MTSS Snapshot: Taxonomy of Intervention: What is it, and how do I use it?

The National Center on Intensive Intervention (NCII) provides an online website with a wealth of resources for MTSS. One NCII resource frequently used by Georgia’s MTSS team is the Taxonomy of Intervention. This tool is made up of seven dimensions that can help educators make informed, systematic, decisions to support students as interventions are individualized and intensified. Educators may use the Taxonomy of Intervention to evaluate current interventions; select a new intervention; and/or intensify an intervention.

Seven Dimensions of the Taxonomy of Intervention:

- **STRENGTH** – Does evidence suggest the intervention is expected to lead to improved outcomes?
- **DOSAGE** – Will the group size, duration, structure, and frequency provide sufficient opportunities to respond?
- **ALIGNMENT** – Does the intervention match the student’s identified needs?
- **ATTENTION TO TRANSFER** – Does it assist the student in utilizing the learned skills to general education or other tasks?
- **COMPREHENSIVENESS** – Does the intervention include elements of explicit instruction?
- **BEHAVIORAL SUPPORT** – Does the student have opportunities to develop the behavior skills necessary to be successful?

For more information contact:

Karen Suddeth, Program Manager, ksuddeth@doe.k12.ga.us
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• ACADEMIC SUPPORT – Can the intervention be easily integrated into academic instruction?
• INDIVIDUALIZATION – Can the intervention be individualized with a data-based process to meet student needs?

The Taxonomy of Intervention Intensity* was adapted from Fuchs, L. S., Fuchs, D., & Malone, A. S. (2017). The Taxonomy of Intervention Intensity. TEACHING Exceptional Children, 50(1), 35-43. The National Center on Intensive Intervention in coordination with a technical working group of experts has refined and expanded the Taxonomy to incorporate considerations for both academics and behavior and lessons learned from implementation in the field.

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