



Thank you for your request to our REL Reference Desk regarding evidence-based information about interventions for students in special education. The information below represents the most rigorous research available. Researchers consider the type of methodology and give priority to research reports that employ well described and thorough methods. The resources were also selected based on the date of the publication with a preference for research from the last ten years. Additional criteria for inclusion include the source and funder of the resource.

Question: *Are there any peer reviewed articles related to the effectiveness of tutoring for Special Needs students as an intervention (which is paid for from the federal Supplemental Educational Services for Title I students)?*

Response: The What Works Clearinghouse (WWC) was created in 2002 as an initiative of the U.S. Department of Education's Institute for Education Sciences to be a central and trusted source of scientific evidence for what works in education. The WWC conducts ongoing reviews of research on variety of topics. One of the specific topics within the WWC is Special Needs. The reviews conducted within the Special Needs topic focus on interventions (program, product, practice, or policy) for students classified as having a disability according to the Individuals with Disabilities Education and Improvement Act of 2004 (i.e., students with learning disabilities, children with disabilities, children classified with an emotional disturbance). Outcomes of interest in this topic area are cognition, external behavior, general academic achievement, mathematics achievement, social outcomes, emotional/internal behavior, functional abilities, language competencies, progressing in school, and social-emotional development. Based on your question, the most comprehensive and up to date source of information will be to use the WWC. There you will find 28 intervention reports and two practice guides relevant to students with special needs. In particular, you will find the intervention reports to be very helpful. Not only does the intervention report synthesize the most rigorous research, a comprehensive reference list is also included.

To access the WWC please go to: <http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/>. Then, click on "Topics," click on "Next 10," then click on "Special Needs."

Disclaimer:

This Ask a Question response was developed by REL-SE at FSU under Contract ED-IES-12-C-0011 from the U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences. The content does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of IES or the U.S. Department of Education, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. government.