## National Center on INTENSIVE INTERVENTION

at American Institutes for Research

## **Taxonomy of Intervention Intensity: Academics**



The *Taxonomy of Intervention Intensity\** was developed based on existing research to support educators in evaluating and building intervention intensity.

	Dimensions*	Description
	Strength	How well the program works for students with intensive intervention needs, expressed in terms of effect sizes. Effect sizes of above .25 indicate an intervention has value in improving outcomes. Effect sizes of 0.35 to 0.40 are moderate; effect sizes of 0.50 or larger are strong (preferred).
	Dosage	The number of opportunities a student has to respond and receive corrective feedback. It refers to the size of the instructional group, the number of minutes each session lasts, and the number of sessions provided per week.
	Alignment	How well the program (a) addresses the target student's full set of academic skill deficits, (b) does <i>not</i> address skills the target student has already mastered (extraneous skills for that student), and (c) incorporates a meaningful focus on grade-appropriate curricular standards.
	Attention to transfer	The extent to which an intervention is designed to help students (a) transfer the skills they learn to other formats and contexts and (b) realize connections between mastered and related skills.
	Comprehensiveness	The number of explicit instruction principles the intervention incorporates (e.g., providing explanations in simple, direct language; modeling efficient solution strategies instead of expecting students to discover strategies on their own; providing practice so students use the strategies to generate many correct responses; and incorporating systematic cumulative review).
	Behavioral support	The extent to which the program incorporates (a) self-regulation and executive function components and (b) behavioral principles to minimize nonproductive behavior.
	Individualization	A validated, data-based process for individualizing intervention, in which the educator systematically adjusts the intervention over time, in response to ongoing progress monitoring data, to address the student's complex learning needs.

<sup>\*</sup>Fuchs, L.S, Fuchs, D. & Malone, A.S. (2017). The Taxonomy of Intervention Intensity. *TEACHING Exceptional Children, 50(1), 35–43*.

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## **Taxonomy of Intervention Intensity: Behavior**



The *Taxonomy of Intervention Intensity\** was developed based on existing research to support educators in evaluating and building intervention intensity.

Dimensions*	Description
Strength	How well the program works for students with intensive intervention needs, sometimes expressed as a promising or effective program by a reliable source (e.g., NCII Tools Charts, WWC).
Dosage	The number of opportunities a student has to (a) respond (i.e., practice/demonstrate skill), (b) receive positive feedback (e.g., praise, tokens, points), (c) exchange for backup reinforcers, and (d) receive corrective feedback.
Alignment	How well the program (a) addresses school-wide expectations, (b) addresses classroom/teacher expectations, (c) addresses student's skill deficits, (d) matches rewards to student's preferences and/or function of problem behavior, and (e) does not address extraneous skills.
Attention to transfer	The extent to which an intervention emphasizes how and when a student uses skills across contexts/situations and include opportunities to practice using skills across context/situations. The program reinforces the use of skills across contexts/situations.
Comprehensiveness	The extent to which the intervention includes a plan for (a) teaching appropriate behavior, (b) adjusting antecedent conditions to prevent problem behavior, (c) reinforcing appropriate behavior, (d) minimizing reinforcement for problem behavior, (e) fading supports (and supports can be easily faded), (f) monitoring fidelity, (g) working in conjunction with related services, and (h) communicating with parents.
Academic support	The extent to which the program (a) can be easily integrated within context of academic instruction, (b) complements rather than supplants academic focus, and (c) includes procedures for reinforcing responses related to academic achievement (e.g., engagement, work completion).
Individualization	A validated, data-based process for individualizing intervention, in which the educator systematically adjusts the intervention over time, in response to ongoing progress monitoring, to address the student's complex learning needs.

<sup>\*</sup>Adapted from Fuchs, L.S, Fuchs, D. & Malone, A.S. (2017). The Taxonomy of Intervention Intensity. *TEACHING Exceptional Children, 50(1),* 35–43.