# Dyslexia advisory council updates

On September 24-25, the Dyslexia Advisory Council held their first convening to begin the implementation of the [ESSB 6162-Early Screening of Dyslexia](http://lawfilesext.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2017-18/Pdf/Bills/Session%20Laws/Senate/6162-S2.SL.pdf).

**September 24, 2018**

The council reviewed E2SSB 6162 and the expectations of the Dyslexia Advisory Council for the 2018-19 school year:

* Advise the Superintendent of Public Instruction on Dyslexia
* Identify and Recommend Best Practices and Screeners to the Superintendent by June 2019

Council members also built joint context around the Washington K-12 system, including English Language Arts and English Language Proficiency Standards, the diversity of the regions and districts in Washington, the demographics of the 1,000,000 students being educated in the state, and the current assessment requirements for grades K-2.

Council members had the opportunity to learn about and examine the [resources](http://www.k12.wa.us/ELA/Resources.aspx) created by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and available to Washington school districts to support student learning and outcomes in grades K-2.

**September 25, 2018**

The Dyslexia Advisory Council reviewed the process for a Request for Information (RFI) for Academic Screeners targeting grades K-2, that will indicate “typical literacy development or dyslexia” (E2SSB 6162, Section 3 Part a), that will be released after their second council convening. The RFI will provide publishers and vendors the opportunity to submit their tool for review by the Dyslexia Advisory Council in February. Publishers and vendors will need to demonstrate that their tools have:

* High rates of validity and reliability for demographics similar to Washington students
* Bias and Sensitivity evaluations
* Capacity to support districts of various sizes

In addition to the above criteria, the Council began creating consensus through discussions and activities on the literacy skills identified in the statute (phonological awareness, phonemic awareness, letter sound knowledge, and rapid naming skills) and a definition for a screener. These aforementioned skills and definitions will also be included in the RFI criteria.

**Next Steps for November Convening:**  Council members will continue developing the RFI criteria.