

Questions to Ask Your Child's School Concerning RTI

- What *screening procedures* are used to identify students in need of intervention?
- What are the interventions and instructional programs being used? What *research* supports their effectiveness?
- What process is used to determine the intervention that will be provided?
- What *length of time* is allowed for an intervention before determining if the student is making adequate progress?
- What strategy is being used to *monitor student progress*? What are the types of data that will be collected and how will student progress be conveyed to me?
- Will a *written* intervention plan be provided to me as part of the RTI process?
- *When* and *how* will information about the student's performance and progress be provided?
- At what point in the RTI process are students who are suspected of having a learning disability referred for a *formal evaluation*?

Source: Parents Reaching Out. (2008).

Resources Available To You

National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities: www.nichcy.org

National Center on Response to Intervention: www.rti4success.org

OSEP Center for Positive Behavior Supports: www.pbis.org

RTI Action Network: www.rtinetwork.org

National Research Center on Learning Disabilities: www.NRCLD.org

U.S. Department of Education's What Works Clearinghouse:
<http://www.ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/>

Florida Center on Reading Research
<http://www.fcrr.org/Interventions/index.htm>

References

Parents Reaching Out. (2008). *Response to intervention (rti) what families and educators need to know*. (Winter ed., pp. 1-28). Albuquerque: DOI: www.parentsreachingout.org

U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs. (2012). *National center on response to intervention*.

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Response to Intervention (RTI): A Parent's Guide.

What is RTI?

Response to Intervention (RTI) is a process that provides intervention and educational support to all students at increasing levels of intensity based on their individual needs. *Each child comes to school with different strengths, interests and needs*. When schools implement RTI, struggling children are identified through classroom, school-wide, and district-wide screening processes as well as other means, such as *teacher* observation or *parent* concern. Schools use a three tiered model approach to promote achievement and social competence for all children. Students learn when the curriculum and instructional strategies make a good fit between their skills and abilities. If there is a poor fit, both child outcomes and learning suffers.

What RTI is NOT

-RTI is not just a way of reducing the number of students receiving special education services.

-RTI is not a quick fix; one size fits all solution to academic or behavioral difficulties in school.

How Can Parents Be Involved?



At Tier 1 (general education setting):

- Ask your child about their school day.
- Help your child with homework assignments if they need it.
- Attend school functions, such as back to school night or parent-teacher conferences.
- Constantly monitor child's peer relations, overall well-being and motivation to success in school.

At Tier 2 (secondary intervention):

- Attend team meetings as needed. Suggest interventions or strategies that work at home.
- Contribute to the discussion about anything you think might affect your child's learning or behavior. (Ex: level of interest in school, family/developmental history, recent trauma.)
- It is important that you implement and reinforce strategies at home that support school programs, whenever possible.

At Tier 3 (tertiary intervention):

- This evaluation will determine if your child has a disability and needs special education.
- Your consent is required for the school to evaluate or implement special services.
- The school must notify you if they propose to change or not change your child's eligibility, services, or placement.
- Actively participate in all Individualized Education Program (IEP) meetings.

Source: Parents Reaching Out. (2008).

What will the RTI 3-Tiered Process Mean for My Child?

At Tier 1 (general education setting):

This is the CORE curriculum that the school district has carefully chosen to teach their students. All students receive appropriate instruction geared to content standards and benchmarks. *Universal screening* procedures are implemented to assess every student's level of performance.

At Tier 2 (secondary intervention):

Tier 2 consists of *Targeted, Individualized Interventions* with research-based strategies for students who are struggling and/or have been identified "at-risk" for school failure. Interventions for these students generally take place within the regular classroom. Tier 2 progress is more closely monitored to see if the child *responds to interventions*.

At Tier 3 (tertiary intervention):

Intense individual interventions and specialized instruction based on child-centered needs are provided in addition to universal strategies and targeted interventions. This third level is typically highly individualized and provided through an Individualized Education Program (IEP) Students that are referred to Tier 3 require a multidisciplinary evaluation to determine their need for services.



The Key Elements and Definitions of RTI

School-wide screening: The school gives all students a screening test several times each year so that the teachers and support staff will know which students will need extra help with academic work or behavior.

High quality, appropriate instruction/interventions: All school staff members use *appropriate* instructional methods and materials that have been proven to work effectively.

Multi-Tiered Intervention Model: Providing different levels of instruction (universal, targeted, intensive) based upon student response to intervention.

Progress Monitoring: Collecting and analyzing data about student progress to make instructional decisions.

Data-Driven Decision Making: The process of planning for student success (both academic and behavioral) through the use of ongoing progress monitoring and analysis of data.

Family-School Partnerships: Families and staff partnering in the RTI process, including designing interventions for school and home.

