
MTSS Infrastructure and Support Mechanisms Series

School-Based Professional Development

School-based professional development is the notion that educators and teachers engage in ongoing training and coaching to ensure initial and sustained implementation of a multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS). School leadership ensure that professional development is institutionalized and structured so that all staff continuously examine, reflect upon, and improve instructional practice, data-based decision making, and delivery of interventions and supports.

What Does Professional Development Look Like at the School Level?

School-based professional development includes the following:

- MTSS coaches support [teams](#) in [developing their tiered model](#), ensuring the appropriate [infrastructure](#) and supporting initial and sustained implementation.
- Staff, including new staff, participate in ongoing training opportunities provided annually throughout the year.
- Staff receive coaching or other implementation supports based on needs.
- Resources and time are allocated to professional development.

Tips for Implementation

To ensure high-quality professional development, consider the following questions:

1. What training is needed for initial implementation of the essential components? What training is necessary to sustain implementation?
2. What support and coaching are needed for initial and sustained implementation?
3. How will we ensure that all staff have access to and benefit from the training, support, and coaching?
4. How will we measure fidelity and impact of implementation of the school-based professional development?

Resources for MTSS Training and Coaching

- [Coaching for Ongoing Professional Learning within Tiered Support Models](#) (National Center on Intensive Intervention [NCII])
- [Effective Coaching Practices Infographic](#) and [learning module](#) (National Center for Systemic Improvement)
- [Intensive intervention training materials](#) and [course content](#) (NCII)
- [MTSS-related online learning modules](#) (NCII)
- [Training modules on various MTSS topics](#), including assessment, instruction, and intervention (IRIS Center)
- [Course Enhancement Modules](#) on various MTSS topics (CEEDAR Center)