Response to Intervention (RtI)

Fact Sheet for Parents

What is RtI?

Response to Intervention (RtI) is a multi-tiered approach that many schools use to help students who are having difficulty with academics or behavior. The goal of RtI is to screen early and deliver supports to students quickly.

How does RtI help students?

The supports are used to help all students, including struggling learners. It relies on interventions proven through research to meet a student's needs. It includes progress monitoring and uses data to make decisions about movement between the tiers.

What type of support is available?

There are typically three tiers of support in an RtI model.

- Tier 1 includes classroom-wide support for all students.
- Tier 2 provides targeted support to address a student's gaps in skills.
- Tier 3 involves intensive support usually provided in smaller groups and more often.

Schools may NOT . . .

- Use RtI to delay or deny access to special education or other systems of support for students
- Require a student to go through all RtI tiers or spend a certain amount of time in RtI before they are referred for a special education evaluation

Texas public schools must . . .

Notify a parent of each child who receives assistance from the school district for learning difficulties every year. This includes supports through an RtI program that are above the level of intervention used with all children. This notice does not apply to parents of children enrolled in the district's special education program.

Parents may make a request for their child to be referred for a special education evaluation at any time.

More information on RTI can be found at: BuildingRTI.utexas.org/resources/parents

TEA Texas Education Agency