



Spring 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!](#)**



## A MESSAGE FROM LDA-IOWA PRESIDENT PAULA HAMP

Dear LDA-IA Members and Friends,

It has been a full year that we have had to deal with Covid, and I know we are all exhausted from what it has brought into our lives. We have all been touched by covid in one way or another. Some of you may have contracted the virus along with friends and families, and I pray that you have fully recovered. Some of you have lost family members or friends due to the virus, and to all of you, I send out my deepest sympathy along with my thoughts and prayers. Together we will get through this!

Looking forward - Spring is springing which means the end of the school year is just around the corner. Our students are getting stressed over upcoming Iowa Assessments and the end of the year finals exams. The best way to prepare for the Iowa Assessments exam is by exposing your child to the exam format and the types of questions they will see on the day of the test. You can find full-length Iowa Assessments practice tests with answers and explanations on-line. Working through a test with your child can lessen their anxiety and help them know how to work through the test and be successful. To help middle school and high school students prepare for their final exams, have them start early. Utilize the teachers study guides, make 3x5 study cards or have your child create their cards on Quizlet. Through Quizlet, your child can play games and quiz themselves once the study cards are created. I have also found that many courses have pre-made Kahoot's for your child to play and help prepare for tests. Quizlet and Kahoot are both free apps available in the App Store on your computer or mobile device. Make studying fun for your child, and teach them how to work through a test, to lessen their stress.

Now, go wash your hands, eat well, get plenty of rest and take care of YOU!

Be blessed,  
Paula Hamp

Find us on  
**[FACEBOOK](#)**



and

**[TWITTER!](#)**



## A Statement on Statewide Assessment During the Covid Pandemic

March 10, 2021



To learn more, click on this link:

<https://buff.ly/30J73Df>



## TRANSITIONS: LOOKING AHEAD!

**KINDERGARTEN:** It's hard to believe that it is Kindergarten Round-Up time! How will I know whether my child is ready? What can I do this summer to help with that transition? The Iowa Department of Education produced a FREE handbook **GETTING SCHOOL READY IN IOWA**. Find information about kindergarten expectations and what families/caregivers and schools can do.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL:** Transitions can be difficult, even as our kids get older. Here are some of our favorite resources for helping with these transitions! Check out the website **Understood.org** for these and many other helpful articles!

**6 Steps to Prepare Your Child for Changes to Routine in Middle School**  
**10 Steps for Making a Smooth Transition to High School**

**COLLEGE:** How do you know if a school is going to be a good "fit"? Do schools need to follow my high school IEP or 504 Plan? Should I talk to the Disability Services office at the college about my disability? To find answers to these and many more questions, check out articles by our friends at **Understood.org**.

**Choosing a College: How to Help Kids Weigh the Options**  
**When College Professors Refuse Accommodations: 5 Things to Know**  
**7 Things to Know About College Disability Services**  
**10 Steps to a More Organized College Application Process**

### Next Board Meetings:

- April 17, 2021
- July 10, 2021
- September 11, 2021
- October 23, 2021

(All meetings are by Zoom unless otherwise noted.)



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

**Email:**

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

**Phone: 515-209-2290**

### LDA Iowa Has a New Logo!



Thank you to LDA America for developing this new logo! LDAA and all state affiliates now share this logo. By working together, we can do more to improve outcomes for those impacted by Learning Disabilities.

<b>NEW WEBINARS</b> 	<b>Monthly Updates on Your Voice in Washington &amp; Nationwide Webinar</b> 	<b>The Covid-19 Resource Page</b> 
<b>Updated website resources</b> 	<b>LEARNING DISABILITY HISTORY TIMELINE</b> 	<b>The LDA Podcast</b> 
<b>STAMP</b> STUDENTS TEACHING ADVOCACY THROUGH MENTORING PROGRAM 	<b>Increased Advocacy</b> 	<b>LDA Online Coffee Connections</b> 

**Don't miss out** on these great resources from LDA! LDA Iowa appreciates your continued membership and encourage you to invite others to join! Contact us if you'd like to learn more about these resources, LDA Iowa or if you want to be more involved! We'd love to have you and look forward to hearing from you!

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

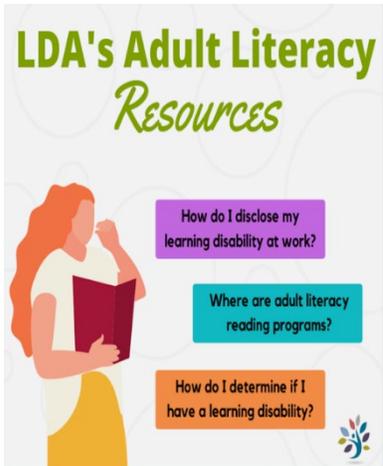
Phone: **515-209-2290**



**"Literacy is a civil right."**

### Adult Literacy

Many of the requests for assistance to LDA Iowa come from adults. Volunteers at LDA Iowa are available to offer information and support. Did you know that LDA of America has some great resources for adults on their website? Check out the resources [HERE](#). If you are interested in joining us to help with this cause, please contact us!



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



### RESEARCH: LDA America Highlights from 2020

- \* Developed Science to Practice Conference for 2021
- \* [What Parents Need During Remote Learning](#)
- \* New Core Principle: [Disproportionality in Special Education](#)
- \* LDA Today Survey: [Why Strong Advocacy & Legal Safeguards Have Been Needed for LD](#)

**EDUCATION: LDA Iowa Updated "First Teacher" Resources on Our Website! One of our favorite resources for literacy for preschool to elementary school age children is the Florida Center on Reading Research! Look at the [Student Centered Literacy Activities](#) for Pre-kindergarten through the fifth grades. Wonderful research-based literacy activities to do at home!**

### ARE YOU LOOKING FOR TECHNOLOGY?

Be sure to check out [Georgia Tech Tools for Life Assistive Technology](#). You can search by types of devices, cost (including FREE) and types of Apps! It's a great resource!

### 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/>.

## 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 or IEP when they are seeking accommodations
3. Provides training for faculty to learn more about meeting needs of students with disabilities

Contact your leaders in Washington to let them know that you support the RISE Act! To follow legislative updates on the RISE Act, click [HERE](#).

## LDA Iowa Contact Information

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