

NJCLD Fact Sheet

MISSION

The mission of the National Joint Committee on Learning Disabilities (NJCLD) is to provide multi-organizational leadership and resources to optimize outcomes for individuals with learning disabilities.

To pursue its mission, the NJCLD will:

- facilitate communication, collaboration, and consensus among member organizations;
- identify and address needs in research, policy, and professional education and development related to learning disabilities;
- provide an interdisciplinary forum to increase communication and understanding among educational organizations, communities, and governmental agencies at the national, state, and local levels;
- act as an advocate and make recommendations on key issues affecting individuals with learning disabilities; and
- develop and disseminate papers, statements, reports, and other resources in the area of learning disabilities to clarify issues, influence policy, improve practice, and increase knowledge.

(Approved 2016; Updated 2020)

HISTORY AND MEMBERSHIP

NJCLD's origins can be traced to 1971, when the International Reading Association (IRA) —now the International Literacy Association (ILA)—established the Disabled Reader Committee. This special interest group was subsequently charged with increasing the collaboration between reading specialists and other professionals involved with learning disabilities. This led to some discussions, and in 1975 the Joint Committee on Learning Disabilities (JCLD) was created.

Membership is open to nationally-based, non-profit organizations which have as a major purpose of the organization or organization subgroup to support individuals with learning disabilities and have demonstrated a commitment and capacity to improve the quality of education, programs, and services for individuals with learning disabilities.

CURRENT MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Academic Language Therapy Association (ALTA)

www.altaread.org

Council for Learning Disabilities (CLD)

www.cldinternational.org

National Association of School Psychologists (NASP)

www.nasponline.org

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA)

www.asha.org

Division for Learning Disabilities (DLD)/Council for Exceptional Children

www.teachingLD.org

National Center for Learning Disabilities (NCLD)

www.nclld.org

Association on Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD)

www.ahead.org

International Dyslexia Association (IDA)

www.dyslexiaida.org

The Reading League

www.thereadingleague.org

Association of Educational Therapists (AET)

www.aetonline.org

Learning Disabilities Association of America (LDA)

www.lidaamerica.org

MEETINGS AND FUNDING

The Committee meets twice a year to consider contemporary issues in learning disabilities, and to develop and disseminate papers, statements and symposia related to these issues. Meetings with the NJCLD subcommittees are held throughout the year.

The NJCLD is supported by contributions from the member organizations. It is an unincorporated association with a federal EIN.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

2026

Learning Disabilities: Reading and the School-to-Prison Pipeline

2022

Considerations for Transition from High School to Postsecondary Education

2020

The Use of Response to Intervention to Inform Special Education Eligibility Decisions for Students with Specific Learning Disabilities

CONTACT INFORMATION

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