

WHAT IS TIER 2?

OKMTSS: TARGETED SUPPORTS

What is Tier 2? “Extra Help for Some Students”

Tier 2 is targeted support for students who need more help than what they receive through regular classroom instruction. All students continue to receive Tier 1 supports, but some students also receive Tier 2 interventions based on school data. Tier 2 supports are planned, evidence-based, and provided for a specific amount of time to help students improve a particular skill.

Examples of Tier 2 academic support:

- **Helping students build specific skills in small groups.** (Students receive extra instruction focused on one or two skills they need help with.)
- **Using proven intervention programs.** (Schools use evidence-based programs that are designed to improve specific academic skills.)
- **Providing extra instruction several times each week.** (Students receive additional lessons for a set period of time beyond regular classroom teaching.)
- **Connecting support to classroom learning.** (Tier 2 instruction matches what students are learning in their regular classroom.)
- **Providing support from trained school staff.** (Teachers or interventionists deliver Tier 2 instruction using planned lessons.)

Examples of Tier 2 behavior support:

- **Teaching behavior skills in small groups.** (Students receive targeted instruction to help them learn expected behaviors.)
- **Practicing expected behaviors step by step.** (Students are taught what to do, practice the behavior, and receive guidance.)
- **Encouraging positive behavior often.** (Students receive regular feedback and reinforcement for appropriate behavior.)
- **Checking progress over time.** (Schools monitor behavior to see if the support is helping.)

Additional ways schools support families are by providing regular updates about how their child is doing with extra help, such as progress reports, phone calls, meetings, or notes explaining what skills are being worked on and how the child is improving. Families may also be invited to talk with the school team about progress and next steps while Tier 2 supports are in place.

Child Find:

Schools cannot use MTSS to make you wait before looking into whether your child has a disability that may need special education. If a parent, teacher, or other school staff suspects a child has a disability, the school must **identify, locate, and evaluate the child for special education** without making you go through all the MTSS steps first.