



Universal Screeners Including Characteristics of Dyslexia and Diagnostic Assessments Program Approval Process: 2025-2026

[Indiana Code \(IC\) 20-35.5](#) requires Indiana schools to conduct universal screening including characteristics of dyslexia to students in kindergarten through grade two. In response to universal screening including characteristics of dyslexia, students identified as “at risk” (or “at some risk”) must participate in additional diagnostic measures. The diagnostic measures indicate if there is a pattern of learning strengths/weakness and support intervention. Schools may elect to provide these services to students in grade three and beyond. Universal screeners including characteristics of dyslexia and diagnostic assessments must be approved by the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE). IDOE partners with a committee of Indiana educators to review universal screeners including characteristics of dyslexia and diagnostic assessments to ensure that they meet legislative requirements as well as minimum requirements for technical validity and reliability prior to approval.

IDOE is also required to provide schools a list of approved universal screeners including characteristics of dyslexia aligned with IC 20-35.5 and [IC 20-32-5.1-17](#), from which schools may select and purchase using formative (interim) assessment grant funds. Vendors have the option to register their universal screener including characteristics of dyslexia for review to seek approval as a universal screener including characteristics of dyslexia or as a universal screener including characteristics of dyslexia that is also approved for purchase by schools using formative assessment grant funds. Vendors must meet additional legislated requirements to be approved for purchase with formative assessment grant funds by schools.

Approved programs must meet the requirements defined within the *Universal Screeners including Characteristics of Dyslexia and Diagnostic Assessments Evaluation Protocol: 2025-2026*. This process document defines the steps vendors may take to seek approval for assessments under this program. Table 1 provides an overview of tasks and deadlines. Additional details for completing each task follow.

- Vendors who underwent the review for Indiana’s preferred universal screener including characteristics of dyslexia were provided individualized instructions regarding how to register and submit for approval for school year 2025-2026 per IDOE via email. Vendors must reach out to IDOE with any questions pertaining to their approval process.
- Previously approved universal screeners including characteristics of dyslexia for school year 2024-2025 that did not undergo review during the preferred universal screener procurement period must complete the entire review process.
- All universal screeners including characteristics of dyslexia seeking approval to be purchased with formative assessment funds must submit documentation for Criterion 2: Measuring Foundational Reading Skills.
- Previously approved diagnostic assessments must submit an assurance memo stating that no significant updates to test design that would impact validity, reliability, or interpretation of results have been made for the 2025-2026 school year. The memo must

be submitted through the online [Universal Screeners including Characteristics of Dyslexia and Diagnostic Assessments Submission Form \(2025-2026\)](#).

If the diagnostic assessment underwent significant updates, the assessment program vendor must complete the entire approval process.

- If the assessment program was approved as a universal screener for the 2024-2025 school year and wishes to be added as a diagnostic assessment for the 2025-2026 school year, the assessment program vendor must complete the entire approval process for the diagnostic assessment only. In this case, assurances for the screener portion should be submitted to IDOE through the [Universal Screeners including Characteristics of Dyslexia and Diagnostic Assessments Vendor Registration Form \(2025-2026\)](#).

Table 1: Overview of Process Tasks and Deadlines

Date	Task Due
Wednesday, April 2, 2025	Final date to submit a letter of intent via the online Universal Screeners including Characteristics of Dyslexia and Diagnostic Assessments Vendor Registration Form (2025-2026) .
Monday, April 21, 2025	Final date to submit the completed request for approval with accompanying documentation via the online Universal Screeners including Characteristics of Dyslexia and Diagnostic Assessments Submission Form (2025-2026) .
April 23 - May 2, 2025	Indiana Dyslexia Assessment Committee reviews submitted requests.
Friday, May 9, 2025	Vendors receive feedback.
Wednesday, May 7, 2025*	Final date for vendors to submit appeals and/or additional documentation in response to committee feedback via the online Universal Screeners including Characteristics of Dyslexia and Diagnostic Assessments Submission Form (2025-2026) .
Friday, June 6, 2025**	IDOE announces final assessment program approvals to vendors and schools.

**Not applicable to vendors who underwent the preferred universal screener procurement review process.*

***This date is dependent upon internal IDOE approvals and may be subject to change.*

Vendors should use the following process to apply for approval as either a universal screener including characteristics of dyslexia and/or a diagnostic assessment for dyslexia for the 2025-2026 school year.

1. Requestor submits a letter of intent via [Universal Screeners including Characteristics of Dyslexia and Diagnostic Assessments Vendor Registration Form \(2025-2026\)](#) to participate by **Wednesday, April 2, 2025**.
 - The online registration form will include the vendor name, any assessment program names intended for submission, acknowledgement of the published process, and agreement to follow the published process.

2. Requestor reviews the *Indiana Dyslexia Universal Screener and Diagnostic Assessment Evaluation Protocol* found on IDOE's [Dyslexia webpage](#).
3. Requestor compiles evidence addressing all applicable criteria.
4. Requestor submits information **by Monday, April 21, 2025** via the [Universal Screeners including Characteristics of Dyslexia and Diagnostic Assessments Submission Form \(2025-2026\)](#) The form will require:
 - Assessment program name and assessment program vendor (i.e., company name).
 - Contact information for a company representative. This representative will be contacted (1) in the event IDOE has questions regarding the submission and (2) with evaluation results. More than one contact may be submitted, if desired.
 - Documentation addressing each criterion in the rubric (per process step 3).
 - Assessment programs are considered individually. If a requestor wishes to apply for the approval of more than one assessment program, the requestor must submit a separate request for each assessment program.
 - Portions of documentation that the requestor wishes to remain confidential should be clearly labeled.
 - Previously approved diagnostic assessments must submit an assurance memo stating that no significant updates to test design that would impact validity, reliability, or interpretation of results have been made for the 2025-2026 school year through the [Universal Screeners including Characteristics of Dyslexia and Diagnostic Assessments Submission Form \(2025-2026\)](#) If substantive changes were applied, the assessment is considered a “new” assessment, and all documentation must be provided.
 - Once the form is submitted, an automatic email confirmation will be sent to verify its receipt. Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) if confirmation is not received.
5. IDOE moves documentation to committee review.
6. The committee reviews the submitted documentation against the *Indiana Dyslexia Universal Screener and Diagnostic Assessment Evaluation Protocol*. The committee determines whether or not the assessment is approved based on the evidence provided.
 - If clarifications are needed, IDOE will request clarification from the requestor.
7. IDOE sends the final approval determination and any additional feedback to the requestor's provided contact(s) via email.
8. **Appeal Process:** Vendors have until **Wednesday, May 7, 2025** to appeal with responses and added documentation (if necessary) to the committee's feedback. Appeal responses and documentation are filed via submission of a new [Universal Screeners including Characteristics of Dyslexia and Diagnostic Assessments Submission Form \(2025-2026\)](#). Reference step 4 above. Select the *Appeal* box to indicate an appeal submission.
 - Vendors who underwent review during the preferred universal screener procurement process may not submit an appeal as this committee review process serves as a chance for vendors to provide additional documentation that was determined unclear or incomplete by the preferred universal screening educator committee.

9. IDOE publishes the list of final approved assessment programs for Indiana schools via IDOE's [Dyslexia webpage](#).

Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) with questions.