

Topic Areas

Developed in collaboration with nationally recognized researchers and education experts, IRIS resources address instructional and behavioral issues of critical importance to today's educators:

- » Accommodations
- » Assessment
- » Assistive Technology
- » Behavior & Classroom Management
- » Collaboration
- » Content Instruction
- » Differentiated Instruction
- » Disability
- » Diversity
- » Early Intervention/Early Childhood
- » Evidence-Based Practices
- » Juvenile Corrections
- » Learning Strategies
- » Mathematics
- » MTSS/RTI
- » Reading, Literacy & Language Arts
- » Related Services
- » School Improvement/Leadership
- » Transition
- » Universal Design for Learning (UDL)



Professional Development

The IRIS Center offers three distinct professional development options:

- » **Free Open-Access Website** – IRIS creates a host of materials about evidence-based instructional and behavioral practices. These resources are all freely available on our website.
- » **PD Certificates for Educators** – This option allows users to earn certificates toward their PD hours. Practitioners can work through a wide variety of our modules and—after taking a pretest and posttest—receive verification of completion. Note: Eligible modules are indicated by the PD icon above.
- » **IRIS+ School & District Platform** – In this fee-based platform, school and district administrators can assign modules to individual educators or groups, send reminder emails, track educator progress, and export results for accountability purposes.



Visit Us! iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu • iriscenter.com

Contact Us! iris@vanderbilt.edu

IRIS: 1-800-831-6134 • PD Help Line: 866-626-4747

Follow Us!



The contents of this resource were developed under a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, #H325E220001. However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the U.S. Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government. Project Officer, Sarah Allen.

121024

About IRIS

Supported by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) and located at Vanderbilt University's Peabody College, the IRIS Center creates high-quality, online resources about evidence-based instructional and behavioral practices to help improve the education outcomes of all students, especially struggling learners and those with disabilities. IRIS resources:

- » Include engaging, interactive learning content and practice opportunities
- » Increase the awareness, knowledge, and skills of current and future educators and related service providers
- » Align with professional standards and high-leverage practices



iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu
or iriscenter.com

Serving: Higher Education Faculty • PD Providers •
Practicing Educators

Supporting the preparation and ongoing professional learning of educators to effectively use evidence-based and high-leverage practice

STAR Legacy Modules

Based on a proven theory of adult learning and structured around the award-winning *STAR Legacy* instructional cycle, IRIS Modules offer in-depth looks at topics relevant to educators through text, graphics, interactive activities, interviews with experts and educators, and video demonstrations. User-friendly, approachable, and highly engaging, our modules are made up of five components:



Challenge: A case-based video scenario that introduces the topic and invites inquiry

Initial Thoughts: Questions that activate learners' prior knowledge about the topic

Perspectives & Resources: Scaffolded, engaging, and accessible content developed using instructional design principles

Wrap Up: A summary of the module content

Assessment: An opportunity for learners to evaluate what they have learned or need to study further

The IRIS Center's Topics and Resources

Case Studies

Ideal for use in personnel preparation courses and PD activities, IRIS Case Studies ask learners to approach realistic instructional scenarios through increasing levels of complexity.

Fundamental Skill Sheets

Quick primers or reminders about discrete skills such as proximity control and behavior-specific praise, Fundamental Skill Sheets provide consistent features about each practice, including:

- » What Is It?
- » What Do We Know about This Skill/Practice?
- » Procedures
- » Tips for Implementation
- » Things to Keep in Mind
- » Implementation Examples (including videos)
- » Foundational References & Resources

Activities

Perfect as independent assignments or as a way to promote discussion, activities are divided into a number of categories, including Case Based, Group, Media, and Independent.

Information Briefs

These short summaries on key educational topics and practices are included on the IRIS website as supplemental materials.

Video Vignettes

This collection of videos about individuals with disabilities, their families, educators, and service providers also contains depictions of the application of evidence-based practices in educational settings.

High-Leverage Practices (HLPs)

Developed in collaboration with CEEDAR and the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), this tool identifies existing IRIS resources that contain information on 22 HLPs. These are essential special education techniques that all K–12 teachers who work with students with disabilities should master for use across a variety of classroom circumstances. This tool allows users to sort results by:

- » HLP topic areas (assessment, collaboration, instruction, social/emotional/behavioral)
- » Degree of alignment (strongly, moderately, loosely)
- » Content type (information, implementation)



Interviews

Key researchers offer their perspectives on a variety of important issues in the field of special education, including diversity, evidence-based practices, and reading.

For Faculty

The tools and materials in this section are designed to assist college faculty who wish to infuse information about evidence-based practices into their courses and field-based activities. Explore "For Faculty" to find:

- » Wraparound Content Maps
- » Coursework Planning Forms
- » Top Tips for Faculty
- » Answer Keys

For PD Providers

IRIS has developed many tools and materials specifically to assist professional development providers who deliver training services to educational professionals working in school settings. Explore "For PD Providers" to find:

- » Wraparound Content Maps
- » Sample PD Activity Collection
- » Planning Forms
- » Top Tips for PD Providers
- » Learning Pathways

