

MTSS Component Summary: Progress Monitoring

Progress monitoring uses reliable and valid measures to assess a student's performance and to quantify a student's rate of improvement or responsiveness to supplemental instruction. It is also used to evaluate the effectiveness of supplemental instruction. Teams should establish a baseline and gather ongoing data at regular intervals to accurately measure student performance. Progress monitoring data can be used system wide to monitor the progress of all students across all levels to provide feedback for improvement.

Progress monitoring is important to the multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) process because it

- provides current feedback on a student's performance,
- allows for adjustments to instruction or intervention, and
- quantifies rates of improvement for decision making.

Steps to implement:

1. Design a progress monitoring process that clearly identifies the purpose and describes how progress monitoring data will be collected, stored, monitored, analyzed, and used to make informed decisions.
2. Select progress monitoring tools for [academics](#) and [behavior](#) according to team needs, context, and priorities, with consideration for cultural and linguistic responsiveness and recognition of student strengths.
3. Train staff through regular professional development offerings. The professional development should focus on (a) ensuring that educators understand the purpose of progress monitoring, (b) have the skills to implement the process with fidelity, and (c) use the data to guide instructional decisions.
4. Develop student progress monitoring plans that include the selected measure, schedule and frequency of data collection, student baseline and goals, and data review dates.
5. Collect progress monitoring data and monitor fidelity according to plans that teams developed.
6. Analyze progress monitoring data to gauge student responsiveness to instructions and interventions.

Tips for implementing screening:

- Be sure the process for gathering and using the data is clear.
- Ensure that measures are appropriate for the student's grade or skill level.

- Ensure that progress monitoring tools are used with fidelity.
- Use efficient systems to graph and analyze the data.
- Define recommended intervals for acceptable growth, benchmarks, and acceptable end-of-year performance.