

Frequently Asked Questions about Rtl and the Wisconsin SLD Rule

The Wisconsin State Reading Association has received numerous questions regarding the implications for literacy as a result of Response to Intervention systems and the Wisconsin Specific Learning Disability (SLD) rule. The ESEA/Rtl/Assessment Task Force has been investigating these issues and working with DPI and experts in the field to explore them. This information is intended to help our members wade through the large amount of information available and recognize the misinformation and misinterpretations regarding these topics that are proliferating throughout the state. We are currently working on answering additional questions and will be adding those as they become available.

The questions in this document have been received from members throughout the state based on things that are currently happening in districts/schools. The answers have been developed using the best available evidence from state documents and professional literature. We have also provided excerpts from and links to many of the documents for the convenience of members.

Section 1: Rtl Framework and SLD Identification

- 1. What is the difference between Rtl and SLD rule? Who does the WI SLD rule apply to?**
- 2. Can I use an intervention that addresses more than one of the areas of SLD?**
- 3. In the Wisconsin SLD rule, "Intensive interventions" are defined, in part, as "focusing on single or small numbers of discrete skills." What is the definition of 'discrete skills?'**
- 4. What constitutes an intervention that meets the SLD criteria?**
- 5. Is the standard protocol approach within a 3-Tiered model the only appropriate way to implement Rtl?**
- 6. How is WI's model for Rtl different from other states?**
- 7. Who should be a member of the SLD referral team? What is the role of the reading teacher/reading specialist?**

- 8. Who is the SLD rule for? What about children that need ongoing support to be successful?**
- 9. What is meant by exclusionary factors?**
- 10. I see many different opportunities to learn about Rtl and the SLD rule. How do I determine which are high quality?**
- 11. Are districts required to have a Rtl process in place by December 1, 2013 and is the implementation of Rtl mandatory in Wisconsin schools?**
- 12. Do we need an intervention block in our school? What is the nature of the evidence of the intervention block?**