

DYSLEXIA FAST FACTS

What is Dyslexia?

- Dyslexia impacts at least 20% of the United States population or 1 out of every 5 individuals.
- Dyslexia is a neurologically based, inherited condition that varies in degrees of severity from mild to moderate to severe to profound.
- Dyslexia is a hidden disability, which affects individuals regardless of race, gender, culture or socioeconomic status.
- Dyslexics have average or above average intelligence but are often seen as lazy or inattentive because they are not reading at grade level.
- Dyslexia causes poor self-esteem, lack of confidence and a poor self-image.
- Dyslexia is a life-long disability, with no cure but with remediation and accommodations, dyslexics can lead successful lives.
- There is more research on dyslexia than any other childhood issue.
- The National Institutes of Health has been researching dyslexia since 1978 at the request of Congress.
- Dyslexia is due to a difficulty processing language.
- Dyslexia is not a vision problem and individuals do not see letters or words backwards.
- Dyslexia accounts for 80 to 90% of all learning disabilities.
- 66% of all state prisoners who have not completed high school or their GED have a learning disability, reports the DOJ.
- *NIH stated in 1994, "Reading failure caused by dyslexia is highly preventable through direct, explicit instruction in phonemic awareness... and early intervention is essential for this population."*