

Specialist Preparation Program - Level 1 Requirements

Leading to a Certification from ALTA as a Certified Academic Language Practitioner

I. Professional Development Requirements

85.5 hours TOTAL

A. Required Courses

Program participants complete a specific sequence of practicum-based courses focused on developing the ability to successfully deliver intensive literacy instruction to individuals with a language learning difference - in particular, dyslexia.

Reading Readiness OnDemand	6.0 hours
Basic Language Skills, Introduction	60 hours
Book 1A	5.5 hours
Book 1B	5.5 hours
Multisensory Grammar-OnDemand	3.5 hours

B. Self-Selected Study Requirements

Program participants self-select approved opportunities to enhance knowledge and skills related to best practices and research in the science of reading instruction for individuals with language learning differences - in particular, dyslexia.

Conferences, seminars, webinars, or courses	5 hours
Book Reviews	2 reports

III. Practica Requirements

A. Curriculum teaching

85 hours minimum

Teaching experience is accumulated in a minimum of one teaching situation. A teaching situation is defined as teaching an individual with a language learning difference and/or a small group of individuals with such a difference. Each teaching situation meets a minimum of 180 minutes per week in a minimum of 3 sessions. Teaching through Basic Language Skills Book 1 using traditional pace or Quick Pace is required.

B. Interactive Mentoring

Participant and mentor meet to plan and review presentations of recorded lessons demonstrating instructional competency throughout the Basic Language Skills Curriculum.

- Book 1 Lessons – 5 Lessons

C. Documentation of Diagnostic Prescriptive Teaching

- A New student/class report is submitted to describe each new teaching situation.
- A Progress Report is submitted for each new teaching situation after each Mastery Check is administered. Progress Reports include analysis of students' performance and subsequent instructional plans.
- Progress reports reflecting a minimum of 85 teaching hours are required.

A practitioner-in-training has no less than 9 and no more than 24 months from start date of BLS Introduction course to complete all Level 1 requirements and register with the Academic Language Therapy Association.

All Level 1 fulfilled requirements are transferable to the Specialist Preparation Program Level 2.