

RTI² Framework Revisions

This spring, the department concluded a statewide Response to Instruction and Intervention (RTI²) listening tour to gather feedback regarding RTI² implementation from educators, parents, and students. This is the first installment of a three-part series of documents outlining how feedback will be utilized to support districts in their RTI² implementation. Part 1 focuses on modifications to the RTI² framework.

What did we hear?

Listening tour participants reported:

- required fidelity checks in Tier II and III intervention are time-consuming;
- demands of completing fidelity checks lead staff to either not complete them or complete them poorly;
- some of the measures they are using are lengthy to administer, which takes away from valuable instructional time;
- interventions targeting certain skill deficits take longer than two weeks to impact student responsiveness which can lead to prematurely changing interventions; and
- flexibility in progress monitoring frequency based on intervention design and deficit area would allow for more reliable data collection.

DEFINITIONS

Progress monitoring is a type of assessment that is a standardized, brief measure repeated at regular intervals. Progress monitoring is used to assess a student's academic performance, quantify a student's rate of improvement or responsiveness to instruction, and gauge the effectiveness of teaching.

Data-based decision making is the regular use of appropriate data gathered through ongoing assessment to inform and drive instructional decisions for students. Data-based decisions are made continuously using district-level, school-level, grade-level, subgroup, and individual student levels.

Fidelity monitoring is the systematic, continuous process of school teams gathering data through a variety of means to determine whether an intervention was received as intended.

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CURRENT GUIDANCE

Data Decision Rules

In order to change tiers

- A minimum of 8-10 data points (if progress monitoring every other week) or 10-15 data points (if progress monitoring weekly) are required.
- Consider changes to the intervention before changing tiers.

Fidelity Monitoring

- Two direct and one indirect fidelity check during an intervention period for all students in Tier II intervention.
- Three direct and two indirect fidelity checks during an intervention period for all students in Tier III intervention.

Effective Summer 2019

PROPOSED GUIDANCE

Data Decision Rules

Focus shifts from procedural collection of a set number of data points to a focus on reviewing progress monitoring trends in conjunction with other data sources to determine student response.

Fidelity Monitoring

Focus shifts from procedural collection of a set number of direct or indirect fidelity checks per tier to tying frequency and depth of checks to student response to intervention.

Details about what this guidance looks like in practice will be shared by July 2019.

What does it mean for districts?

1. Share communication with school and district RTI² teams, special education staff, curriculum and instruction supervisors, and interventionists.
2. Check the Commissioner's Update for webinars and trainings beginning in fall 2019.

Timeline for Supports and Framework Revisions

FALL 2018

- Fidelity webinar—reviewing quality of current fidelity monitoring
- Data-based decision making webinar—reviewing quality of current progress monitoring procedures

SPRING 2019

- RTI² framework manual released and guidance goes into effect
- Manual roll-out and SLD evaluation training at Grand Division Convenings

SUMMER 2019

SLD evaluation webinar

FALL 2019

Regional trainings on manual refinements

Please direct any questions to Karen.Jensen@tn.gov.