

I am an ASHA and Oklahoma certified speech-language pathologist and an ALTA-certified academic language therapist. I am an ALTA-certified Qualified Instructor of instructors and licensed Dyslexia Therapist in Texas. I have run a program at a private school in Oklahoma City for ten years for students with dyslexia and other language learning disorders.

I applied for a position as a Reading Interventionist with USD 260 last spring. Sadly, Kansas licensure doesn't recognize either the ALTA certification or the ASHA certification as qualifying me to provide reading intervention services in the state of Kansas.

I invite the committee to explore ASHA's position paper regarding speech-language pathologists' qualifications to provide services for those suffering from dyslexia and other reading disorders. I also invite you to investigate the ALTA certification and intense multi-year training process an academic language therapist must undergo to attain certification.

There are many qualified therapists available to fight the battle of illiteracy that is facing our country and Kansas. I urge you to work to expand licensure in the state of Kansas and allow ALTA and ASHA certified personnel to provide reading services.

Thank you for your time,

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