

ACT 1039 - Dyslexia Screening and Intervention

BACKGROUND

In 2013, the Arkansas Legislature passed [ACT 1294](#) to ensure that students with characteristics of dyslexia would have their needs met by the State's public school system.

In 2015, [ACT 1268](#) expanded this initiative by adding requirements concerning dyslexia screenings and specifying actions required by the state, educational cooperatives, and school districts.

In October of 2016, the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) published rules governing the implementation of ACT 1268. These [updated rules](#) provided further clarification, guidance, and instruction on how to meet the needs of students exhibiting characteristics of dyslexia.

In April of 2017, the Arkansas Legislature passed [ACT 1039](#) to further amend and clarify code provisions regarding dyslexia screenings and intervention, and to add specific enforcement provisions tied to school accreditation. It also added new public posting requirements. **The information on this page meets or exceeds all public posting requirements.**

INTERVENTION PROGRAM

All Arkansas public schools must have an Intervention Program in place to assist students identified as having characteristics of dyslexia. eStem Public Charter Schools uses Connections: OG in 3D, Foundations in Sounds, and Wilson Foundations "Double Dose".

STUDENT DATA

During the 2019-2020 school year, the eStem Public Charter Schools newly identified a total of 94 students* exhibiting characteristics of dyslexia. A total of 227 students received an eStem Public Charter School approved intervention program.

Specific numbers by campus are:

eStem Downtown Elementary School = 46 students newly identified; 106 students served
eStem East Village Elementary School = 28 students newly identified; 86 students served
eStem Downtown Junior High School = 13 students newly identified; 19 students served
eStem East Village Junior High School = 5 students newly identified; 14 students served
eStem High School = 2 student newly identified; 2 students served
Total = 94 students newly identified; 227 students served

**Note: Due to student transfers in and out of the district, these numbers may be slightly different from the final numbers on the state report.*

DYSLEXIA INTERVENTIONISTS

All Arkansas public schools must have trained **Dyslexia Interventionists** on staff. The eStem Dyslexia Coordinator is Patricia James.

Teachers trained to provide dyslexia intervention are:

eStem Downtown Elementary School – Keri Bryant, Kayla Stout, Kayla Peery, Madi Gardner, Madison Canterbury, and Lora Cash

eStem East Village Elementary School – Kelsie King, Haley Anderson, Ian Schoggins, Ashley Jacobs, Christin Phillips, and Lindsey Boelzner

eStem Downtown Junior High School – Nancy Colburn and Kaylee Phillips

eStem East Village Junior High School – Brandi Kemp and Rod Carroll

eStem High School – Heather Dorsey, Sharline Laurent, and Tanya Phillips

SCREENINGS

Arkansas public schools are required to conduct **Initial Screening** for all Kindergarten through 2nd grade students to determine if they exhibit characteristics of dyslexia. In addition, schools are required to screen any student in 3rd - 12th grade who appears to be experiencing reading difficulty, as noted by a classroom teacher or parent.

Screening tools used by the eStem Public Charter Schools may include the following:

DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills), **Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Assessment**, **CTOPP-2** (Comprehensive Test of Phonological Processing), **WIST** (Word Identification and Spelling Test), **TOSWRF-2** (Test of Silent Word Reading Fluency), and **WJ III DRB** (Woodcock-Johnson Diagnostic Reading Battery).

DYSLEXIA RESOURCE GUIDE

The Arkansas Department of Education has created a [Dyslexia Resource Guide](#) to provide guidance for districts, schools, and teachers as they seek to effectively meet Arkansas code provisions regarding dyslexia screening and intervention. eStem Public Charter School is in full compliance with all provisions of this Guide.