

The Alliance for Accreditation and Certification of Structured Language Education (the Alliance)

What is the Alliance?

The Alliance is a tax qualified 501(c)(3) corporation sponsored by the International Dyslexia Association (IDA).

The purpose of the Alliance is to

- improve the teaching of reading by promoting criteria and standards for special and general education instruction
- inform the public of the criteria and standards required for quality instruction
- collaborate with researchers to validate clinically proven multisensory structured language education (MSLE) instructional practices
- collaborate with other organizations concerned with accreditation of MSLE courses and certification of graduates who work with individuals with dyslexia and related disorders

The Alliance organizations accredit a variety of MSLE programs. In other words, they recognize those programs as meeting their official standards for worthwhile, trustworthy programs. Many of the programs certify or guarantee the quality or value of the abilities of those who have successfully completed their requirements. Each organization maintains standards and criteria for accreditation and certification. The high standards adopted by each organization reflect the common commitment of the Alliance to improving the teaching of reading for special and general education instruction.

What is the organizational structure of the Alliance?

The Alliance is comprised of three organizations: IDA; the Academic Language Therapy Association (ALTA), which is the professional or certifying organization for individuals who are trained to remediate students with dyslexia and related disorders; and the International Multisensory Structured Language Education Council (IMSLEC), which accredits training courses that prepare individuals in the use of multisensory structured language education programs.

The standards and criteria for accreditation unite these courses. All ALTA members are trained under the strict standards and criteria identified by the National Reading Panel, cited in the No Child Left Behind legislation, and upheld by the IMSLEC accredited training courses. All three organizations are committed to raising the standards for teacher education for children with dyslexia, as well as students in general education.

How can the Alliance improve teacher education in my state?

The Alliance has established standards and criteria for teacher education that are widely accepted in the field. Additionally, the Alliance has compiled a list of colleges and universities across the country that offer courses in multisensory structured language education.

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See the IDA fact sheets “IMSLEC Accredited Therapy-Level Courses by State” and “IMSLEC Accredited Teaching-Level Courses by State” for lists of courses accredited by the Alliance.

For a list of certified individuals in your area, contact the ALTA Helpline, 1-800-283-7133.

How do I contact these accrediting and certifying organizations?

The Alliance for Accreditation and Certification of Structured Language
Nancy Coffman
(214) 559 7800
nancy.coffman@tsrh.org

Academic Language Therapy Association
(ALTA)
14070 Proton Road, Ste. 100, LB 9
Dallas, TX 75244
(972) 233-9107, ext 201
Fax: (972) 490-4219
judy@madcrouch.com
www.altaread.org

International Multisensory Structured Language
Education Council (IMSLEC)
c/o Shelton School
15720 Hillcrest Road
Dallas, TX 75248
(972) 774-1772, ext 227
Fax: (972) 991-3977
mcooley@shelton.org
www.imslec.org

The International Dyslexia Association (IDA) thanks Valerie Tucker, M.Ed., and Nancy Coffman for their assistance in the preparation of this fact sheet.

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Fact sheet revised September 2008.