How do we help struggling students?

What is the difference between a learning disability and a learning difficulty?

Do we know the root cause of these struggles?

### Did you know that:

A learning disability is an area of weakness or inefficiency in brain function that significantly hinders our ability to learn or to function in life.

People with learning disabilities have average to superior intelligence. However, their tremendous strengths are offset by noticeable weaknesses - an inability to read or write, memory problems, or difficulty understanding what is heard or seen.

How do we help these students?



## **Educational Therapy**

What is the difference between educational therapy and tutoring?

Educational Therapy is remediation designed to treat the underlying causes of learning difficulties in struggling students. A thorough evaluation of the student's abilities and current functioning allows the educational therapist to design a program that is more holistic in nature. The goal of Educational Therapy is to help students develop tools for independent learning in the classroom and in life and, through the process of remediation, help them grow in confidence and competence.

Tutoring, by definition, is more vague and tends to be more content specific. It is often determined by a student's difficulty in a content area, but does not necessarily look deeper at potential problems that may be contributing to the difficulty with the content.

An educational therapist is a professional who combines educational and therapeutic approaches for evaluation, remediation, case management, and communication/advocacy on behalf of struggling students and adults. For more information about this rewarding profession, please visit:

idaholearningcenter.org

or

aetonline.org

(Association of Educational Therapists)





Equipping educators to help struggling students find success

## Equipping Educators ......Find Success!



Specialized Training for Educational Professionals

In a rapidly changing world, a traditional approach to education may not be enough to meet the needs of students with learning struggles. A different approach to learning may be needed to help them succeed. Educators will need more effective tools which include different teaching strategies for the classroom and a clear understanding of assessments of their students if they are going to help them be successful.

Do these questions sound familiar:

- Why is my student failing when I know I have taught the content adequately?
- How can I help my students with learning difficulties if I don't know the root causes of their struggle?

**STEP 1- Foundations** is a course designed for educational professionals to develop effective tools that give their students with learning difficulties or disabilities the

confidence and competence to be successful not only in the classroom, but also for life. Educational Professionals include classroom teachers, resource room specialists and educational therapists.

**Morning Sessions** 

#### **Educational Professionals will learn:**

- Learning Theory
- Cognition and cognitive processes
- Formal Test Evaluation and how this knowledge impacts student learning
- ♦ Characteristics of Learning Difficulties
- The essential components to an effective student learning model
- An effective collaboration model for learning success among educational professionals

#### **Afternoon Sessions**

#### Track 1: Teachers:

- Specific strategies of differentiation
- ♦ Effective small group instruction
- Multi-sensory instruction for the classroom
- ♦ Tools to improve critical thinking skills

#### **Track 2: Resource Room Teachers**

- ♦ An RTI process for private schools
- ♦ How to write SMART goals
- ♦ Effective progress monitoring
- Content appropriate interventions

#### **Track 3: Educational Therapists**

- Multisensory interventions to strengthen processing abilities (the foundation for learning) and academic weaknesses.
- ♦ Strategies to improve thinking skills

 Strategies for a successful educational therapy session for students with learning disabilities

#### **Details**

STEP application requirements and process

- Bachelor's degree in Education or related field
- Fill out the STEP application located at idaholearningcenter.org
- Pay course fees on or before the 1st day of the course

#### **Dates and Time**

Track 1 and 2: June 15-19, 8:00am-4:00pm Track 3: June 11-12, 15-19 8:00am-4:00pm

#### **Cost**

Track 1 and 2	Course Fee:	\$395.00
	Materials:	\$ 75.00
Track 3:	Course Fee:	\$550.00
	Materials:	\$300.00

# Requirements for employment at ILC as an Educational Therapist:

- Successful STEP course attendance and assignment completion
- Correct implementation of interventions
- Demonstrate beginning ability to lead a quality therapy session
- Must sign the ILC Statement of Faith





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