A Longitudinal Investigation of Predictors and Outcomes of Specific Learning Disabilities Identification
Institute of Education Sciences Special Education Research Grants Program (CFDA 84.324A)

Scope of Work

This project proposes a systematic program of research to investigate Specific Learning Disabilities (SLD) identification and its association with student characteristics, instructional, practices, and identification processes. The two project aims explore which students are identified with SLD and the achievement outcomes of those identified with SLD across three thematic strands:

Aim 1 (Prediction of SLD Identification): With a large sample ($N = 600$ across sites) demonstrating significant reading risk followed for 2 years, we will investigate to what extent SLD identification is moderated by factors organized in thematic strands (Strand 1: Student Characteristics; Strand 2: Instruction; Strand 3: Process).

Aim 2 (Academic Achievement): Among students identified with SLD, we will investigate to what extent the outcomes of SLD identification are moderated by these same factors.

The primary site for this project is the University of Houston and sub awards will be at the University of Florida and the University of Missouri.

Kathrin Maki, Ph.D. will serve as a Co-Principal Investigator on the project and will oversee project implementation at the University of Florida (UF) including recruitment of participating schools and implementation of the project in five elementary schools in and around Alachua County.