**Implementation Stages**

**Purpose:** Technical and adaptive challenges can occur during each phase of implementation. Technical challenges are generally agreed upon and can be addressed by top-down leadership. Adaptive challenges require schools to reconsider their values, beliefs, and current ways of working. When considering how to implement Response to Instruction and Intervention for Academics (RTI2-A) and Response to Instruction and Intervention for Behavior (RTI2-B) as an aligned framework (RTI2-A+B), teams should consider the phase, next steps, and challenges they may face.

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| **Stage** | | | **Indicator** | | **Next Steps** |
| **Exploration**  *Should we do something new and/or refine what we are doing?* | * Identifying a need to align RTI2-A and RTI2-B * Creating readiness for change * Learning about the work of Tennessee TSC to help align academic and behavior frameworks | | * Develop leadership teams * Establish processes for communication * Grow support * Decide whether to proceed | |
| **Installation**  *How can we do it right?*  *Making the decision to do something new.* | * Scheduling regular team meetings * Utilizing feedback loops * Determining agreed upon ways to assess fidelity * Establishing policies, procedures, and coaching structures to support alignment of RTI2-A and RTI2-B | | * Address barriers to successful implementation * Strengthen support mechanisms that will enable implementation of RTI2-A+B * Use documents that will allow comprehensive data to be reviewed in one meeting * Identify what professional development and coaching is needed to align RTI2-A and RTI2-B | |
| **Initial Implementation**  *How can we do it right?*  *Starting to do something new.* | * Aligning frameworks on small or large scale first * Meeting regularly as a team * Engaging in continued professional learning and coaching * Using data from multiple sources to improve implementation | | * Continue to align RTI2-A and RTI2-B while testing out practices * Fine-tune implementation through trial and learning * Reflect on data to make improvements | |
| **Full Implementation**  *How can we do it better?* | * Aligning systems are expanded as intended * Implementing with fidelity | | * Continue to align RTI2-A and RTI2-B * Effectively support practices * Routinely use data to ensure fidelity | |
| **Sustainability**  *How can we do it better?* | * Reflecting on data to see desired outcomes * Adjusting to changing contexts * Aligning frameworks becomes natural | | * Use data and key collaborator engagement to make improvements * Refine practices and protocols * Increase effectiveness of implementation | |

**Reference**

Blase, K.A., Fixen, D.L., Sims, B.J., & Ward, C.S. (2015). *Implementation science: Changing hearts, minds, behavior, and systems to improve educational outcomes.* <https://fpg.unc.edu/publications/implementation-science-changing-hearts-minds-behavior-and-systems-improve-educational>