



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

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February 25, 2021

**TO:** Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education

**FROM:** Dr. Anthony Rosilez, Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

**RE:** Representative Levy's question on Dyslexia standards

On February 24, 2021, during TSPC testimony on HB 5035, Representative Levy asked if TSPC could provide the committee with more information concerning the standards teacher candidates are taught in regard to teaching students with dyslexia. She was particularly concerned about the need for inclusiveness (not pulling dyslexic students out of the classroom for remediation) and the enforcement of standards.

ORS 342.147 requires TSPC to set educator preparation program standards for early childhood education, elementary education, special education and reading that requires "instruction on dyslexia and other reading difficulties and that the instruction on dyslexia be consistent with the knowledge and practice standards of an international organization on dyslexia."

Accordingly, TSPC has promulgated OAR 584-420-0016, Instruction on Dyslexia and Other Reading Difficulties: Program Standards. In them, teacher candidates must be able to:

"(a) Identify the characteristics that may predict or are associated with dyslexia;

(b) Understand how to provide evidence-based reading instruction to all students, including students who demonstrate characteristics that may predict or are associated with dyslexia;

(c) Administer, interpret and apply screening and progress monitoring assessments for students who demonstrate characteristics that may predict or are associated with dyslexia; and

(d) Apply dyslexia assessment and instruction knowledge to pedagogy practice."

It further requires that the EPP program must be aligned and consistent with "the knowledge and practice standards of an international organization on dyslexia." These dyslexia components are explicitly identified in course syllabi and course outcomes. There is specific dyslexia language including the feature of identifying characteristics that may predict or are associated with dyslexia.

TSPC enforces these rules at the creation of a program, or within 3 years of the rule being adopted (2018), and upon program review or modification. If the EPP does not meet the standards, it is subject to the withdrawal or absence of approval of the program, which prevents subsequent licensure of teacher candidates in that program.

In 2019, the Legislature requested a survey of EPPs to find out how they have implemented these requirements. Attached is their response.



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In sum, TSPC has embraced the law requiring standards on teaching dyslexic students and adopted strong administrative rules that promote inclusivity, which EPPs have complied with. In addition, proposed HB 2166-1, along with the present budget bill HB 5035, would provide capacity for TSPC to provide technical assistance and better assure compliance with best practices in culturally responsive and inclusive instruction, including dyslexia.