

MTSS for Behavior Support Syllabus

Asynchronous Course

Instructor: Meredith McNerney

MSDE CPD Course Number: 26-68-21C

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This self-paced online course equips educators and school leaders with practical, evidence-based tools for strengthening student behavioral health within a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) framework. Grounded in trauma-informed principles, participants will assess current practices, identify student needs, develop targeted Tier 2 supports, and use collaborative processes and progress-monitoring tools to evaluate effectiveness.

Participants will apply course learning directly within their educational settings and develop a **MTSS Behavioral Health Action Plan** tailored to their school context. By strengthening behavioral health supports, educators can increase students' availability for learning and improve behavioral, social-emotional, and academic outcomes.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Professional learning will develop participants' expertise in:

- Understanding the role of behavioral health within an MTSS framework.
- Connecting trauma-informed practices with effective behavioral supports.
- Assessing current school practices and identifying student behavioral health needs.
- Distinguishing between Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 behavioral supports.
- Identifying students who may benefit from targeted Tier 2 interventions.
- Using structured, collaborative processes to plan behavioral supports.
- Selecting and implementing research-based Tier 2 interventions.
- Developing measurable goals for student behavioral health.
- Creating progress-monitoring systems to evaluate student response to intervention.
- Using data to determine whether interventions should be maintained, modified, intensified, or faded.
- Applying learning within participants' own educational settings.
- Developing a comprehensive MTSS Behavioral Health Action Plan.

POLICIES

Email: Email will be the primary means of communication. We will respond to emails within 48 hours. Email us at info@choosecalm.com.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

You may complete this course at your own pace.

1. Videos, Articles, and Course Resources

Complete all assigned videos, readings, resources, and learning activities within the course modules.

Criteria & Standards:

Participants will:

- Engage with all required course content.
- Connect research and course concepts to their current school practices.
- Identify strategies and tools applicable to their students and school setting.

2. Capture Sheet and Reflection

Complete the course capture sheet to document key learning, reflections, and ideas for implementation.

Criteria & Standards:

Participants will:

- Reflect on course content and research.
- Record meaningful notes and connections to practice.
- Identify opportunities to strengthen behavioral health supports within their educational setting.

3. Application and Implementation Activities

Participants will apply course learning within their educational settings. Activities include assessing current practices, identifying student needs, using structured collaboration protocols, developing targeted Tier 2 supports, and applying strategies with students.

Participants who are not currently working in a school should establish a partnership with an educator or develop a realistic school-based scenario through which course strategies can be applied.

Criteria & Standards:

Participants will:

- Complete course activities with fidelity.
- Apply appropriate behavioral health strategies and interventions.
- Collaborate with colleagues when appropriate.
- Reflect on implementation and make adjustments based on student response.

4. Checks for Understanding — 20 POINTS

Participants will complete checks for understanding throughout the course to demonstrate knowledge of key MTSS, trauma-informed, behavioral health, intervention, and progress-monitoring concepts.

5. MTSS Behavioral Health Action Plan — 80 POINTS

Participants will integrate course learning into a **MTSS Behavioral Health Action Plan** tailored to their educational setting.

The plan will include:

- Assessment of current behavioral health practices and student needs.
- Identification of an area of need and measurable goal(s).
- Justification of why a particular goal is chosen.
- Identification action steps to support the implementation of a goal.
- Reflection on outcomes and recommended next steps.

Criteria & Standards:

Participants will:

- Demonstrate understanding of MTSS and trauma-informed behavioral health practices.
- Apply research-based strategies to an authentic educational need.
- Develop appropriate and measurable student goals.
- Demonstrate implementation of targeted Tier 2 support.
- Use progress-monitoring data or other evidence to evaluate student response.
- Reflect on implementation and identify appropriate adjustments or next steps.

STUDENT IMPACT

Course learning is designed to strengthen behavioral health systems that directly support PreK–12 student success. Through implementation of targeted supports, students can be expected to demonstrate improved social-emotional competencies, coping skills, behavioral functioning, and availability for academic learning.

Participants will move beyond theoretical understanding by implementing strategies and evaluating their impact within their educational settings.

COURSE GRADE

100 Total Points

- Checks for Understanding: **20 points**
- MTSS Behavioral Health Action Plan: **80 points**

Participants must earn **80 points** to successfully complete the course.

This course is approved by the Maryland State Department of Education for CPD credit under **Course Number 26-68-21C**.

Upon successful completion of the course, participants will receive a signed letter of completion to submit to their school district.

Thank you for joining!

Meredith McNerney

Calmer Schools (Powered by The Trauma Trainer)

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