



Massachusetts Tiered System of Support (MTSS): Tiered Academic Instruction-Literacy Academy

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (ESE), in collaboration with HILL for Literacy, is pleased to offer an intensive professional development opportunity designed to train school and district teams in their development and implementation of school and district-wide tiered systems of literacy support. This process begins with analyzing your current program/curriculum framework, assessment framework, leadership routines and professional development. The Tiered Literacy Academy aligns to the Massachusetts Turnaround Practices Research, particularly supporting (1) Leadership, Shared Responsibility and Professional Collaboration (2) High Quality Core Instruction and (3) Student-Specific Supports and Instruction to All Students.

MTSS: Tiered Academic Instruction—Literacy Academy and Coaches Meetings Description:

The content of the Literacy Academy and coaches meetings will focus on establishing routines and structures that support continued improvement in instructional practices, increased capacity at the school and district level, distributed leadership, and improved student outcomes. District and school leaders will be given the necessary tools to evaluate current literacy practices, build a multi-tiered instructional and assessment model utilizing scientifically-research based methods, embedded professional development plan and systems for measuring fidelity of implementation and effectiveness of instruction. It will be expected that participants will take the tools and training delivered during the modules and implement with their district and school based teams. Modules will be delivered in two tracks: *Elementary Academy* and *Middle School/ High School Academy*.

Year 1: Fall 2017 - Spring 2018	Year 2: Fall 2018 - Spring 2019	Year 3: Fall 2019 - Spring 2020
6 days: face-to-face team trainings	3 days: face-to-face team trainings	
4 days: coaches' trainings	5 days: coaches' trainings	5 days: coaches' trainings
2 days: on-site technical assistance per district	2 days: on-site technical assistance per district	2 days: on-site technical assistance per district
Networking Meeting	Networking Meeting	Networking Meeting

Outcomes:

Expected training and meetings outcomes are as follows: (a) establishing effective district and school level leadership teams, (b) developing and implementing a multi-year strategic literacy plan based on needs assessment and student data, (c) organizing and utilizing formative assessment data to inform decision making related to professional development activities, resource allocation, and coaching, (d) building multi-tiered systems of support utilizing research-based instructional tools and approaches, (e) creating consistent teacher knowledge base on the core components of literacy and principles of effective instruction, (f) creating master schedules that support academics as the top priority and resource allocation to deliver differentiated instruction, and (g) identifying the activities and routines of effective leaders that are most critical to leading successful literacy change.

Team Composition:

Elementary School Members

- One district level administrator/ Individual responsible for ELA*
- One school level administrator with decision making authority
- At least two coaches/lead teachers/interventionists identified as Literacy Leads
- At least one special Educator
- At least one ELL Educator
- At least one General Education Educator

Middle School Members

- One district level administrator/ Individual responsible for ELA*
- One school level administrator with decision making authority
- Department Head or Cluster Leader (optional)
- At least One coach identified as Literacy Lead
- At least one Lead teacher identified as Literacy Lead
- At least one special educator (with authority to represent the special education programs in the school)
- At least one ELL Educator
- One content area educator (science, math, humanities)

High School Members

- One district level administrator/ Individual responsible for ELA*
- One school level administrator with decision making authority
- Department Head or Cluster Leader (optional)
- At least one coach identified as Literacy Leads
- At least one Lead teacher identified as Literacy Lead
- At least one special educator (with authority to represent the special education programs in the school)
- At least one ELL Educator
- One content area educator (science, math, humanities)

*Small districts may send one district level leader to represent multiple teams. Larger districts are encouraged to send multiple leaders.

Cost:

Funds for this multi-year training and technical assistance are provided the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Schools and districts will be responsible for the cost of stipends, travel, substitutes, etc.

To Apply:

New schools and districts can apply using the following [Application Link](#). The application contains two rounds. Upon review and approval of Round 1 application, pending space, districts/schools will be asked to complete Round 2.

Round 1	Initial School/District Interest: Contact person, readiness questions, RAD or ESE District Liaison approval	Due: August 18 th , 2017
Round 2	Team Members: Contact information for all team members	Due: September 13 th , 2017

For more information about the MTSS: Tiered Academic Instruction-Literacy Academy, please visit the [website](#), or contact:

- Darci Burns, Executive Director, Hill for Literacy, Darci@hillforliteracy.org
- Rebecca Shor, Director of Systems for Student Success Office, RShor@doe.mass.edu