



What is Multi-Tiered System of Support?

A Multi-tiered System of Support—known as MTSS—is a way to meet the learning needs of all students. When a school uses MTSS, all students are taught the same basic content, but some students may get extra help. This help is not the same as special education because it is for any student who needs it. Data from daily work, homework, quizzes, tests, and even games may be used to learn who needs more support.



Frequently Asked Questions

Why MTSS?

MTSS looks at all students a few times a year to see who might need extra help learning reading, math, or good behavior. MTSS provides extra help or support so all students can be successful at their grade level.

How does MTSS help all students learn together in the same classroom?

MTSS is about meeting the needs of all students, including students with disabilities. With MTSS, all students can belong to grade-level classrooms and still get extra help when they need it. With MTSS, students get supports based on their needs, not labels.

What does MTSS mean for my child?

With MTSS, lessons can be matched to your child's unique strengths and needs. Some students need help in one area and excel in another. MTSS helps teachers pinpoint exactly what supports are right for your child.

What could MTSS look like at my school?

You may see some of these things at your school:

- Teachers giving short tests to determine which students need more support or to find out whether the support they get is working.
- Small groups of students working on the same skill together. At some schools, a block of time is set aside during the day to provide these supports so students do not miss out on basic content.
- Teams of teachers meeting to review student data to find out the best way to support a student.

Learn more about MTSS at guide.swiftschools.org.

How Can I Get Involved?

- Ask how MTSS works in your child's school. What supports does the school provide? What data are used to decide whether students receive extra support? How are families kept informed about the support their children receive?
- Talk to your child's teacher about your child's strengths and needs.
- Use strategies with your child at home that are similar to successful strategies used at school.

How Do I Learn More?

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