RTI Integrity Framework:
A Tool For Monitoring and Evaluating RTI Implementation

Developed by the
National Center on Response to Intervention
and
RMC Research
What is the RTI Integrity Framework?

- School level description
  - General Information
  - Screening
  - Primary level prevention
  - Secondary level prevention
  - Tertiary level prevention
  - Progress monitoring
  - Data-based decision making
  - Overarching factors (focus, leadership, staffing, etc.)
Establishing a Conceptual Framework for Fidelity of RTI Implementation

- Steps taken
  - Define fidelity
  - Develop measures
  - Develop instruments
    - Worksheet
    - Rubric
Integrity Framework

Based on:

*Essential Components of RTI – A Closer Look at Response to Intervention*
RTI Integrity Framework

- Two fidelity instruments
  - Integrity Worksheet
  - Integrity Rubric
Fidelity Instruments

- **RTI Integrity Framework Worksheet**
  - Intended for use by RTI coordinators or evaluators with extensive RTI experience
  - Used to rate school-level implementation of RTI according to the rubric
  - Includes a narrative rationale for each rating
  - Data collected through interviews or site visits
Worksheet elements

- Organized according to the essential components of RTI as identified by the NCRTI
  - Screening
  - Progress Monitoring
  - Multi-level Prevention System
  - Data-based Decision Making
- Provides example questions, space for comments/notes, and ratings
Screening

- The RTI system accurately identifies students at risk of poor learning outcomes or challenging behaviors.
  - Screening Tools
  - Universal Screening
Multi-level prevention system

- The framework includes a school-wide, multi-level system for preventing school failure.

  - Primary Level
    - Research-Based Curriculum Materials
    - Fidelity
    - Articulation of Teaching and Learning (in and across grade levels)
    - Instruction
    - School-based PD
Multi-level prevention system

- Secondary level
  - Evidence-based intervention
  - Complements core instruction
  - Fidelity
  - Instruction
  - Determining responsiveness to secondary intervention
  - Addition to primary
Multi-level prevention system

- Tertiary level
  - Evidence-based intervention
  - Fidelity
  - Instruction
  - Determining responsiveness to tertiary level prevention
  - Relationship to primary
Progress Monitoring

- Ongoing and frequent monitoring of progress quantifies rates of improvement and, informs instructional practice and the development of individualized programs.
  
  • Progress monitoring tools
  • Monitoring progress
Data-based decision making

- Data-based decision making processes are used to inform instruction, movement within the multi-level system, and disability identification (in accordance with state law).
  
- Decision making process
Overarching factors

- *Factors that relate to the entire RTI framework.*
  - Prevention focus
  - Leadership
  - Staff qualifications
  - Culturally and linguistically responsive
  - Communication with and involvement of parents
RTI Framework Integrity Worksheet

School: ____________________ District: ____________________ Date: ____________
Grade of Student Population: K 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
Persons Interviewed: ____________________ Interviewer: ____________________

Focus Area:
- Reading/Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Behavior

Grades:          Grades:          Grades:

Instructions—Complete this worksheet for each school that you wish to monitor. If the RTI framework at the school addresses more than one focus area, it may be necessary to complete a separate worksheet for each focus area. Use the sample interview questions to collect information from the staff and/or administration. We recommend that you keep your notes on a separate sheet of paper. After all of the information has been collected, use your notes and the RTI Framework Integrity Rubric to rate the school on each trait. Provide a written rationale for your rating in the rationale column. Before each interview, provide an orientation that addresses why you are collecting the information, how the information will be used, and what precautions will be taken to ensure confidentiality.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trait</th>
<th>Sample Interview Questions</th>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Rationale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Screening</strong>—The RTI system accurately identifies students at risk of poor learning outcomes or challenging behaviors.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Screening tools</td>
<td>What tools do you use for universal screening? When your school selected this screening tool, how much attention was paid to the evidence from the vendor regarding the validity, reliability, and accuracy of the tool? Does your school have documentation from the vendor that these tools have been shown to be valid, reliable, and accurate? Do you have reason to believe that the screening tool that you use may have issues with validity, reliability, or accuracy? If so, please explain.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Image of the worksheet with the above content]
Fidelity Instruments

- RTI Integrity Rubric
  - Essential Components
  - Overarching Factors
  - Descriptions of ratings for 1, 3, or 5 across factors
## RTI Essential Components Integrity Rubric

**Instructions**—This rubric and the accompanying worksheet is for use by those responsible for monitoring school-level fidelity of RTI implementation with respect to the essential components of RTI (NCRTI, 2010) developed by the National Center on Response to Intervention. The RTI Essential Components Integrity Worksheet may be used to document the information collected for each school through interviews and first-hand experience. Ratings of 2 and 4 may be assigned in the event that you judge the school to be between the described ratings. For example, if for a particular trait, you judge a school to be higher than a 3 but not quite a 5, you should rate the school a 4.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trait</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Screening</strong>—The RTI framework accurately identifies students at risk of poor learning outcomes or challenging behaviors.</td>
<td>No evidence indicates that the instruments used for the screening are valid, reliable, and accurate, and reasons exist to question the validity and reliability of the system.</td>
<td>Evidence supports that the instruments used for the screening are valid and reliable but some question exists about its ability to predict which students are at risk of learning outcomes or challenging behaviors.</td>
<td>Evidence supports that the instruments used for the screening are valid, reliable, and accurately predict which students are at risk of poor learning outcomes or challenging behaviors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Screening Tools</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Universal Screening</strong></td>
<td>Screening is not conducted for all students or cut points are arbitrary.</td>
<td>Universal screening is conducted at least once during the school year for students or weaknesses exist in the system regarding the degree to which screening is reaching all students, definition of cut points, or the system to verify the initial findings of the screening.</td>
<td>All students are screened three times during the school year to identify those who may be at risk for poor learning outcomes or challenging behaviors. The identification is based on a well-defined cut point and procedures are in place to verify the results for all students who score below the cut point on the universal screening.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Screening Process</strong></td>
<td>The process used to implement the screening undermines the accuracy of the results.</td>
<td>Screening procedures are in place but there are some aspects of the process that could undermine the accuracy of the results, or the administration is not in accordance with developer guidelines, or the process allows for inconsistent administration.</td>
<td>Procedures are in place to ensure that the screening is conducted in a manner that ensures accuracy of the results and administered in a consistent manner in accordance with the developer guidelines.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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## Multi-Level Prevention/Intervention System—The framework includes a school-wide, multi-level system for preventing school failure.

<table>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Evidence-Based Curriculum Materials</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Articulation of Teaching and Learning</strong></td>
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Benefits of the Integrity Framework

Provides data useful for:

• Increasing the effectiveness of the RTI system
• Describing how schools are implementing RTI
• Evaluating the RTI implementation with respect to the Essential Components of RTI
• Providing targeted assistance
Where can I find the tools?

- Both the worksheet and the rubric are available on the NCRTI website
  - www.rti4success.org
Resources

The National Center on RTI hosts a variety of resources about RTI. The resources you find here were created by our Center as well as other organizations or associations. These pages contain resources that have been organized by type of resource.

Tools Charts

The National Center on RTI has developed three different tools charts. The charts do not recommend specific products, but are intended to be used as a consumer report, to help educators become informed consumers.

- Progress Monitoring Tools
- Screening Tools
- Instructional Intervention Tools

Implementation Tools

Resources in this section assist schools and districts in the implementation of an RTI framework. Products include guidance documents, tools, webinars and more.

Webinars

The Center has created Webinars for you to view at a time that works best for you. You can watch them on-line, or download them to watch on the go.

Ask the Experts

Ask the Expert videos are short video clips of experts in the field addressing frequently asked questions about RTI.

September Ask The Experts

What effect do behavioral strategies have on disproportionate representation in special education?

Watch and listen as Rus Skibe addresses this question.

Tools Charts

- Progress Monitoring Tools
- Screening Tools
- Instructional Intervention Tools
Implementation Tools

Center Products

Research Examples: Math Study
The purposes of this study were to examine efficacy of first-grade preventive instruction, to assess math disability (MD) prevalence and severity as a function of method with and without instruction, and to explore pretreatment cognitive abilities associated with development.

RTI Integrity Rubric and Worksheet
The RTI Essential Components Integrity Rubric and the RTI Essential Components Integrity Worksheet are for use by individuals responsible for monitoring the school-wide fidelity of Response to Intervention (RTI) implementation. They may also be used by schools for self-appraisal; however, they were not designed for compliance monitoring and therefore should not be used for this purpose. The rubric and the worksheet are designed to be used together and are aligned with the essential components of RTI.

Information Brief: Developing an RTI Guidance Document
Based on the lessons learned from providing support to states developing guidance documents, the National Center on Response to Intervention has created Developing an RTI Guidance Document. Included in this tool are frequently asked questions about guidance documents and a template to help states, districts, and schools develop their own documents.

Response to Intervention Classification Tool and Resource Locator
This tool, released by the Center on Instruction (COI) in February 2010, was created in response to requests for a tool to help states determine where they are in the process of RTI implementation and to find resources relevant to their current needs. The tool contains both an online self-assessment tool and a resource filtering tool. The self-assessment tool gauges a state’s level of RTI implementation based on responses to a short series of questions.

Response to Intervention and School-wide Positive Behavior Support (01:03:18)
This webinar, led by Dr. Rob Horner, described school-wide systems of early literacy and behavior support, which have been successfully used in over 20,000 elementary and middle schools. Data supported the impact of investing in prevention and behavior support on both academic and behavior outcomes.
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RTI Framework Integrity Rubric
RTI Framework Integrity Worksheet

Related Topics
- Implementation Tools
- Continuously Improving
- Implementing
- Evaluating the RTI Process
- Fidelity to RTI
- Administrators
- Teachers
- States
Examples from the field

- State 1
  - Site visits to pilot sites
  - Organized TA around the rankings
    - Focused assistance to districts
Examples from the field

State 2

- Capacity building coaches have been trained on how to use the worksheet and rubric
- Coaches offered training to pilot sites
  - Have held group discussions on rubric elements
- Sites must have external evaluator complete the rubric before attending upcoming trainings
Examples from field

- 2 large urban districts
- 4 external evaluators & SEA staff person
- 2-3 hour interview with building RTI team
- Structured interview with 28 items
  - Used modified version of worksheet
Thank You
Questions?

Send questions to:
rtiwebinars@air.org