



Fall 2021 Newsletter

# Learning Disabilities Association of Iowa

[Visit our website](#)

LDA Iowa thanks you for your membership and support! Please consider inviting a friend, colleague, teacher or parent to join! Just click the link to get started!

[\*\*JOIN NOW!\*\*](#)



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## A MESSAGE FROM LDA-IOWA PRESIDENT PAULA HAMP

Greetings!

The whirlwind set-in motion by the end of summer and the start of the school year has come and gone; hopefully everyone is starting to get into the routine of the school year. You are in for a real treat in this issue, for you will find some excellent ideas of homework help, back to school-what parents need to know, signs your child might have LD, and where to go to get help, just to name a few of the great articles in this issue. As you look throughout the newsletter and throughout the website, you will find copious ideas and a wealth of knowledge that can help you and your child in and out of the classroom.

LDA-IA and LDA-America have so much to offer you and others, but none of this can be possible without your support. I strongly encourage you to keep your membership up to date and to encourage your friends and family, your child's teacher, and school administration to join LDA-IA. Membership is so important because without your membership LDA-IA and LDA America cannot continue to do its work to enhance education and the laws that are there to help those with Learning Disabilities. LDA-IA and LDA America rely on membership and fundraising. Please renew your membership when it is due; encourage others to join too!

Also, please don't forget that October is Learning Disabilities Awareness Month. I encourage you to give a financial donation to LDA-IA that month and encourage others to join and give too!

Be blessed,  
Paula Hamp, President

## October is Learning Disabilities Awareness Month!



Join us in spreading awareness about Learning Disabilities so we can create a more equitable world for all learners! LDA Iowa will be conducting their annual fundraising drive in October. Please donate and help us with our mission!

[\*\*DONATE NOW\*\*](#)

**OCTOBER** is



**Learning Disabilities (LD)  
Awareness Month**

## LDA-Iowa Annual Meeting October 23, 2021

LDA-Iowa's Annual Meeting will address regular agenda items as well as the [annual election](#) of officers and members to the Board of Directors, election of delegates to the national conference and other urgent business.

For more information about attending a board meeting, contact us:

**Email:**

[learningdisabilitiesofiowa@gmail.com](mailto:learningdisabilitiesofiowa@gmail.com)

**Phone: 515-209-2290**

## Back to School: What Parents Need to Know

**KINDERGARTEN:** Parents, do you know what your child is expected to know and do by the end of kindergarten? Check out this brochure from the Iowa Department of Education, [My Child's Learning: A Parent's Guide to the Iowa Core-Kindergarten](#), that outlines the key kindergarten concepts and skills in mathematics, literacy, science, social studies and 21st Century skills taught by the end of the year. The guide also provides a list of activities to support learning in these areas at home.

**ELEMENTARY-MIDDLE SCHOOL:** These same [guides](#) are available for grades 1-8. COVID has presented some significant learning challenges for many, especially those impacted by Learning Disabilities or other disabilities. With school disruptions, is it possible that some students, who may otherwise have been suspected of having a disability, be overlooked? LDA Iowa is here to help parents with information and advocacy about your rights. If a parent suspects that their child has a disability, they have the right to request an evaluation from the school. You can read more about that [here](#). Contact us if you have additional questions.

**HIGH SCHOOL:** Parent guides to the Iowa Core are also available for high school and can be found [here](#). Do you have a child with an IEP or 504 Plan who will be taking the ACT? Great news!

Beginning in the 2021-2022 school year, ACT will streamline eligibility requirements for students with IEP's and 504 Plans. Read more about this on the [ACT website](#) and this press release: [ACT Streamlines Eligibility for Accommodations](#).



The Learning Disabilities Association of America and state affiliates have been working on several new projects including Advocacy and Adult Issues.

Interested in learning more or want to help? Join LDA today!

**JOIN**

In 2002, the Learning Disabilities Association of America created the [Healthy Children's Project](#) to:

- raise awareness of toxic chemicals that can harm brain development, contributing to learning disabilities and behavior disorders.
- promote policies and provide guidance to prevent toxic chemical exposures, especially among pregnant women and children.
- build a nationwide network of LDA members working to protect children's health and reduce toxic exposures that may lead to learning disabilities in current and future generations.



According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, nearly 1 in 6 American children have a learning or developmental disability. The National Academy of Sciences estimates that **environmental factors, including toxic chemicals, cause or contribute to at least a quarter of learning and developmental disabilities in American children.** Scientists have learned that the developing human brain is much more susceptible to toxic substances than the adult brain, and that even tiny amounts of certain chemicals can do lasting harm to the developing brain, at levels that were once thought to be safe.

## LDA Action Alert

Tell Your Representatives  
To Support The RISE Act!

### The RISE Act-Making College Accessible for Students with Disabilities

#### What does the RISE Act do?

1. Provides parents and students with a more streamlined source of information on college disability services
2. Requires colleges to accept a student's 504 Plan or IEP when seeking accommodations
3. Provides training for faculty to learn more about meeting needs of students with disabilities



Click on the link below:

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CAMPAIGN!](#)



Learning Disabilities  
Association of Iowa

LDA: Transforming Perceptions about  
Learning Disabilities Through Research,  
Education, Advocacy and Public Policy



#### RESEARCH:

One of LDA Iowa's vision statements addresses "the prevention of Learning Disabilities" and for LD Month, we are highlighting the Healthy Children's Project in this newsletter. We will state it again. According to the CDC, nearly 1 in 6 American children have learning or developmental disability and the National Academy of Sciences estimates that environmental factors, including toxic chemicals, cause or contribute to at least a quarter of learning and developmental disabilities in American children. That means that if we address the environmental issues, including toxic chemicals, we should be able to reduce the incidence of these disabilities by 25%. Please read and share the information provided on [LDA's Healthy Children website](#). For your convenience, here are a few of their interesting and informative articles:

[Safe and Effective Cleaning Against COVID](#)  
[Protect Your Family](#)

[Safer School Supplies](#)  
[Project TENDR](#)

#### EDUCATION:

October is LD Month. LDA Iowa is focusing on spreading awareness about Learning Disabilities. If you, or someone you know, has questions about Learning Disabilities or how to get help, please contact us! We want to help! Here are some important resources:

[Symptoms of Learning Disabilities](#)  
[Types of Learning Disabilities](#)  
[What Are Learning Disabilities](#)  
[What to Expect When Your Child Has a Learning Disability](#)  
[10 Key Procedural Safeguards in IDEA](#)

#### ADVOCACY:

We are a group of volunteers who are passionate about improving the lives of individuals impacted by learning disabilities. Contact us if you need to talk, are looking for information or resources or need support. Do you want to help? Contact us for more information!

#### PUBLIC POLICY:

Look for public policy alerts or action alerts on our Facebook and Twitter pages! LDA Iowa collaborates with LDA America on public policy activities. To read more about LDA's public policy priorities, go to

<https://ldaamerica.org/legislation/lda-legislative-agenda/>

## LDA Iowa Contact Information

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