary Place of Employment (Address & Phone): _____

SELECTED FOR AUDIT



Since your last renewal, have you been convicted, pled guilty to, or received deferred adjudication for a felony or misdemeanor, other than a minor traffic violation? (Please note that Driving While Intoxicated is not a minor traffic violation.) Yes No N/A

Have you completed the continuing education requirements as set out in state law and/or agency rule?
 Yes No N/A

CASH RECEIPTS BRANCH, MC 2003
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES
PO BOX 149347
AUSTIN, TX 78714-9347

What do I do if I am “selected for audit”?

- You must send in proof of completion of the required continuing education hours
- Sufficient proof includes photocopies of the continuing education certificates that clearly show the number of completed continuing education hours

Frequently Asked Questions

- Can I become a dyslexia therapist if I hold a bachelor's degree, not a master's degree?
 - No. In order to be licensed as a dyslexia therapist holding a bachelor's degree, the law required a person to complete the training and examination requirements by November 30, 2012 and postmark a license application by December 31, 2012. This option is no longer available.
- How much does it cost to be licensed?
 - \$161 for 2 years



Frequently Asked Questions

- How many continuing education hours are required?
 - 20 hours in 2 years; if you are ALTA certified, you may use the same continuing education hours.
- Are the licensed dyslexia therapist and licensed dyslexia practitioner national licenses?
 - No



Contact Information

Mail the application, attachments, and
licensing fee to:

Dyslexia Licensing Program

Texas Department of State Health Services

P.O. Box 149347

Mail Code 2003

Austin, TX 78714-9347

Phone: (512) 834-4515

Fax: (512) 834-6677

dyslexia@dshs.state.tx.us

www.dshs.state.tx.us/dyslexia

Additional Resources

- **IMSLEC** – The International Multisensory Structure Language Education Council

www.imslec.org

- **ALTA** – Academic Language Therapy Association

www.altaread.org

- **TEA** - Texas Education Agency

www.tea.state.tx.us