



# DYSLEXIA AWARENESS TRAINING: REQUIRED STAFF

**DC Law 23-191. Addressing Dyslexia and Other Reading Difficulties Amendment Act of 2020 states that all educators employed by a local education agency (LEA) must complete annual awareness training on reading difficulties.**

“Educator” is defined as a “teacher, school administrator, guidance counselor, social worker, or an individual who works with students with special needs in an academic capacity.” An educator is any professional directly involved in the regular creation of learning environments that foster students’ development.

The table below represents the updated list of required and exempted staff for the dyslexia awareness training. The definitions are sourced from the [Common Core Data Definitions of Federal Roles](#).

## INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF

Teachers	Paraprofessionals Classroom Assistants	Librarians Media Specialists And Support Staff
<p><b>DEFINITION:</b> General or special education teachers instructing students in the “core” subject areas of English language arts, math, science, and social studies, as well as non-core subjects such as arts, foreign language, and physical education.</p> <p><b>INCLUDE:</b> Pre-K and preschool, kindergarten, elementary, secondary, and adult teachers.</p>	<p><b>DEFINITION:</b> Staff members assigned to assist a teacher with routine activities associated with teaching (e.g., activities requiring minor decisions regarding students).</p> <p><b>INCLUDE:</b> General education and special education paraprofessionals, classroom assistants, student aides.</p> <p>NOTE: Due to Learning Mangement System (LMS) access limitations, the following roles are encouraged but not required to complete the awareness training: paid tutors, student teachers, and long-term substitute teachers.</p>	<p><b>DEFINITION:</b> Professional staff members or supervisors assigned specific duties and school time for professional library services activities.</p> <p><b>INCLUDE:</b> Librarians, supervisors, library aides, and those involved in library/media support.</p>

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## INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF

### School Administrators

**DEFINITION:** Staff members whose activities are concerned with directing and managing the academic operations of a particular school.

**INCLUDE:** Principals, vice principals, assistant principals, academic directors, instructional supervisors, and curriculum coordinators.

**EXCLUDE:** LEA chief executive officers and other staff with LEA-wide, non-academic responsibilities (e.g., secretarial and clerical staff, accountants, auditors, business managers, facilities managers, technology or information system administrators, supervisors of transportation, food services, and security).

### Instructional Coordinators and Supervisors

**DEFINITION:** This includes curriculum specialists and master teachers, as well as staff supervising instructional programs at the school level.

**INCLUDE:** Coaches, literacy specialists, English learner (EL) specialists, curriculum specialists, and master teachers, as well as staff supervising instructional programs at the school level.

## SUPPORT STAFF

### School Counselors/Directors

**DEFINITION:** Supervisors and directors of professional staff assigned specific duties and school time for counseling students and parents, addressing learning problems, evaluating students' abilities, and assisting students in career and personal development.

**INCLUDE:** Guidance counselors, secondary counselors, school social workers.

**EXCLUDE:** Nurses.

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### School Counselors/Directors

**DEFINITION:** Supervisors and directors of professional staff assigned specific duties and school time for counseling students and parents, addressing learning problems, evaluating students' abilities, and assisting students in career and personal development.

**INCLUDE IF THE FOLLOWING STAFF ARE FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES OF THE LEA:**  
School psychologists, school social workers, speech language pathologists.

It is encouraged but not required for the following part-time employees/contracted support staff, as they may encounter LMS access issues: School psychologists, speech-language pathologists, audiologists, special education support staff, counselors/rehabilitation counselors, occupational therapists, and physical therapists.