



DYSLEXIA

Parent Information

Background

In July 2018, Indiana passed a law that requires school districts to identify struggling readers who show risk factors for dyslexia and also provide appropriate interventions for students determined to be at risk.

What Is Dyslexia?

The definition for dyslexia in Indiana law is as follows: "'Dyslexia' means a specific learning disability that: is neurological in origin and characterized by difficulties with accurate fluent word recognition, and poor spelling and decoding abilities; typically results from a deficit in the phonological component of language that is often unexpected in relation to other cognitive abilities and the provision of effective classroom instruction; may include problems in reading comprehension and reduced reading experience that can impede the growth of vocabulary and background knowledge."

Screening Process

Once a year, all students in grades kindergarten through second grade will undergo universal screeners to check their skills in six different areas. These areas are:

- phonological and phonemic awareness (the ability to separate and change sounds in words)
- alphabet knowledge (name different letters)
- sound symbol relationship (phonics)
- decoding (reading)
- rapid naming (quickly naming common objects)
- encoding (spelling)





DYSLEXIA

Parent Information

What Does This Mean For My Child?

As a result of the mCLASS with DIBELS 8th data, your child's scores fall into the "at risk" or "some risk" category. Administering DIBELS 8th with the additional measures qualifies as the combined screening, with no additional diagnostic administration needed. Diagnostic reporting to support instructional response for students who are at risk for dyslexia are provided in several ways in mCLASS. mCLASS with DIBELS 8th Edition is approved as a screener and a Level 1 diagnostic. This is NOT a Special Education evaluation.

Your child will spend 6-10 weeks participating in a literacy intervention that is designed to meet his/her needs. This is in addition to his/her regular Reading and Writing classroom instruction. If adequate progress is not met after the intervention period, your child's school will contact you regarding the need for changes in instructional options and/or for permission to proceed with an educational evaluation. An educational evaluation will help to determine if there is a need for special education and related services.

Additional Resources

[Indiana Department of Education](#)

[International Dyslexia Association](#)

[Dyslexia Institute of Indiana](#)

