



Missouri Association of School Psychologists

www.maspweb.org

What can a School Psychologist do for your School District?

School Psychologists provide support for Response to Intervention, included in IDEA and supported as a best practice for helping struggling students, in the following ways:

- Assist in developing effective district-wide screening to determine which students are at-risk for failure
- Consult with teachers to develop and implement research based academic and behavioral interventions prior to a referral for special education testing
- Facilitate progress monitoring through the use of curriculum based assessment to determine the effectiveness of alternative interventions and to evaluate growth in student learning
- Utilize more timely and efficient pre-referral interventions to improve overall student academic performance, decrease the frequency of carrying out unnecessary evaluations for students who do not qualify for special education, and increase the likelihood that students who really need help will qualify for services

School Psychologists support regular and special education staff in the following ways:

- Facilitate the development of measurable IEP goals and use of data-based decision making to evaluate student progress
- Assist special educators in translating evaluation results into meaningful educational recommendations and IEP goals
- Conduct functional behavioral assessments for students with emotional or behavior concerns
- Develop positive behavior intervention plans that promote the acquisition of appropriate behaviors to replace problem behaviors
- Promote positive mental health and adjustment for all students via school-wide intervention programs
- Provide individual or group counseling services as needed for students with IEP's
- Coordinate and present district wide in-service and parent workshops on educational and psychological topics such as child development, learning styles, behavior management, homework strategies, etc.