



## The Truth About Dyslexia

- Dyslexia or reading disability occurs in people of *all* levels of intelligence, including the intellectually gifted.
- Dyslexia is *not* caused by lack of motivation or interest in reading. Lack of motivation to read and write may be a *consequence* of dyslexia, because reading is very taxing and difficult for a dyslexic individual.
- Dyslexia does *not* mean seeing things backwards and is not indicated by reversals of letters or words, even though dyslexic students struggle with spelling and word recognition.

## How is Dyslexia Diagnosed?

A formal evaluation is needed to discover if a person is dyslexic. Among other things, an evaluation assesses intellectual ability, information processing, phonemic awareness, and academic skills.

## Teaching Instruction for Students with Dyslexia

Proper instruction promotes reading success and minimizes many difficulties associated with dyslexia. Early identification and treatment are the keys to helping people with dyslexia achieve in school and in life. Instruction should be a multisensory, structured language approach. This means engaging the visual, auditory, and kinesthetic channels simultaneously or in rapid succession.

## The IDA Mission

We believe all individuals have the right to achieve their potential, that individual learning abilities can be strengthened and that social, educational, and cultural barriers to language acquisition and use must be removed.

Our purpose is to pursue and provide the most comprehensive range of information and services that address the full scope of dyslexia and related difficulties in learning to read and write . . . In a way that creates hope, possibility and partnership . . . So that every individual has the opportunity to lead a productive and fulfilling life, and society benefits from the resource that is liberated.

The  
International  
**DYSLEXIA**  
Association®

*Promoting literacy through research, education, and advocacy.™*

40 York Road, 4th Floor  
Baltimore, Maryland 21204-5202  
(410) 296-0232 • 1-800-ABCD123  
Fax: (410) 321-5069  
E-mail: [member@interdys.org](mailto:member@interdys.org)  
[www.interdys.org](http://www.interdys.org)

# MEMBERSHIP

The  
International  
**DYSLEXIA**  
Association®

*Promoting literacy through research, education, and advocacy.™*

## FINDING THE ANSWERS... REALIZING THE POTENTIAL

Basic information about dyslexia, IDA and membership opportunities



Since 1949  
Founded in memory of Dr. Samuel T. Orton

## What is Dyslexia?

Dyslexia is a language-based learning disability. It is a condition resulting in difficulties with specific language skills, particularly reading and spelling. Individuals with dyslexia may also experience difficulties in other language skills such as writing, listening and speaking.

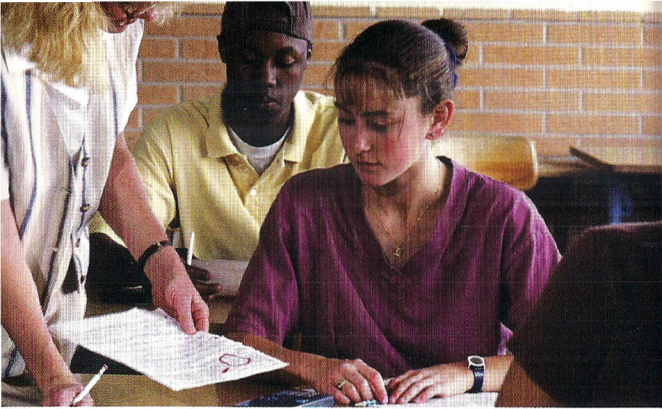
Dyslexia results from differences in the structure and function of the brain. Although dyslexia is a life-long condition and its impact might vary at different stages in a person's life, timely and appropriate intervention can have a positive effect. Dyslexia is referred to as a learning disability because affected students may find it very difficult to succeed academically in a typical instructional environment. Adults with dyslexia may experience similar difficulties in the workplace.

## Characteristics of Dyslexia

Listed below are some of the more common characteristics of dyslexia:

- **Reading Difficulties:**
  - learning sounds of letters
  - separating words into sounds
  - slow and inaccurate reading
  - poor reading comprehension
- **Oral Language Difficulties:**
  - delayed spoken language
  - misinterpretation of language that is heard
  - lack of awareness of different sounds in words and rhymes
  - organizing thoughts
- **Writing Difficulties:**
  - organization of ideas
  - poor spelling
  - poor letter formation and spatial organization
- **Mathematics Difficulties:**
  - memorizing math facts
  - correct sequencing of steps when solving problems
  - transposing digits within numbers





## Who We Are

The International Dyslexia Association (IDA) is a non-profit, scientific, and educational organization dedicated exclusively to the study and treatment of the specific language disability known as dyslexia. We have been a strong force in the educational and scientific communities for over 50 years. IDA works internationally, nationally, and locally on such matters as public awareness, education, research, and legislation.

## What We Do

IDA has been the leading resource for individuals with dyslexia, their families, and those who serve them. We are a clearinghouse of information about dyslexia and related topics. IDA provides literature, and information and referral services to tens of thousands of individuals and organizations every year.

The IDA annual conference attracts thousands of outstanding researchers, clinicians, parents, educators, psychologists, educational therapists, and individuals with dyslexia. IDA also provides information on many topics and issues, including:

- Referrals for diagnosis, tutoring, and schooling
- Opportunities for professional development
- Multisensory structured language approaches to teaching individuals with dyslexia
- Individualized Education Programs (IEPs)
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accommodations

IDA publications provide information about the most current educational and medical research on dyslexia. IDA also promotes quality professional development for teachers and therapists in many ways, including its support of The Alliance for Accreditation & Certification of Structured Language Education.

IDA receives no government support and is funded through membership dues, conference revenue, donations, foundation grants, and publication sales.

Headquartered in Baltimore, MD, IDA has some 12,000 members worldwide. Members and the public-at-large have access to local resources through more than 45 branches in the U.S., Canada, and affiliate organizations around the world.

## Membership & Benefits

Membership is open to any individual or organization that supports the purposes of the Association. Annual dues entitle members to the following:

- *Perspectives* — published quarterly for all members
- *Annals of Dyslexia* — IDA's semi-annual research journal
- Discounts on IDA conferences and publications
- Affiliation with a local IDA branch
- Branch newsletters and local event discounts
- Preferred advertising opportunities (Corporate and Institutional members)
- Access to IDA's member mailing database
- Institutional member incentive programs

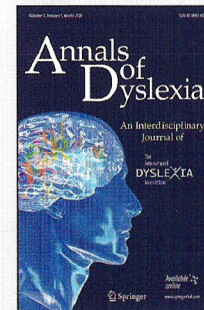
## IDA Website

Visit IDA's Website at [www.interdys.org](http://www.interdys.org) and see how your membership supports individuals with dyslexia:

- Fact Sheets on specific topics in the field
- Research Updates
- Online Bookstore
- IDA's Annual Conference Schedule, Location & Sessions
- Branch Listings and Local Events
- Bylaws/Board Listing/General IDA Information
- "Members Only" Section

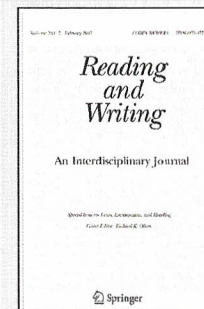
# IDA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Membership in IDA brings you many unique opportunities to advance your profession and interact with peers in the LD community. We equip you with the latest dyslexia research, developments in the field and best-practices. In addition, your Membership includes:



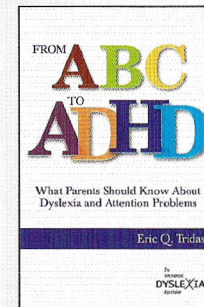
### ANNALS OF DYSLLEXIA online

IDA's semi-annual journal of the most current, peer-reviewed dyslexia research. Annals (including all back issues) is available online and as an optional (2 volumes/yr.) printed edition.



### THE JOURNAL OF READING & WRITING online

In addition to online access to *Annals of Dyslexia*, IDA Members also have Members-only access to all issues of *Reading & Writing: An Interdisciplinary Journal*.



### IDA PUBLICATION DISCOUNTS

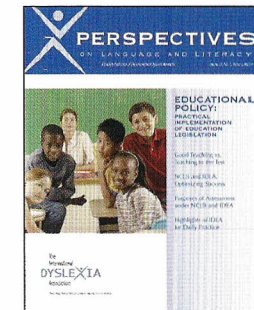
Enjoy members-only pricing discounts on LD-related publications and other items purchased in the IDA online bookstore. ([www.interdys.org](http://www.interdys.org))

### PROFESSIONAL REFERRAL FOR SERVICE DATABASE

IDA Professional members may opt for a contact listing in the national IDA Referral For Services database as a service provider.

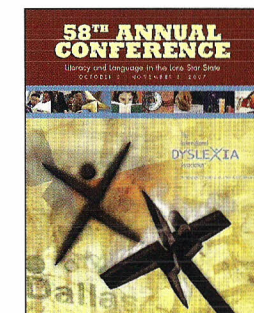
### LOCAL BRANCH MEMBERSHIP

Your membership in IDA includes membership and affiliation with any one of 47 IDA local Branches in North America.



### PERSPECTIVES ON LANGUAGE AND LITERACY print & online

IDA's quarterly publication discusses educational bestpractices, curriculum methods, case studies and first-person application of multisensory structured language techniques.



### MEMBERS-ONLY DISCOUNTS AT NATIONAL & LOCAL CONFERENCES

Enjoy Members-only registration discounts when attending IDA's national conference or any local Branch conference.



### INSURANCE, CAR RENTAL & VISA CARD DISCOUNTS

IDA has special member-affinity relationships with Liberty Mutual Insurance, Avis, and VISA, offering IDA-discounted products.



### EXHIBIT SPACE DISCOUNT AT IDA CONFERENCE

Educational/Institution and Corporate/Business members receive significant discounts on exhibit space at the annual national conference.

### SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Any IDA member may opt-in for one of three Special Interest Groups which offer a suite of premium benefits within a dedicated-interest community. (Special Interest Groups currently under development)

For Membership Information: Visit [www.interdys.org](http://www.interdys.org) and click the "Join IDA" link or call 1-800-ABCD123 405