



Frequently Asked Questions By RTT Districts

1. Q. Is there any training available on Inter-Rater Reliability?
A. Response provided by Vince Camille, ISBE –
The pre-qualification modules for both teacher evaluators and principal evaluators dive quite deeply into inter-rater reliability. It is the crux of the training. If evaluators successfully pass these modules, they have demonstrated proficiency in this area. Perhaps they are wanting some sort of “booster” course to refresh/maintain these skills? If so, I do not know of any. PEAC is in the process (very early stages) of devising recalibration/renewal training for evaluators. Much has yet to be determined with this training.
Another option for training would be for administrators to check the offerings via the Illinois Administrator Academy (IAA) list of courses. I did a quick search, but “inter-rater reliability” did not show up in any of the course titles. Although, it could be embedded in other evaluation type courses.
Lastly, I would encourage administrators to check with their respective organizations (IPA and IASA) to inquire about any offerings.

2. Q. Mid-Year Progress Report... Is each area scored based on a high of 10 points? What is the criteria for scoring? How is the overall score determined?
A. From ISBE RTT –
Scoring of the progress reports was done based on a score of 10 being the highest. The reports were sent to PRC, Assessment, and Dr. Jason Helfer in Educator Effectiveness to score the categories they are over and then we scored the remaining sections. The evaluation was based on the responses provided by the districts on their progress reports compare what was written to where they should be in terms of completion by the end of the grant. For example, the PRC scored the STEM section and utilized the responses from the report as well as information and data they had to give each district a score of 1 -10. Each section was scored similarly, including the overall category. Which not only encompassed components of the other sections as well as any further information districts provided on that section in concerns to areas like RtI, continuous improvement, professional learning communities and so on. You will see from the progress reports that we mapped out what to include in responses. We realize some districts may be further along than we scored, but we had to objectively look at their report and data we had to assign points.

3. Q. When does the student growth component to PERA/teacher evaluation count / is *for stakes*?
A. So the full implementation of PERA for Race to the Top Districts have two different timelines, the first concerns the lowest performing %20 of districts – they are required to have student growth for stake implemented by September 1, 2014. And all other districts are to have student growth for stake implemented by September 1, 2015. So as long as Rich

Township isn't in that category the joint committee is correct on this. I am going to provide you with a couple document links that the administration might find very resourceful.

Here is the ISBE document concerning the explanation of the scope of work for districts, page 18 covers PERA

http://www.isbe.net/racetothetop/PDF/phase3_dist_sow_expect_expl.pdf

Here is a summary timeline of the expectations

<http://www.isbe.net/racetothetop/PDF/0413-timeline13-15.pdf>

4. Q. Will there be more Induction and Mentoring money for district who are hiring new teachers/principals in the fall?
A. That is what we anticipate, we have money set aside for that in this year's budget, but we are currently awaiting this year's budget to be approved by the USDE. So once we know we will inform the coaches and districts about this topic.
5. Q. Will monies left over at the end of this school year rollover to the fall school year?
A. Yes, money remaining at the end of the school year will rollover to Fall 2015, however all Race to the Top money needs to be spent by 12-22-2015 or it will have to go back to the Feds.
6. Q. What are some resources concerning SLO implementation and PERA?
A. The first document is the PEAC Research Based Study, Starting on PG 17 of the study it provides some guidance and examples of SLO Development and implementation;
<http://www.isbe.net/peac/pdf/pera-interim-report-14.pdf>

Here are a couple guidance document solely developed on student growth models and teacher evaluation systems;

<http://www.isbe.net/peac/pdf/student-growth-component-guidebook.pdf>

<http://www.isbe.net/peac/pdf/guidance/13-10-te-op-gdlns-sgm.pdf>

<http://www.isbe.net/peac/pdf/guidance/13-6-te-model-sys-meas-typeiii.pdf>

If you have other questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact your coaches or the Center for Performance at ISBE directly and we will promptly get an answer for you. You can call 217.7850.1969 and ask for Julie Evans (jevans@isbe.net) or Jacob Thornton (jathornt@isbe.net) and include Kari Broughton (kbrought@isbe.net) on the correspondence as well, she will make sure that responses get back to you in an expedient manner!