

Maryland Legislation to Create a Reading & Dyslexia Handbook
[HB 718 & SB 575](#)

Background

- [Maryland’s 2017 Legislative Dyslexia Task Force Report](#) includes a recommendation to create a Dyslexia Handbook because the Task Force found that administrators, educators, and parents would benefit from a resource on dyslexia that is electronically accessible to all (p. 52). The Recommendation says:

“This Handbook should reflect the neurobiological and operational definition of dyslexia provided in the dyslexia Technical Assistance Bulletin and mirrored in this document, and should include evidence-based practice guidelines for identification, assessment, and intervention, service delivery model(s), and progress monitoring strategies and tools. This is a legislative opportunity to establish and fund a Working Group or Dyslexia Advisory Committee to develop the handbook using the Best Practices document presented by the Task Force.”

- [The Maryland Ready to Read Act \(2019, SB 734, Ch. 512\)](#), originally included language to create a Dyslexia Handbook. The recommendation to create a Dyslexia Handbook is an inexpensive means to provide supplemental information to Maryland’s 25 districts so they have access to the best practices to identify and address dyslexia in Maryland.

Other State Reading/Dyslexia Handbooks

- 23 States have handbooks
- 14 were legislated while others were the result of a collaborative working group, task force and/or resolution by a Governor or State Board of Education. Fairfax County, VA created its own handbook.

STATE READING & DYSLEXIA HANDBOOKS & GUIDEBOOKS

STATE	State Dyslexia Handbooks/Guidance	Requirement: Legislative, Regulatory, Administrative
Alabama	Dyslexia Resource Guide , 2016	Resolution promulgated by the State BOE to amend the Alabama Administrative Code to develop and refine this guide on a continuing basis.
Arizona	Dyslexia Handbook , 2018	Arizona 2017 – HB 2202 , p. 2 lines 5-14
Arkansas	Dyslexia Resource Guide , 2017	Developed by an advisory team from schools and the dyslexia community
California	Dyslexia Guidelines , 2017. Updated 2018	Assembly Bill No. 1369 CHAPTER 647
Colorado	Coming soon	Voluntary effort between CDE and parent advocates

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Georgia	Georgia Dyslexia Guidance December 1, 2019	Legislation: Georgia Dyslexia handbook
Kentucky	K-3 Dyslexia ToolKit , 2019	KY House Bill 187, 2018
Minnesota	Navigating the School System When a Student is Struggling with Reading or Dyslexia , 2015	
Mississippi	2010 MS Best Practices Dyslexia Handbook	Not legislated. The purpose of the 2010 Mississippi Best Practices Dyslexia Handbook is to provide Mississippi educators with guidelines for academic instruction for students with characteristics of dyslexia.
Nebraska	Dyslexia Technical Assistance, 2015	Nebraska – 2018- LB 1052
Nevada	Nevada Dyslexia Resource Guide, 2015	Nevada – 2015 – AB 341
New Hampshire	Dyslexia Resource Guide -- Assist by Carol Tolman, 2017	Resource Guide Language Only: 200:62 Dyslexia Resource Guide .
New Jersey	The New Jersey Dyslexia Handbook A Guide to Early Literacy Development & Reading Struggles	Result of partnership between NJ Dept. of Ed and stakeholders, including DDNJ.
Oklahoma	Dyslexia Handbook, 2018	OK HB 2008 (2017) & HB 3313 (2018)
Oregon	Best Practices for Screening Students for Dyslexia and Providing Instructional support	Legislation: SB 1003 See also guidance for screening and intervention and a separate guidance on screening for family history of reading difficulty .
Rhode Island	Online Dyslexia Resource Guide	Online guide on dyslexia. Not legislated. Recently hired a state dyslexia specialist to help districts navigate dyslexia.
South Dakota	Dyslexia Handbook, South Dakota , updated 2017	
Tennessee	Understanding Dyslexia: A Guide for Tennessee Parents and Educators , 2016	“As a result of these significant events [dyslexia bill, RTI requirements for struggling readers/SLD qualification, federal dyslexia guidance], a group of stakeholders was convened to

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		develop guidance for clarifying issues related to dyslexia.” Response to Intervention 2 Framework
Texas	The Dyslexia Handbook , Revised 2018	Result of statutory requirements beginning in 2014. Revised in 2018 by stakeholders and TX Department of Education (TEA). Screening ELs, p. 12, dyslexia ID, p. 34 Instruction
Utah	Utah Dyslexia Handbook, 2018	State School Board Advisory Committee developed the handbook. High demand from school personnel.
Virginia	Supplement Guide to SLD Handbook , 2017	Guide to dyslexia, but more focused on SLD/special education.
Virginia - Fairfax CPS	Dyslexia Handbook , 2017	
Washington	Dyslexia Resource Guide , 2011	Result of Substitute Senate Bill 6016 , 2009. Working on a 2nd edition.
Wisconsin	Dyslexia Handbook	Wisconsin Legislation signed by Governor on Feb. 4, 2020. To be developed
Wyoming	Reading Assessment and Intervention Guidance	2019 House Bill 297, now codified in W.S. § 21-3-401