

**New Jersey Branch
International Dyslexia Association
Scholarship Application**

**NJIDA FALL CONFERENCE
October 18 & October 19, 2024**

Schupack Scholarship

To Honor Helaine Schupack's commitment and dedication to teenagers and adults who struggled with reading and writing, a scholarship will be awarded to a teacher of young adults, to attend the NJIDA Fall Conference. Helaine Schupack started her professional career in 1970s as an English Literature teacher in an open admissions community college. Many of her students could not read or write well. Working with several of them during non-teaching hours, she felt that they might have reading disorders. After 10 years of fruitlessly trying to help them with her traditional teaching methods, she applied for a sabbatical and entered the Massachusetts General Hospital Learning Disorders Clinic where she spent a year learning the techniques of Orton-Gillingham. During her year-long practicum, she worked with mostly teen-aged and adult students. After paying back her sabbatical, she was hired by the Clinic to work with the 18 and older population, many of whom were college students or parents of diagnosed dyslexic children. After ten years at the Clinic, she returned to Rhode Island to start her own practice. Hired by Brown University, her alma mater, to diagnose and tutor its dyslexic population, she worked with teen-agers and adults for over two decades. During her years at Brown, she realized that although a few teachers professed knowledge of OG, they had no training in it. She was one of the original members of the organizing committee for credentialing and certifying O-G training and was among the Founding Fellows of the Orton-Gillingham Academy. Now over 90, she is still tutoring adult dyslexics.

Scholarship Criteria:

- **Special Educator, General Educator, Reading Specialist, who works with dyslexic students in a public school**
- **Please submit 2 paragraphs, stating your current employment and why you would like to attend the NJIDA Fall Conference.**

