



SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, AND BEHAVIORAL SCREENING (BASC-3 BESS) FAQ

1. What is universal Social, Emotional, and Behavioral (SEB) screening?

Social, Emotional, and Behavioral (SEB) health refers to how students engage with peers, educators, and their school, and can heavily impact students' learning and long-term success. Just as students participate in screenings for vision, physical health, reading, and other academic areas, SEB screening provides an indicator of whether a student's SEB health is on track. Proactive SEB screening provides important information to ensure help is provided before little problems become big problems. To support students, schools also teach social and emotional skills and use assessments across all content areas to determine strengths and areas for growth, so educators can plan how to best teach and support them.

2. Why utilize a universal screener?

City Schools of Decatur (CSD) is committed to creating a culture of student support and supporting the needs of the whole child. In our continuing efforts to support the well-being of all students, we will administer a universal screener to identify student strengths and areas for growth relative to social, emotional, and behavioral well-being.

3. Which universal SEB screener will be utilized?

CSD has chosen the BASC-3 Behavior and Emotional Screening Scale (BASC-3 BESS) by Pearson to help identify student strengths and areas for growth.

4. How often will the universal SEB screening be administered?

CSD will collect universal screening data twice per school year: once in the fall and once in the spring.

5. Who actually takes the screener?

All students in grades 3-12 who are ages 8-18 by the opening date of the screening window will be invited to complete the BASC-3 BESS self-rating.

6. How will the screener be administered?

During the screening administration window, students will use LaunchPad or the Review360 Pearson site to access the BASC-3 BESS screener. Students will take the screener at school during homeroom, advisement, or other designated times during the school day.

7. How long does it take to complete a screener?

Students generally complete and submit a BASC-3 BESS screener in 5-15 minutes.

8. Does my child have to participate in the universal SEB Screener?

Any parent or guardian of a student in the screening grades who does not wish their child to take the student self-assessment portion of the BASC-3 BESS should submit an opt-out form. Parents only need to opt out of the screener once during each school year. If a parent opts their student out of the fall administration, but would like their child to participate in the spring administration, they must submit a signed and dated statement to the school, noting their active permission for their student to be screened.

9. What happens if a student requires support to complete the BASC-3 BESS?

Schools may offer 1:1 administration or group administration opportunities to any student who requires support to take the screener successfully; however, the screener will not be interpreted for a student.

10. What will happen if a student is identified as being at-risk?

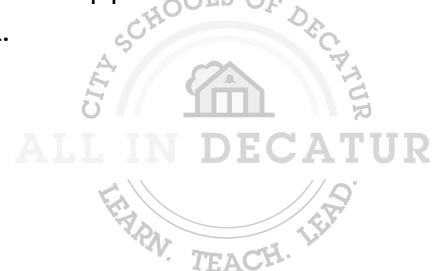
The screening results offer a starting point for any next steps in determining the best course of action to support students identified as being at-risk. After schools review data screener reports, school-based student support staff will meet with students determined by the screener to have extremely elevated or elevated risk to confirm a risk and/or identify the need for support. Student support staff will contact parents to discuss risk and recommend a strategy for school support. The student, parent, and school will work together to identify and agree on the interventions, strategies, and support that will be utilized to better support the student at school. Progress monitoring will allow the school and the parent to assess whether recommended strategies are effective in supporting their student.

11. Will parents/guardians receive a report providing the screener data for their student?

A hard copy of screener score reports will be sent home from schools following the close of each administration window.

12. Who has access to universal Social, Emotional, and Behavioral screening data?

Each CSD school has designated staff members to support the screening implementation process who will have access to the screening data, including principals, assistant principals, counselors, social workers, Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) specialists, and designated teachers. At the district level, only staff members directly involved in the support of schools for the BASC-3 BESS administration will have access to screening data.



13. How will screening data be stored?

Screening data is housed and stored within the Pearson Review360, a secure digital platform companion to the BASC-3 BESS, which enables students to provide screener data.

14. How are BASC-3 BESS scores interpreted?

The BASC-3 BESS is an individualized rating scale that gives T-scores. These T-scores are explained below:

- Normal risk: 60 or lower
- Elevated risk: 61-70
- Extremely elevated risk: 71 or higher

Student results are assigned a Behavioral and Emotional Response Index T-score (BERI T-score) that indicates how far their score is from the average ratings of other students their age. The average BERI T-score for the BESS is 50. Along with the BERI T-score, the BESS also measures the following sub-areas to help inform interventions or the needs of the student. Here are the screener index explanations:

- BERI: Behavioral and Emotional Risk Index (Overall Risk)
- ERI: External Risk Index (Hyperactivity, Aggression, Conduct) (Teacher Report) IRI – Internal Risk Index (Anxiety, Depression)
- SRI: Self Regulation Risk Index (Self-Control)
- PRI: Personal Adjustment Risk Index (Interpersonal, Relationships, Self-Esteem)

15. Can I inspect the screener?

Parents/guardians who have questions about the screener and screening process or would like to inspect the screener should plan to attend one of the virtual information sessions. CSD is not permitted to provide parents with a paper or electronic copy of the BASC-3 BESS screener as the assessment is copyrighted.