

What Are IRIS Modules?

The signature resource of the IRIS Center, IRIS STAR Legacy Modules offer in-depth looks at topics like response to intervention, classroom behavior management, high-quality IEPs, secondary transition, Universal Design for Learning, differentiated instruction, and many others of importance to educators in today's classrooms. These self-paced resources present their content in a variety of engaging formats: text, research boxes, video demonstrations, audio interviews with experts and practicing educators, and interactive activities.



How Are IRIS Modules Organized?

Based on the How People Learn (HPL) theory developed by Dr. John Bransford and his colleagues, IRIS Modules use a problem- or challenge-based approach to make information on evidence-based practices and interventions more accessible than would otherwise be possible for many busy educators. When they are engaged in an IRIS Module, users progress through the sections described below.



Challenge: IRIS Modules are organized around case-based scenarios. Research shows that effective instruction often begins with an engaging situation to introduce a topic and invite inquiry.



Initial Thoughts: Users next explore what they currently know (or think they know) about the Challenge. Discovering the extent of one's prior knowledge and experiences regarding the problem or case-based scenario—and building upon that knowledge—is a means through which to enhance learning.



Perspectives & Resources: Next, users access the module's main content. This scaffolded content is presented as nuggets of information and may include text, interviews with experts and classroom educators, videos, and interactive activities.



Wrap Up: This summary section offers users an opportunity to reconsider their Initial Thoughts, keeping in mind everything they learned while engaging with the information in the Perspectives & Resources. Any change between those initial and final thoughts is one indication that learning has taken place.



Assessment: In this final section, users answer Assessment questions to explore all that they have learned and what they may need to return to in the Perspectives & Resources pages to investigate further.

What Do IRIS Modules Cover?

IRIS Modules address a wide variety of classroom issues and evidence-based practices:

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

What Is IRIS Professional Development?

Through December 2023, FREE professional development certificates are available for many IRIS *STAR Legacy* Modules. After completing a pre-test, working through the module, and completing a post-test, users will receive a certificate verifying module completion and indicating the number of hours it typically takes users to complete that resource. In turn, this time can be applied toward their professional development hours.

Visit us at: iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/pd-hours
or irispdhours.com

Or call our PD Help Line: **866-626-4747**



What Is IRIS?

IRIS develops and disseminates free online open educational resources (OERs) about evidence-based instructional and behavioral practices. Intended for use in personnel preparation and professional development, these instructional resources are designed to help current and future educators improve the learning and behavioral outcomes of all students, especially struggling learners and those with disabilities.

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