

Competent Authority

Through the Learning Ally™ online student management tool, Teacher Ally, at least one individual Competent Authority is to be identified as a **CERTIFIER** for your account. This person is responsible for certifying that students added to Teacher Ally exhibit characteristics which place them in one of the qualifying categories. Here are some examples of Competent Authorities to guide you in selecting certifiers for your organization:

Qualifying Category	Examples of Competent Authority (not an exhaustive list)
Reading Accommodation Specific Learning Disability	Special education teachers Learning disability, dyslexia, or resource specialist Reading specialist Educational diagnostician Child study teams School psychologist Clinical psychologist with a background in learning disabilities Doctors of Medicine or Osteopathy (including family doctors, psychiatrists, and neurologists)
Blindness or Visual Impairment Other Physical Disability	Special education teachers Teachers of the Visually Impaired (TVI) Doctors of Medicine Doctors of Osteopathy Ophthalmologists Optometrists Registered nurses Therapists, including physical therapists Professional staff of hospitals, institutions, public or social welfare agencies (e.g. occupational therapists, social workers, case workers, counselors, rehabilitation teachers, and superintendents)

General Education Teachers, School Principals, and Librarians should only be considered certifiers if they have a background or specialized training in special education, visual impairments, medicine, reading and literacy, etc.

Learning Ally is a nonprofit organization with leading teacher solutions proven to transform the lives of students with learning differences and print disabilities.

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