



# Dyslexia Therapist & Dyslexia Practitioner Licensing Program

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

# Why would someone choose to be licensed?

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- 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?

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## ○ 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?

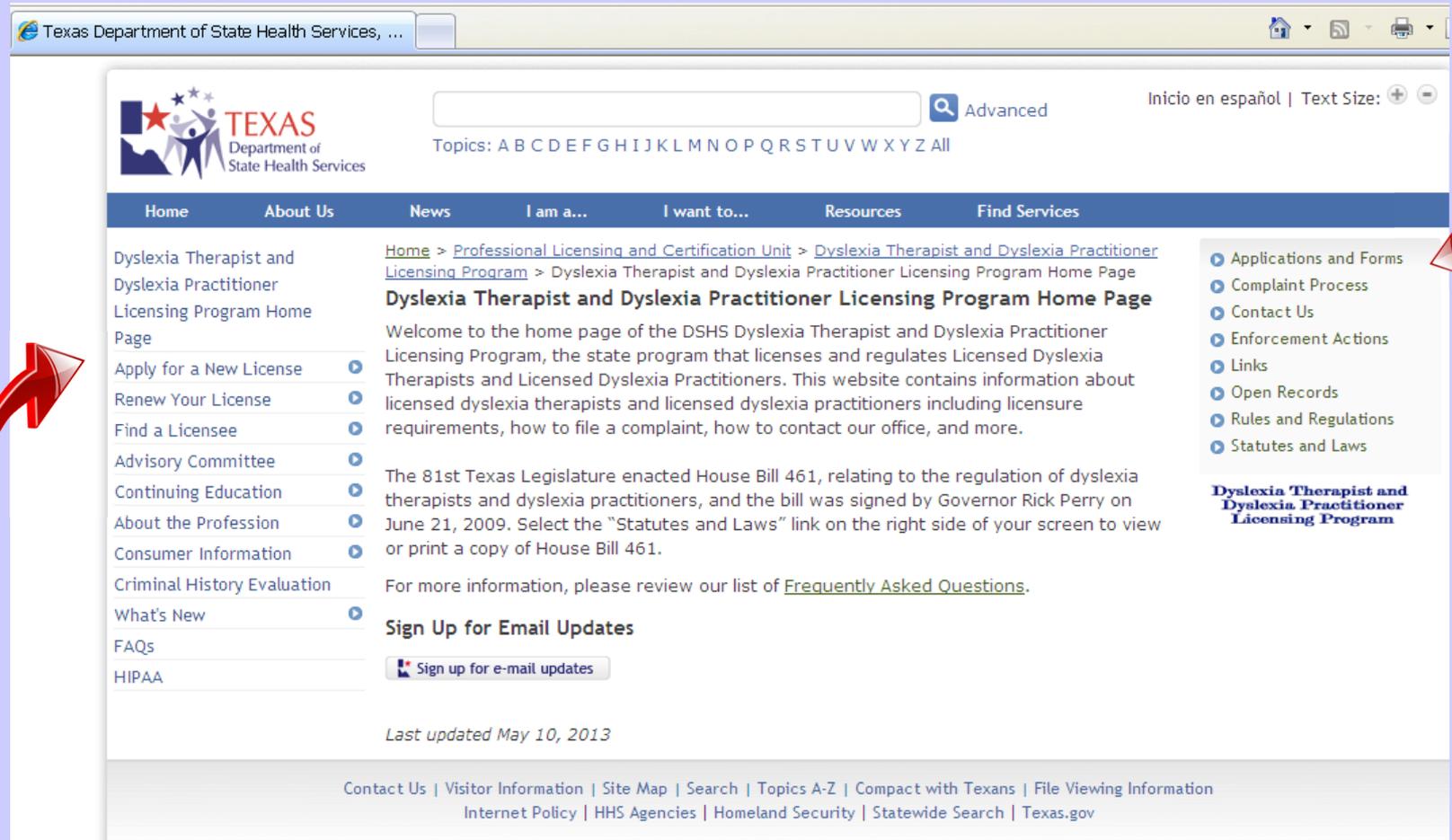
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## ○ Licensed Dyslexia Practitioners

- 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](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/dyslexia)



The screenshot shows the Texas Department of State Health Services website. The header includes the Texas Department of State Health Services logo, a search bar with 'Advanced' search, and a language selector for 'Inicio en español'. The main navigation menu includes 'Home', 'About Us', 'News', 'I am a...', 'I want to...', 'Resources', and 'Find Services'. The main content area is titled 'Dyslexia Therapist and Dyslexia Practitioner Licensing Program Home Page' and contains a welcome message, a link to 'Frequently Asked Questions', and a 'Sign Up for Email Updates' button. A right-hand sidebar menu lists various links, with 'Applications and Forms' highlighted by a red arrow. The footer contains contact information and site navigation links.

Texas Department of State Health Services, ...

Inicio en español | Text Size: + -

Topics: A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z All

Home About Us News I am a... I want to... Resources Find Services

Dyslexia Therapist and Dyslexia Practitioner Licensing Program Home Page

Apply for a New License

Renew Your License

Find a Licensee

Advisory Committee

Continuing Education

About the Profession

Consumer Information

Criminal History Evaluation

What's New

FAQs

HIPAA

[Home](#) > [Professional Licensing and Certification Unit](#) > [Dyslexia Therapist and Dyslexia Practitioner Licensing Program](#) > Dyslexia Therapist and Dyslexia Practitioner Licensing Program Home Page

**Dyslexia Therapist and Dyslexia Practitioner Licensing Program Home Page**

Welcome to the home page of the DSHS Dyslexia Therapist and Dyslexia Practitioner Licensing Program, the state program that licenses and regulates Licensed Dyslexia Therapists and Licensed Dyslexia Practitioners. This website contains information about licensed dyslexia therapists and licensed dyslexia practitioners including licensure requirements, how to file a complaint, how to contact our office, and more.

The 81st Texas Legislature enacted House Bill 461, relating to the regulation of dyslexia therapists and dyslexia practitioners, and the bill was signed by Governor Rick Perry on June 21, 2009. Select the "Statutes and Laws" link on the right side of your screen to view or print a copy of House Bill 461.

For more information, please review our list of [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

**Sign Up for Email Updates**

[Sign up for e-mail updates](#)

*Last updated May 10, 2013*

**Applications and Forms**

- Complaint Process
- Contact Us
- Enforcement Actions
- Links
- Open Records
- Rules and Regulations
- Statutes and Laws

**Dyslexia Therapist and Dyslexia Practitioner Licensing Program**

Contact Us | Visitor Information | Site Map | Search | Topics A-Z | Compact with Texans | File Viewing Information  
Internet Policy | HHS Agencies | Homeland Security | Statewide Search | Texas.gov

# What information do I put on the application?

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- Name, preferred mailing address, social security number, phone number, criminal history information, etc.
- If you have a criminal history, you must provide information for **all** felony and/or misdemeanor offenses. Please note that most *minor traffic violations* do not need to be reported. **DWI/DUI is NOT a minor traffic offense.**

9. Have you ever been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor? \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

Have you ever entered a plea of *nolo contendere* (no contest), entered a plea of guilty, or received deferred adjudication for a felony or misdemeanor? \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

*If you answered yes to either of the above, complete this section.* Provide the following information for all felony and/or misdemeanor offenses. Include any convictions which are currently on appeal. Attach additional information and documentation or use additional sheets if appropriate.

State offense(s) committed \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of conviction(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Sentence(s) \_\_\_\_\_

City, County and State where offense(s) was/were committed \_\_\_\_\_

Are you/were you on probation/parole? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No If yes, discharge date \_\_\_\_\_

# What information do I put on the application?

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- 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?

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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 original transcripts showing the highest degree earned. Photocopies of transcripts are not accepted.
- 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?

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- It is the responsibility of the licensee to renew his/her license!
- Renewal notices will be mailed out approximately 30 days prior to expiration
- Failure to receive notice does NOT excuse a licensee from late fees
- Licensees may submit the online renewal form via our online system or mail in the renewal form and fee to DSHS
- Each licensee must complete 20 hours of continuing education before the license is renewed

# Renewal Notice/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

LICENSEE NAME  
GENERIC ADDRESS  
CITY, STATE 78754

*Please indicate changes necessary to keep your records current:*

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”?

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- 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

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- Are Texas school districts required to employ licensed dyslexia practitioners and/or licensed dyslexia therapists?
  - No. Texas school districts are currently not required by state law to employ licensed dyslexia practitioners and/or licensed dyslexia therapists. A school district may choose to require that the district's dyslexia educators hold a DSHS license.
- How much does it cost to be licensed?
  - Initial licensing fee: \$161 for 2 years
  - Renewal fee: \$158 for 2 years



# Frequently Asked Questions

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- How many continuing education hours are required for renewal?
  - 20 hours in 2 years; if you are ALTA certified, you may use the same continuing education hours.
- Are the dyslexia therapist and dyslexia practitioner licenses national licenses?
  - No. The licenses are valid only within the state of Texas and do not permit any special rights or privileges in other states.



# Contact Information

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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) 834-6628

Fax: (512) 834-6677

[dyslexia@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:dyslexia@dshs.state.tx.us)

[www.dshs.state.tx.us/dyslexia](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/dyslexia)

# Additional Resources

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

[www.imslec.org](http://www.imslec.org)

- **ALTA** – Academic Language Therapy Association

[www.altaread.org](http://www.altaread.org)

- **TEA** – Texas Education Agency

[www.tea.state.tx.us](http://www.tea.state.tx.us)