

To Participate

Who is Eligible?

- Public schools implementing RTI in grades 1-5 (including charter schools)
- Schools conducting universal screening and collecting reading outcome data using DIBELS, FAST, AimsWeb, MAP, iStation, STAR and/or Oral Reading Fluency (ORF)

To See if Your School is Eligible, Take Our Online Survey

<https://tinyurl.com/FOCUSeligibility>

For More Information

Contact:

Dr. Athena Trentin
Research Director
Phone: (214) 768-3787
Email: atrentin@smu.edu

<http://blog.smu.edu/projectfocus/>



Principal Investigator

Dr. Stephanie Al Otaiba

Co-PIs

Dr. Jill Allor
Dr. Paul Yovanoff
Dr. Aki Kamata

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Project FOCUS

Annette Caldwell Simmons School of Education & Human Development
Southern Methodist University
PO Box 750511
Dallas, TX 75275-0511

Phone: (214) 768-3787

Email: atrentin@smu.edu

<https://www.smu.edu/Simmons/Research>



A national research study funded by the U.S. Department of Education focusing on learning current Response-to-Intervention (RTI) practices with 1st – 5th grade students receiving Tier 3, dyslexia services and/or special education reading interventions.



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About Project FOCUS

Project FOCUS is a comprehensive study of key factors associated with reading outcomes for students receiving Tier 3, dyslexia services and/or special education reading interventions. Participating schools represent a variety of RTI models, geographic and socioeconomic locations to incorporate a range of school risk.

Purpose

To gain a big and broad picture of what RTI implementation looks like across the U.S. and learn which factors are associated with stronger reading outcomes for students in Tier 3 or special education with dyslexia and other reading disabilities.

Goal

To develop a rich database that will help in the design of feasible and promising interventions for students, professional development for teachers, and school system supports that can improve implementation of Tier 3, dyslexia services and special education. The results of this study will help schools “FOCUS” on implementing a key set of malleable factors.

Seeking Partner Schools

We are currently recruiting 50 Project FOCUS Partner Schools for academic year 2018-19 to join over 40 who have already participated.



Benefits of Participation

1. \$500 stipend for **Core** and \$1,000 stipend for **Advanced** Partner Schools
2. Access to study results that can be used for professional development, goal setting and developing an RTI baseline to track progress
3. Optional debrief of findings with your staff and our lead researchers
4. Access to professional development resources
5. Contributing to research that will significantly impact approaches to reading interventions, teacher training and education policy

Role of Partner Schools

What will be asked of Partner Schools?

Two Participation Levels:

Core

- An interview with your principal or RTI Specialist (2 hours)
- Teachers and administrators to complete an anonymous online RTI knowledge survey (20 minutes)
- Access to anonymous data that includes demographics, reading outcome data and any other relevant school-administered standardized testing

Advanced

In addition to Core responsibilities:

- Observation nominations of 2 students receiving Tier 3 reading instruction, dyslexia services or special education at each grade level for grades 1-5 (2 observations per student)

Implementation Process

1. Schedule principal/RTI Specialist interview
2. Distribute online RTI knowledge survey
3. Identify FOCUS students and obtain parental consent (*Advanced partners only*)
4. Once consent forms received, schedule FOCUS student observations (*Advanced partners only*)
5. Submit requested data as soon as available