



## CAPACITY BUILDING INDICATORS & DISSEMINATION STRATEGIES

### *Intensive Interventions for Students Struggling in Reading and Mathematics: A Practice Guide*

**Description:** This practice guide offers research-based guidance for intensifying instruction in both reading and mathematics for students with significant learning difficulties, including students with disabilities in kindergarten through grade 12. To support educators in addressing the challenge of delivering effective intensive interventions, this guide discusses four considerations—integrating strategies that support cognitive processes (e.g., self-regulation and memory) with academic instruction and aligning this instruction with learner needs, differentiating instructional delivery by making it more explicit and systematic and by increasing opportunities for feedback, increasing instructional time, and reducing group size.

**Intended Audience:** Regional Comprehensive Centers, other national TA providers, SEAs, practitioners (including instructional specialists and special education teachers)

<b>To expand RCC's capacity, this activity or resource:</b>	
Confirms what the RCC is already doing.	Increases capacity of RCCs to support states in providing guidance for implementing intensive interventions to improve education practices for struggling students, including those who receive special education.
Raises awareness of new developments in fields important to states' work.	Supports the implementation of new priorities including the college and career-ready standards such as those in the Common Core State Standards and School Improvement Grants (SIGs).
Helps the RCC help states frame a problem in new ways.	Provides four considerations when implementing an intensive instructional program for students with significant learning difficulties—supporting cognitive processes, intensifying instructional delivery, increasing learning time, and reducing instructional group size.
Helps the RCC help states accomplish a goal or solve a problem.	Provides research-based guidance for intensifying instruction in reading and mathematics for students with significant learning difficulties.
Helps the RCC help states improve or support an ongoing state program, policy, or practice.	Provides guidance RCCs can use to support states in addressing the needs of students with significant learning difficulties, including those who receive special education.
Helps the RCC help states plan or initiate a new state program, policy, or practice.	Allows RCCs to engage in discussions with SEAs regarding guidelines for adopting and modifying instructional practices to deliver appropriate, responsive instruction to students with significant learning difficulties.
Helps the RCC enhance states' ability to address NCLB requirements.	Helps RCCs build the capacity of SEAs to address NCLB requirements to improve education practices for struggling students, including those who receive special education.
Helps RCC improve states' ability to work with districts.	Helps RCCs build the capacity of SEAs to support districts looking for guidelines on the design and delivery of intensive interventions.
Puts the RCC in touch with other organizations engaged in similar tasks.	Includes a list of additional resources from other organizations.
Enables the RCC to carry out its work more effectively.	Provides handouts that can be easily disseminated to SEAs and LEAs.
Helps the RCC help states complete NCLB-related applications, plans, and reports.	Provides guidance for improving education practices for struggling students, including those who receive special education.

**Accompanying/Related Materials:**

- *Intensive Interventions for Students Struggling in Reading and Mathematics: Professional Development Handout*—Coming Spring 2012

**Suggested Dissemination Strategies:**

- Email link to the practice guide (<http://www.centeroninstruction.org/intensive-interventions-for-students-struggling-in-reading-and-mathematics>) or email pdf of the practice guide to SEA staff.
- Meet with SEA staff to discuss the four considerations for intensifying instruction for students with significant learning difficulties, including students with disabilities in grades kindergarten through grade 12.
- Notify SEA staff that an accompanying professional development handout will be available Spring 2012.
- Assist SEA with plans to disseminate the information contained in the practice guide (and/or the practice guide itself) to LEAs.