



Updated Dyslexia Screener Guidance

Update 5/2021

Dyslexia Screener Timeline:

House Enrolled Act 1514 (2021) changed the timeline for administering the universal and level I dyslexia screener. The law states, “If a student is determined to be at risk, or at some risk, for dyslexia after a screening under section 1 of this chapter [which outlines the universal screening process], the school corporation or charter school shall administer a level I dyslexia screening of the student **within ninety (90) days of date the student's school year commences.**”

This timeline is based on 90 school days, **not** calendar days.

Sharing a Student's Screener Scores Between Schools:

It is vital that schools share universal, Level I and Level II screening data when students transfer or move to a new school. The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) created a [sample document](#) schools may choose to use when sharing screener data. This is not a required document, but will benefit the student as it expedites instruction and intervention. It may be modified to fit the needs of your school.

Screening Students in Third Grade or Higher:

Indiana Code states that if the teacher of a student in third grade or higher notices difficulty in the six screened subset, the student shall receive a universal screener. The new 90 student day timeline applies to students in third grade or higher only if a student moves in from another state. If the move in is outside the 90-day window and the teacher notices difficulty in the six screened subsets, schools must screen as soon as possible.

Parents may ask the school to screen a child for the characteristics of dyslexia via the universal screener. It is important to express to parents that schools are not diagnosing dyslexia. Schools have local control to decide if they will give the universal screeners to students based on a parent request. The parental request to give the universal screener to students is separate from the education evaluation requirements for special education outlined in Article 7. Since students in grades three through 12 may be screened, schools should select screeners that cover the same six subsets screened in kindergarten, first, and second grade. Please note that schools must select an approved screener that covers the student's grade. The school may give a screener that is outside the approved grade, but the school will use local control to set benchmarks to decide what is considered “at risk” and “at some risk.”