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## Learning to Achieve

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**The Program:** The National Institute for Literacy developed *Learning to Achieve* based on the latest rigorous research to increase practitioners' knowledge of learning disabilities (LD) and their ability to provide effective services to adults with LD. The program launched in July 2009, and six, five-day training sessions were offered across the nation over the course of the summer. A total of about 150 practitioners from 17 different states participated.



**The Training:** *Learning to Achieve* is an intense five-day program designed to help adult education and vocational training practitioners, social workers, and other human service providers understand learning disabilities (LD) in adults and learn how to actively support adults with LD in educational and workplace settings. The training also prepares participants to share what they have learned with interested colleagues who did not attend the training.



**The Materials:** The development of *Learning to Achieve* was informed by an extensive literature review that serves as a foundational document reflecting the current knowledge base. The six topics covered in the literature review are: assessment, English language learners, accommodations, teaching methods, transition, and impact of LD.

For more information and to access the literacy review, go to [www.nifl.gov/programs/learningtoachieve](http://www.nifl.gov/programs/learningtoachieve).

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## Assessment Strategies and Reading Profiles

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**Assessment Strategies and Reading Profiles** provides research-based assessment strategies to improve reading instruction for adult basic education and adult secondary education learners.

**Assessments** that are suitable for use with adults are listed with check marks to indicate which components on reading the test assesses. You will find several free assessments on the website.

To access the website, go to [www.nifl.gov/readingprofiles](http://www.nifl.gov/readingprofiles).

To access the list of assessments, go to [www.nifl.gov/readingprofiles/MC\\_Test\\_Bank.htm](http://www.nifl.gov/readingprofiles/MC_Test_Bank.htm).



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## Program Planning Resource Collection

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The **Program Planning Resource Collection** includes the topic of **learning disabilities**. You will find high-quality instructional materials, resources, and research that have been reviewed by experts. Check back often as the collection continues to grow. A selected list of learning disabilities (LD) resources follows.

- ❖ Accommodation and Compliance Series: Employees with Learning Disabilities
- ❖ Assessment for Adults with LD and/or ADHD
- ❖ Building the Bridge Between Community College and Work For Students with Learning Disabilities
- ❖ ESL Instruction and Adults With Learning Disabilities
- ❖ Getting Started with Assistive Technology
- ❖ Learning Disability: Life After High School
- ❖ The Neurobiology of Reading and Dyslexia

### How do I access the Collection?

Go to [www.nifl.gov/lincs](http://www.nifl.gov/lincs).

Select the “**Resource Collection**” link in the navigation bar to the left.

Select “**Program Planning**.”

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## Learning Disabilities Discussion List

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Join the National Institute for Literacy’s Learning Disabilities Discussion List where researchers, policymakers, teachers, tutors, administrators, professional development staff and anyone with an interest in serving adults with learning disabilities meet to exchange information, research, expertise, and resources regarding the relationship between adult literacy and learning disabilities (LD).

### How do I join?

To participate, go to [www.nifl.gov/mailman/listinfo/Learningdisabilities](http://www.nifl.gov/mailman/listinfo/Learningdisabilities).

Add your e-mail, name (optional), and password; click the subscribe button.

Respond to the confirmation e-mail to validate your subscription.

Send an e-mail introducing yourself and share your particular interest with the community.

### This community of practice is vital for:

- ❖ discussing critical issues on the latest research, policies and promising practices
- ❖ sharing resources and practical experiences
- ❖ improving teaching and learning
- ❖ providing free online professional development

### Lists topics include:

- causes and consequences of LD
- legal issues related to serving adults with LD
- classroom strategies, methods and materials
- assistive technology
- GED testing and accommodations
- reading disabilities
- successful techniques and approaches for teaching reading
- developing state-level LD policy
- professional development
- screening and intake
- transitions
- dyslexia
- phonemic awareness