

Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) Framework



MTSS divides interventions into multiple tiers or levels. Each tier represents a different level of support. The first tier (Tier 1) is general classroom instruction, which by itself is sufficient for most students. If students require additional support, they can receive targeted interventions at Tier 2. When Tier 2 is not enough, students may need Tier 3, which is more intensive, individualized support. MTSS has been identified as best practice in the field of education and fulfills federal and state legal requirements to meet the needs of all students.

What happens at each tier within the MTSS framework?

Tier 1

At Tier 1, classroom teachers use a standard curriculum to teach all students. This instruction includes both grade-level academic standards and behavioral expectations. Teachers use different teaching methods and adjust how they teach to match each student's style of learning. They also monitor the growth of every child.

Tier 1 provides the foundation of education. All students receive grade-level instruction.

Tier 2

At Tier 2, some students may need more targeted instruction/interventions, in academics and/or behavior. Students who receive Tier 2 supports are grouped by similar areas of need. These small groups of students receive more intensive instruction than general instruction. The interventions occur *in addition to* Tier 1 instruction.

Student growth is monitored to make sure the interventions work.

If Tier 2 interventions do not work, a student may need Tier 3 supports.

Tier 3

At Tier 3, students who did not make growth with Tier 2 supports may need more individualized and intensive interventions, in academics, behavior, and/or attendance. The interventions occur *in addition to* Tier 1 instruction.

Student growth is monitored to make sure the interventions work.

How is student growth monitored within the MTSS framework? At each tier, student growth is monitored with assessments based on the area of focus and on a schedule based on the intensity of the intervention.