



Certified Academic Language Therapist/Qualified Instructor Training Program Information and Application

Important Course Information

YEAR 1 Training: July 10-28, 2023 -- 8:30am - 4:00 pm (daily)

Fall/Spring Workshops:

- *September 19, 2023*
- *October 17, 2023*
- *November 14, 2023*
- *January 16, 2024*
- *March 5, 2024*

Year 2 Training: July 8-12, 2024 -- 8:30am - 4:00pm (daily)

Fall/Spring Workshops:

- *September 17, 2024*
- *October 15, 2024*
- *November 12, 2024*
- *January 14, 2025*
- *March 11, 2025*

Application Window

February 1 – April 14, 2023

***Interview may be requested**

Candidate Selection

May 5, 2023

To Apply: [APPLICATION LINK](#)

The Region 14 Dyslexia CALT and QI Training Program is open to individuals with a Master's degree and who are committed to pursuing training to become a Certified Academic Language Therapist or a Qualified Instructor. This two-year advanced comprehensive training is designed for teachers of students identified with dyslexia and uses research-based, proven intervention techniques.

The program offers training in:

- Educational identification of dyslexia
- Characteristics of dyslexia
- *Take Flight: A Comprehensive Intervention for Students with Dyslexia*, a multisensory, structured approach to teaching developed at Scottish Rite for Children
- Classroom strategies and techniques used for students with dyslexia
- Presentation of parent and teacher informational sessions

Training participants can expect a rigorous and intensive training program with outside reading and/or written homework assignments and authentic opportunities to demonstrate mastery. Individuals completing the program will be eligible to sit for the Alliance National Registration Exam, administered by the Academic Language Therapy Association (ALTA), to become Certified Academic Language Therapists. A CALT who holds a master's degree in education or related field is eligible to become a Licensed Dyslexia Therapist as defined by Texas HB 461. QI applicants (currently certified as CALTS in Take Flight) will be credentialed as Qualified Instructors after meeting the requirements of the two-year program and upon recommendation from Region 14 Qualified Instructor Trainer.

Take Flight: A Comprehensive Intervention for Students with Dyslexia is a two-year curriculum written by the staff of the Luke Waites Center for Dyslexia and Learning Disorders of Scottish Rite for Children. *Take Flight* builds on the success of the three previous dyslexia intervention programs developed by the staff at Scottish Rite: Alphabetic Phonics, the Dyslexia Training Program, and TSRH Literacy Program.

Take Flight is designed for small group instruction (no more than four to six students) for a minimum of 45 minutes per day, five days a week. Alternatively, lessons can be taught for 60 minutes each day for four days a week. *Take Flight* includes 132 lessons for a total of 230 hours of direct instruction.

Take Flight contains the five components of effective reading instruction supported by the National Reading Panel research meta-analysis:

- **Phonemic Awareness** in *Take Flight* includes a systematic exploration of the articulation of phonemes and is fully integrated within decoding and spelling instruction.
- All phoneme-grapheme correspondence rules are explicitly introduced allowing time for practice toward accuracy and automaticity in the application of **phonic skills** and for more guided reading practice with controlled and regular text. There is also expanded use of etymology in teaching word analysis strategies.
- **Vocabulary** is expanded and enriched by developing morphological knowledge, word relationships, figurative language, syntax, and semantics by direct instruction and in the context of reading.
- **Fluency** instruction incorporates guided and timed repeated reading of decodable words, phrases, and connected text. Incentives, concrete measures of progress, and daily home practice are also important elements of fluency training.
- A combination of techniques is used for instruction in **reading comprehension**, including comprehension monitoring, question generalization, story structure, summarizing, and inferencing. Students also learn how to utilize graphic and semantic organizers when reading narrative and expository texts.

Take Flight aligns with the *Dyslexia Handbook 2021 Update* by delivering the critical evidence-based components of instruction in accordance with the required delivery of instruction:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ● Phonological awareness | ● Simultaneous, multisensory (VATK) |
| ● Sound-symbol association | ● Systematic and cumulative |
| ● Syllabication | ● Explicit instruction |
| ● Orthography | ● Diagnostic teaching to automaticity |
| ● Morphology | ● Synthetic Instruction |
| | ● Analytic Instruction |

TRAINING REQUIREMENTS AND ATTENDANCE: Participants in the program will demonstrate teaching competency by delivering ten demonstration lessons with five being completed in Year 1 and five in Year 2. A score of 85 or above is needed to pass. Arrangements must be made *in advance* if a trainee sees that he/she will be unable to meet the demonstration timeline. All demonstration lesson review and feedback will be shared with district/campus administration. Trainees must attend ALL sessions for the entire duration (8:30 am – 4:00pm) with NO early dismissal. This requirement is based on the standards set forth by the accrediting organization. While emergency situations will be considered on a case-by-case basis, trainees MUST make arrangements with training staff PRIOR to absence for approval and establish procedures for making up the instruction.

TRAINING PROGRESS AND EXTENDED TRAINING: Supervising administration will be asked to sign a School Support form (to be provided post selection). Training staff will maintain communication with district and campus administrators regarding the progress of training candidates. If a training candidate fails to meet the criteria of 700 hours of instruction upon completion of all course work, he/she must continue supervised teaching and recording teaching hours until this requirement is satisfied. If a training candidate fails to meet the criteria of an average score of 85 percent in demonstration lessons upon completion of coursework additional demonstrations may be required and attendance in additional training be also be required. Progress will be monitored regularly until all requirements are completed.

ACCOMMODATIONS: If any accommodation (under ADA) is needed for a participant in the two-year training program, written documentation must be submitted to training staff.

COST OF PROGRAM: This program is offered as part of a grant opportunity. Region 14 will cover the cost of training and materials. Student materials will be the responsibility of the district. Approximate cost to the district for student materials is \$84.25/student for year one and \$52.25 per student for year two. Additionally, the participant will be responsible for the cost of the ALTA Exam for CALT certification. There is no expected cost for the QI program.