

Response to Instruction and Intervention (RTI²) LEA Guidance Related to Parental Requests Regarding Non- Participation in Tiered Intervention

Response to Instruction and Intervention (RTI²) is primarily a general education tool used to identify a student's specific needs and match those needs with appropriate instruction. Specifically, RTI² works to provide early intervention and scaffolded support to help all students achieve greater levels of success with grade level expectations. A component of the framework for RTI² is to conduct universal screening to better determine a student's performance in relation to those grade level expectations. This screening data is then analyzed in conjunction with other data to determine how a school would best meet the needs of the individual student. All students are provided instruction in Tier I; however, some students may require additional support through targeted intervention in the Tier II setting. Additionally, a few students may require greater levels of support through intensive intervention in the Tier III setting. The Response to Instruction and Intervention (RTI²) framework is the mandated methodology for delivery of instruction in the general education curriculum in all local education agencies in the state, effective July 1, 2014. See [SBE Rule 0520-01-03-.03\(6\)](#).

Just as a student's parent cannot refuse instruction in English language arts, mathematics, or any other component of the general education curriculum mandated by the State Board of Education, a student's parent cannot refuse instruction and intervention through the RTI² framework, including instruction and intervention in Tier II or Tier III. All students must be instructed via the methods determined appropriate by local educators through the general education curriculum.

RTI² is also part of the special education referral process for identifying students who may have a specific learning disability. A student's parent cannot refuse to allow the LEA to collect progress monitoring data for the student and refer the student for an evaluation if the LEA suspects the student has a disability, but a student's parent can refuse to allow the LEA to conduct an evaluation for special education and related services and refuse to allow the LEA to provide special education and related services if the student is determined eligible. See [34 C.F.R. § 300.300](#).

For additional information and resources, please visit [TDOE RTI² Resources](#) or contact Haley Richardson at Haley.Richardson@tn.gov.