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**Connecting Response to Intervention to New Priorities:   
Aligning Educational Initiatives**

**Planning Packet**

This planning packet is a tool to engage regional comprehensive center (RCC) and state education agency (SEA) staff members in discussion about, and initial planning for, aligning response to intervention (RTI) with other state priorities and educational initiatives, including School Improvement Grants (SIG) and the Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

RCCs and SEAs can use this planning packet in multiple ways, including the following:

* Using the self-reflection questions to initiate conversations around RTI to support implementation of other state priorities
* Using the action plan template to develop an initial action plan for RTI to support implementation of various educational initiatives

Additional resources on these topics can be found on the Center on Instruction website:

* + “Connecting Response to Intervention to New Priorities” webinar and PowerPoint presentation: <http://centeroninstruction.org/webinar-connecting-rti-to-new-priorities-aligning-educational-initiatives>
  + SIG: [www.centeroninstruction.org/resources\_searchresults.cfm?searchterms=SIG&explicit=1](http://www.centeroninstruction.org/resources_searchresults.cfm?searchterms=SIG&explicit=1)
  + CCSS: [www.centeroninstruction.org/resources\_searchresults.cfm?searchterms=Common%20Core%20State%20Standards&explicit=1](http://www.centeroninstruction.org/resources_searchresults.cfm?searchterms=Common%20Core%20State%20Standards&explicit=1)
  + College and career readiness for English language learners: [www.centeroninstruction.org/topic.cfm?k=ELL](http://www.centeroninstruction.org/topic.cfm?k=ELL)
  + College and career readiness for students with disabilities: [www.centeroninstruction.org/topic.cfm?k=SE](http://www.centeroninstruction.org/topic.cfm?k=SE)
  + RTI: [www.centeroninstruction.org/topic.cfm?k=R](http://www.centeroninstruction.org/topic.cfm?k=R)

**Part 1: Self-Reflection Questions**

***Instructions:*** Use the self-reflection questions below to discuss how RTI implementation can support the instructional requirements of SIG, CCSS or other state standards and assessments, and college and career readiness for all students, including English language learners and students with disabilities.

**School Improvement Grants**

* In your state, what are the connections between SIG and RTI?
* How is alignment between SIG and RTI communicated to SEAs and/or local education agencies?

**Common Core/Other State Standards and Assessments**

* How could the current RTI infrastructure in your state support the implementation of CCSS or other state standards and assessments?
* Even though the essential components of RTI remain the same under CCSS or other state standards, how should practices within each of these components be modified when implementing new state standards and assessments?

***Note:*** All questions in the following two sections can be combined and discussed within the larger context of diverse learners, if that is more appropriate for your needs.

**College and Career Readiness for English Language Learners**

* How does primary prevention (i.e., core instruction) address the needs of English language learners in your state?
* What areas need improvement in instruction, assessment, data-based decision making, and teacher preparation?

**College and Career Readiness for Students With Disabilities**

* Is there a need in your state for better or more communication between general and special educators?
* Do you think there are advantages to using RTI as an instructional framework for preparing students for college and careers?
* How are parents and other stakeholders made aware of RTI?

**Part 2: Action Plan Template**

***Instructions:*** Read and discuss the initial planning questions below, using your answers from the earlier self-reflection questions to guide conversations about alignment of educational initiatives at the state level.

Then, begin to develop an action plan. Specifically, identify and record the following:

* Which educational initiative(s) you would like your existing RTI framework to support
* The overall objective of the action plan
* Other stakeholders who may be key to the implementation of the plan

Finally, draft individual action steps. Include a description of each step, potential challenges, resources needed, staff members responsible, and a due date.

If you need assistance with your action plan, contact the Center on Instruction’s Saro Mohammed at [saromohammed@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:saromohammed@austin.utexas.edu)

**Initial Planning Questions**

* Given your responses to the self-reflection questions, what are some of your next steps for alignment of initiatives and priorities at the state level? What questions do you have?
* What are some action steps you have already identified (if any) for using RTI to support implementation of the educational initiatives in your state(s)? What challenges have you faced or do you anticipate facing?

**Action Plan Template for Aligning RTI and Educational Initiatives**

Regional comprehensive center:

State education agency:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Targeted educational initiative(s): | | | | |
| Objective of action plan: | | | | |
| Stakeholders necessary to implement this plan: | | | | |
| Action step description | Potential challenges | Resources needed | Staff members responsible | Deadline |
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