

Title I and Response to Intervention (RtI)

How may Title I funds be used to support RtI in a targeted assistance school?

Title I funds in a targeted assistance school must be used to provide supplemental education services to a select group of students determined eligible through multiple measures of achievement. These parameters on Title I funding still exist in targeted assistance schools even if the school is implementing RtI. Title I funds must still be used to provide *additional* educational support to a select group of eligible students and may not be used to provide the basic, core instruction available to all students.

In a targeted assistance school, can the Title I teacher participate in RtI?

Absolutely. Title I services are one piece of the continuum of services available to students. Title I teachers should still be providing supplemental educational support to a select group of students determined as Title I eligible by a review of multiple measures of academic progress. The school should have explicit criteria for when students enter the Title I program and explicit criteria for when students exit the Title I program (Title I Needs Assessment Process and Student Selection Policy). Title I teachers collaborate with regular classroom teachers in identifying Title I students. Title I teachers may consult with regular classroom teachers to design classroom interventions that the teacher would implement *before* a student is identified as Title I eligible. However, the Title I teacher should not be delivering those interventions as they are designed for non-Title I students. Title I teachers should never be used to deliver the core instruction provided to all students even if that instruction is differentiated. Title I teachers deliver education services *over and above* the core instruction. Title I services should never reduce a student's access to the core instruction.

How may Title I funds be used to support RtI in a schoolwide school?

Schoolwide programs, allowable in buildings with at least 40% poverty, are designed to serve the educational needs of all students within the school. Therefore, Title I funds, pooled with other resources may be used to fund any aspect of RtI in a schoolwide school.

Is RTI subject to the comparability and supplement, not supplant provisions of the Title I law?

Yes.

Can Title I funds be used to purchase instructional materials for RtI?

If the district is purchasing particular materials for all schools in the district, those materials must be purchased with state or local funds in both Title I and non-Title I schools. In a targeted assistance school, Title I funds may only be used to purchase instructional materials for Title I students in the Title I program. In a schoolwide school, funds may be pooled and instructional materials may be purchased for all students in the school. Title I funds may never be used to purchase instructional materials in non-Title I schools.

How does the three tiered system, common in many RtI models, work within the Title I targeted assistance programming? What parameters do we need to be aware of as we implement RtI?

When implementing RtI in a targeted assistance school, staff must ensure that the students served by Title I teachers and the services those teachers provide are consistent with Title I law. In a targeted assistance school, Title I teachers work only with Title I eligible students and the services they provide are supplemental to the core instructional program. This must be foremost in consideration when determining which "tier" Title I services should best be placed. While some districts choose to use a tiered model it is not required by the DPI.