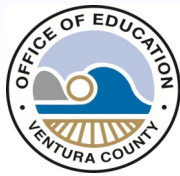


RtI² Response to Instruction and Intervention

A Brochure for Families



Stanley C. Mantooth,
Ventura County Superintendent of Schools
“Commitment to Quality Education for All”

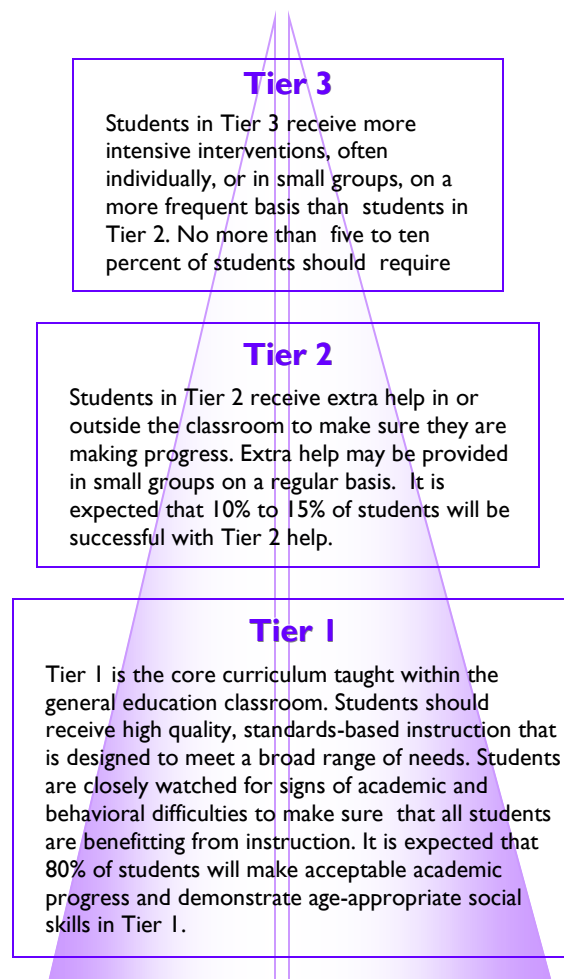
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Response to Intervention is the practice of providing high quality instruction and interventions matched to student needs, monitoring progress frequently to make decisions about instruction, and using data to make important educational decisions.

(adapted from NASDSE, 2005)

What does RtI² look like?

A school problem-solving team meets with teachers and other staff to discuss academic and or behavioral interventions and supports to help them. These interventions are organized in three levels/tiers. Students can move back and forth between the three tiers, as decided by the team. Students can continue to receive tiered interventions as long as they are making adequate progress toward goals.



RtI² will not look the same in all schools, but the key elements should exist in every school. Each school (or school district) designs services and supports to meet the needs of their students.

How can I be involved in RtI²?

Families play an important role in supporting what their children are learning in school. The more families are involved, the better their children will do. Ask questions to learn more.

What do I do if I believe my child is struggling?

- Make sure that your child comes to school well rested, on time, well fed, and ready to learn.
- Talk with your child's teacher. Be sure to talk about your child's strengths as well as any concerns and special needs.
- Review and assist with homework. Make sure there is a special time and place for your child to do homework.
- Ask for regular progress reports.
- Celebrate your child's small successes.
- Participate in conferences and other meetings about your child.
- Make a list of specific questions to ask during conferences. For example, ask how your child learns best and what additional help may your child need.
- Ask how long extra help is being provided. By whom? How often? For how long? Ask how you can support the school's efforts at home.
- Offer to volunteer at your child's school, if you can.

What if my child is receiving extra help through RtI²?

- Ask how long extra help is being provided. By whom? How often? For how long? Ask how you can support the school's efforts at home.
- Ask what the goals are for your child.
- Ask how you will find out if your child is making progress, and how you will know if the goals are being met
- Ask what will happen next if your child meets his or her goals.
- Ask what will happen if your child does not succeed with the extra help that is being provided.

The goal of RtI² is to prevent problems and provide extra help early so that students can succeed.

What is RtI² ?

RtI² is the way schools work to meet students' needs in the general education environment and monitor their progress. Most research says that students should receive interventions for at least 6–8 weeks in each of the three tiers before considering other alternatives.

What if my child is still not successful with RtI² tiered interventions?

Even with the best instruction and interventions, a small number of students may need ongoing special services. Some students may have a physical or mental disability which qualifies them for accommodations and supports under Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Other students have a disability which requires more intensive supports and services through a Special Education program.

Speak to your principal or school psychologist about these options. If your child does not make expected progress in Tier 3, the school may refer for special education assessment, or you may make a request at any time. Keep in mind that school districts are required to show that they have attempted to address your child's needs in the general education program before considering an assessment for Special Education.

A parents' request for Special Education assessment may be denied if records show that there is not a "suspected disability." You do have a right to appeal the denial, if you choose.

With high-quality instruction and targeted interventions based on ongoing monitoring of progress, most children should be able to get their needs met in general education.

This is the RtI² process.

Please refer to the Ventura County SELPA website for more information about your rights under Section 504/ADA and Special Education:
www.venturacountyselpa.com

or call the SELPA office at (805) 437-1560.