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Your Question:

You wanted statistics on which states have universal dyslexia screening for public school children. Additionally, you asked for any other comparisons between states for teacher training programs or services for students with dyslexia.

Our Response:

Policies that define dyslexia, train teachers, and develop interventions and accommodations are, generally, consistent across states according to an overview compiled by the International Dyslexia Association. The [overview](#) of dyslexia policies shows that as of December 2015, 28 states have statewide laws, 6 have initiatives or resolutions (such as periodic reviews of best practices or recognizing a dyslexia week or month), and 14 states have handbooks to inform parents and educators on proper procedures.

The following selection of state laws highlights recent laws that target support for students with dyslexia:

- **South Carolina** [H.J.R. 5024](#) (2016)- Requires that the South Carolina Department of Education will provide all Literacy Coaches and Literacy Teachers in kindergarten through third grade, with training on dyslexia before the 2016-17 school year. This training will include evidence-based screening, instructional methods, and interventions.
- **Rhode Island** [H.B. 7052](#) (2016)-Adds dyslexia-targeted assistance as a required part of literacy programs for students at the elementary grade level.
- **Connecticut** [S.B. 317](#) (2016)- Requires any person applying for a remedial reading, remedial language arts, or reading consultant endorsement to complete a course including instruction on dyslexia.
- **Tennessee** [S.B. 2635](#) (2016)- Requires the Department of Education to provide local agencies with a universal screening tool for dyslexia in order to test students in kindergarten through second grade three times each year. This law also created an eight-member Dyslexia Advisory Council.
- **Maryland** [H.B. 895/S.B. 823](#) (2016)- Expands the Task Force to Study the Implementation of a Dyslexia Education Program to make recommendations regarding the definition of dyslexia and targeted students, determine the costs and details of dyslexia education programs in other states, extend the deadline for reporting recommendations and the task force itself.
- **Virginia** [H.B. 842](#) (2016)-Mandates teacher licensure regulations so that any teacher seeking initial licensure or renewal licensure completes a dyslexia indicators awareness training by the department of education. Additionally, it directs the Department of Education and the State Council of Higher Education to collaborate so that all teach preparation programs offered in the state include dyslexia identification training.