Overview: Integrated Student Supports

What are Integrated Student Supports?

Integrated Student Supports (ISS) are the academic and nonacademic supports students receive to be fully engaged in learning. Research shows that ISS are a promising approach for improving student learning and promoting healthy development (Moore, H.L, et. al., 2017).

ISS are implemented through a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), which is the structure for how supports are organized and delivered by education professionals, in partnership with families and service providers. Districts may work with community partners to plan the coordinated and integrated delivery of academic and nonacademic supports to ensure positive outcomes for students.

What is the relationship between MTSS and the Washington ISS Protocol?

MTSS and the WA ISS Protocol work together to support the needs and inform the services for each and every student. MTSS is a framework that guides effective educational decision-making, and the ISS Protocol is a coordinated set of activities and practices within the MTSS framework.

What are Washington's requirements regarding the ISS Protocol?

Beginning in the 2025–26 school year, districts **must** use Washington's ISS protocol to budget and expend Learning Assistance Program (LAP) funds as required by Substitute House Bill (SHB) 1208 (see the Learning Assistance Program Guide).

School districts **may** use up to 15% of their total districtwide LAP base funds and 15% of high poverty funds per eligible school to provide supplemental services to LAP-served students through partnerships with community, or other, out-of-school organizations.

While districts will be required to use the protocol to design and implement supports for LAP-served students, the protocol can also be used more broadly to inform annual school improvement planning.

What are the steps in the WA ISS Protocol?

The protocol for implementing ISS outlines the steps and resources needed to successfully implement ISS through an MTSS framework.

Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Steps in the WA ISS Protocol

STRENGTHS AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Teams gather and review multiple sources of data to identify student and system strengths and needs, as well as available resources within their building, district, and community. **MTSS components at work: Team-Driven Shared Leadership and Data-Based Decision Making.**

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Teams build strategic partnerships to holistically support students and families. **MTSS components at work: Team-Driven Shared Leadership and Family, Student, and Community Engagement.**

COORDINATION OF SUPPORTS

Teams plan the integrated delivery of academic and nonacademic support with community partners and families to create a single system of supports. **MTSS components at work: Team-Driven Shared Leadership; Data-Based Decision Making; Family, Student, and Community Engagement; Continuum of Supports; Evidence-Based Practices.**

INTEGRATION OF SUPPORTS

Teams provide academic and nonacademic support in collaboration with community partners and families to ensure positive outcomes for students. **MTSS components at work: Family, Student, and Community Engagement; Continuum of Supports.**

DATA-DRIVEN

Teams use their data-based decision making process to review implementation of academic and nonacademic support and student response for continual improvement. **MTSS components at work: Team-Driven Shared Leadership and Data-Based Decision Making.**

Will professional learning be available?

Yes. The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) will provide a suite of professional learning resources for local education agencies, schools, and community-based organizations. The resources, available for universal use, will include implementation guidance, learning modules, expert webinar series, and tools for implementation within each component of ISS. Additionally, OSPI is intentionally focusing on interdepartmental collaboration and coordination to develop and sustain aligned systems and supports for implementation.

Who can I contact for more information?

OSPI's Center for the Improvement of Student Learning

- Call (360) 725-6052
- Email CISL@k12.wa.us

OSPI's Learning Assistance Program

- Call (360) 725-6100
- Email LAP@k12.wa.us