

The LAUSD recognizes that many schools already have robust school-level intervention teams that are working collaboratively and effectively, addressing the academic, linguistic, behavior, and social-emotional needs of students. Recognizing that intervention teams function at varying levels of efficiency, this handbook provides schools guidance on how to develop and implement a successful SSPT that ensures that all students maximize their learning potential.

MULTI-TIERED SYSTEM OF SUPPORT: THE CONTINUUM OF INTERVENTION

The SSPT is part of a broader framework known as a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS). The California Department of Education defines MTSS as follows: “A Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) addresses the needs of all students, aligns the entire system of initiatives, supports and resources, and implements continuous improvement processes at all levels of the system [school-wide, classroom, and individual students].” (*CA Dept. of Education*)

The California Department of Education Provides a Comparison of MTSS and RTI²

Key similarities between MTSS and RTI², both:

- Support high-quality standards and research-based, culturally and linguistically relevant instruction with the belief that every student can learn including students of poverty, students with disabilities, English learners (ELs), and students from all ethnicities evident in the school and district cultures.
- Integrate a data collection and assessment system, including universal screening, diagnostics and progress monitoring to inform decisions appropriate for each tier of service delivery.
- Rely on a problem-solving process and method to identify problems, develop interventions and, evaluate the effectiveness of the intervention in a multi-tiered system of service delivery.
- Seek and implement appropriate research-based interventions for improving student learning.
- Use school-wide and classroom research-based positive behavioral supports for achieving important social and learning outcomes.
- Implement a collaborative approach to analyze student data and work together in the intervention process.

Key Differences of RTI² and MTSS

The CDE describes the key differences between RTI² and MTSS, as MTSS:

- Aligns the entire system of initiatives, supports & resources
- Involves a Paradigm shift: systematic support and higher expectations for all students