



Support and Training  
for Exceptional Parents

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Dear Families and Friends of STEP:

Response to Intervention and Instruction (RTI2) is being rolled out across Tennessee. What do you need to know and how can you get information?

STEP has an ongoing mission to provide accurate timely and accurate information to families to build their knowledge and skill base. As part of this effort, STEP has been working with the Tennessee Department of Education and as part of the Disability Coalition on Education (DCE) to ensure that families have multiple opportunities to learn about changes that may affect their children with disabilities. This week STEP hosted a webinar on Response to Intervention and Instruction (RTI2) presented by TN Department of Education staff Tie Hodack and Theresa Nicholls. The webinar provided information about changes to the process for identifying students with learning disabilities and the RTI process for all students that will be in effect in July of 2014. The archived webinar and materials will be available on the STEP website soon.

The next opportunity for parents and family members, advocates, and staff from disability organizations to learn more is through in-person trainings being held in three locations across the state. Participants will learn... *an in depth overview of Tennessee's RTI<sup>2</sup> framework and how this problem solving model will be used to identify need for special education intervention. In addition, an overview of Instructionally Appropriate IEPs will be delivered with discussion around identified area(s) of deficit, establishing need, present levels of performance, measurable annual goals and progress monitoring.*

The training opportunities are FREE to everyone! Details of what will be covered, dates, times, locations and how to register are included in this [flyer](#).

Special thanks to Carrie Guiden of The Arc of TN and Angela Webster of the Disability Law and Advocacy Center for spearheading the organization of these training days on behalf of the Disability Coalition on Education (DCE).

STEP will keep you posted about additional training opportunities. STEP is facilitating a webinar on the topic of writing Instructionally Appropriate IEP's, as well as a video conference hosted by the Volunteer Advocacy Project (VAP) to cover both RTI2 and Instructionally Appropriate IEP's. We will keep you posted. Hope you can participate in one of the training opportunities!

*Karen*

Karen Harrison  
Executive Director  
STEP, Inc.

*" a brighter future for children with disabilities "*