SLD Patterns of Strengths and Weaknesses Evidence Guide for Teachers

For use with PSW Procedure C1 and C2

The Patterns of Strengths and Weaknesses (PSW) approach to identifying students with specific learning disabilities (SLD) involves a process of evaluating data from multiple sources, including classroom data, universal screening results, state and district assessment results, response to intervention data, and psychoeducational testing.

In order to participate in the determination of eligibility, you will need to be prepared to share your input and provide evidence(s) regarding the following questions for each academic area of concern:

1. **How strong is our evidence that the student demonstrates underachievement in the classroom in one or more academic areas?**

EXAMPLES	**Minimal**	**Moderate**	**Strong**
DIBELS	At Benchmark	Below Benchmark	Well Below Benchmark
Universal Screener	> 16th Percentile	10th – 15th Percentile	< 10th Percentile
Classroom Assessments	Rarely or Occasionally Below 70%	Often Below 70%	Consistently Below 70%
State Assessment	≥ 3 or Proficient	2 or Approaching Proficient	1 or Well Below Proficient
Grades	C or Above	D	F

2. **How strong is our evidence that the student demonstrates insufficient growth in response to systematic and consistent academic interventions?**

	Minimal	**Moderate**	**Strong**
Amount of Intervention Provided Beyond Tier 1	< 60 minutes per week in one academic area	≥ 60 minutes per week in one academic area	≥ 90 minutes per week in one academic area
Response to Intervention Over at Least 8 Data Points	At or above expected growth trend line with weekly monitoring*	Inconsistently below expected growth trend line with weekly monitoring *	Consistently below expected growth trend line with weekly monitoring *

* Determining the trend line for expected growth may be based on established research norms (e.g. Hasbrouck & Tindal, Fuchs & Fuchs, AIMSweb ROI Growth Norms) or program-based growth data (e.g. iReady, EasyCBM). Response to intervention should be interpreted by a team familiar with the intervention, typical response rates, and the individual's response rate.