Multi-Tiered System of Supports

at the American Institutes for Research®



MTSS Infrastructure and Support Mechanisms Series

MTSS Fidelity

Fidelity of implementation is a key <u>school infrastructure and support mechanism</u> to ensure the effectiveness of a multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS). Fidelity is a measure of how consistently the critical components of MTSS are implemented in the school setting. It is the extent to which programs, assessments, or components are implemented as intended.

Fidelity should be monitored for the implementation of

- MTSS and its essential components,
- instruction and interventions, and
- administering and analyzing assessments.

What Does Fidelity Look Like at the School Level?

Measuring fidelity means gathering data to check that supports are provided to students as intended. This also includes measuring MTSS, its components, and the use of assessments. Monitoring fidelity can include a formal self-evaluation by the MTSS leadership team using a fidelity rubric, but it also includes educators evaluating if they are delivering interventions with fidelity or administering assessments as designed.

Tips for Implementation

- Utilize the <u>MTSS Fidelity of Implementation Rubric</u> to self-evaluate and monitor fidelity of local MTSS implementation.
- Measure fidelity of instruction and interventions by using self-report or observation of implementation.
- Measure fidelity in a variety of ways; for example, through student engagement, program specificity, quality of delivery, adherence, and exposure.
- Provide adequate training and follow-up coaching to staff to ensure that assessments are used as intended, including administration and scoring.

Resources

- MTSS Fidelity of Implementation Rubric
- Ensuring Fidelity of Assessment and Data Entry Procedures
- Considerations for Effective Implementation: 5 Elements of Fidelity
- Tools for Monitoring Implementation Fidelity

To learn more about fidelity, visit www.MTSS4success.org.

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17169_02/22

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