

Determining Specific Learning Disability (SLD) Eligibility for Special Education Using Response to Intervention (RTI)

Use the RTI process to determine when the student is performing significantly below the level or standard of his or her peers. You as part of the evaluation group must help answer “yes” to the following questions:

1. Where at least two phases of intensive Tier III interventions implemented in the general education curriculum with fidelity, which did not affect the student’s achievement and does evidence of the student’s non-responsiveness at Tier III reflect that he or she is learning at a rate significantly less than his or her peers?

2. Is there evidence of the student’s low performance based on RTI and other existing data that meets at least two of the following four criteria:

CBM scores showing the student is performing at or below the 7th percentile of current grade level or at or below the 16th percentile of a previous grade level;

*A standardized assessment score that is 1.75 standard deviations below the mean, consistent with test protocols;

*CBM scores and other data demonstrate that the student’s median performance is below that of his or her grade placement peers by a discrepancy ratio of at least 2.0 (the discrepancy ratio is calculated by dividing the peers’ median performance by the target student’s median performance); or

*The student’s instructional performance level is two or more grade levels below her or his current grade placement determined by CMB scores, classroom performance, observation and if appropriate, standardized assessments?

3. Does the evaluation group (including the parent) believe the student requires resources that are not available in the general education setting, with or without accommodations, in order to participate or progress in the general education curriculum at a level equal to his or her peers? Evidence of this criterion would show that the student requires specially designed instruction or Tier III interventions for an extended period of time that is not available in the general education curriculum.

