

Response to Intervention: Information for Parents

If my child is experiencing academic challenges, how does he/she get immediate learning support in the classroom?

What is Response to Intervention (RTI)?

Response to Intervention (RTI) is a learning process that matches general education classroom instruction to each student's learning needs. In other words, educators *respond* to a student's academic and/or behavior challenge with the right amount of intensity in classroom learning supports. These instructional techniques are called *interventions*. *Progress Monitoring* measures student success by frequently using check points to measure performance. Check points, including the use of standardized test results, data collection charts and/or classroom observation, display an instant picture on the impact of the intervention.

In Georgia, educators *respond* with instructional *interventions*, through a four-tier instructional-support process called the *Georgia Student Achievement Pyramid of Interventions*. Delivery of interventions at each tier are based on the student's success in meeting the Georgia Performance Standards (GPS). Interventions intensify at each escalating tier.

To understand how layers of learning techniques and tools can improve a student's learning, a school wide common understanding is needed on the types of instructional activities and strategies available and how these interventions impact the student.

What are the key components in GA's RTI process?

- The 4-Tier delivery model gives learning support that is matched to student need.
- Evidence-based instruction is the core of a teacher's classroom lesson plan.
- Evidence-based interventions will increase in intensity if the results of the progress monitoring show a change is needed.
- The use of a variety of ongoing assessment (test) data determines which students need supports to meet academic and/or behavior expectations.
- Delivery of resources for learning interventions are based on student assessment data.

Response to Intervention: The Georgia Student Achievement Pyramid of Interventions



"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."
Kathy Cox, State Superintendent of Schools

“All students benefit from an RTI process. The more we know about how a student learns, the better we can adjust instruction and accelerate learning to meet or exceed our GPS Standards.”

What are the benefits of RTI?

By measuring student achievement in a consistent and frequent process, schools immediately know which students are in need of additional supports to meet the Georgia Performance Standards. This is a different approach from “waiting to fail” on the end of year assessment (CRCT or EOCT) and providing support the following year. Within an RTI framework, students are provided interventions, when and if needed, to reach academic and behavioral success.

What is an “Intervention”?

An intervention is a type of instruction targeted to meet the learning and/or behavioral needs of a student. Interventions are in addition to the general classroom instruction. These added learning tools are well researched or evidenced-based to deliver specific instructional strategies and techniques. Interventions can be purchased or created by school personnel. Students typically participate in interventions during electives, connections, or other times within the school day.

If my child needs additional support, how long will it last? Will my child always need it?

As students begin to improve performance in the general classroom, the need for continued interventions will be determined by the results of the most recent check point (progress monitoring). **RTI is not a program with specific times and locations.**

How can parents help?

“Family Engagement” means to actively participate in your child’s education. You are a critical partner in the continual success of the teaching and learning in school. Here are some tips on how to be engaged in the RTI process:

- Read the Georgia Performance Standards for your child’s grade or course by going to the parent page of www.GeorgiaStandards.org.
- Ask for ways you can help at home to improve your child’s school performance.
- Review and ask questions about your child’s progress on assessments (tests) during parent conferences.
- Become knowledgeable about the classroom intervention process in your school or district.
- If your child is being supported with an intervention, request progress updates so you know if the intervention is working.

Resources for Parents and Families

National Center on
Response to Intervention:
<http://www.rti4success.org/>

RTI Action Network
<http://www.rtinetwork.org/Parents-and-Families>

National Association of School
Psychologists
<http://www.nasponline.org/resources/handouts/RTIprimer.pdf>

US Department of Education
<http://www.ed.gov/index.jhtml>

Georgia Performance Standards
www.georgiastandards.org/Pages/parents.aspx

GaDOE’s Guidance on RTI
http://www.gadoe.org/ci_services.aspx?PageReq=CIServRTI

Parent to Parent of Georgia
www.parenttoparentofga.org

GaDOE’s Parent Mentor Partnership
www.parentmentors.org