

BIMAS-2 Universal Screener: Frequently Asked Questions

What is the BIMAS-2/Behavioral Health Universal Screener?

The Behavior Intervention Monitoring Assessment System-2 (BIMAS-2) is a research-based screening tool used to identify students who may be at risk for future academic, behavioral, or emotional challenges. Just as some students benefit from extra academic support, others may need help developing their behavioral, social, and emotional skills. The BIMAS-2 helps us identify those students.

Who completes the screener?

The screener has two versions: a teacher report and a student report. Teachers will complete the report for students in kindergarten through 7th grade.

How does it work?

The questionnaire asks about student behaviors and emotions observed over the past week. It takes about one page to complete. School staff will use the results to identify students who could benefit from additional social and emotional support. The data will also help us understand overall student needs and evaluate the effectiveness of school programs and initiatives.

Why are we using a screener?

The BIMAS-2 helps us proactively identify students who may be at risk so we can provide timely support. This allows teachers and students to focus on classroom instruction and academic performance. It also enables us to monitor students' behavioral health over time and address any emerging concerns.

How and where is the data stored?

Confidential screening results are stored securely on a designated server accessible only to authorized RHS personnel.

What type of questions are on the screener?

The screener asks about behaviors and emotions observed during the past week. Examples include:

- During the past week, this student shared what they were thinking about.
- During the past week, this student had trouble paying attention.
- During the past week, this student followed directions.
- During the past week, this student acted sad or withdrawn.

For each question, the rater will select from options such as "never," "rarely," "sometimes," "often," or "very often."

BIMAS 2 Questions: <https://bit.ly/3EH8SYg>

Do all students have to participate?

No. Participation is voluntary. Parents/guardians will be notified at least one week prior to the screening and can opt their student out.

Can parents receive their student's BIMAS-2 results?

Yes. While reports are not automatically sent home, parents/guardians can contact the school to schedule a meeting (virtual or in-person) with the School Counselor, Dean of Students, or administration to review their student's results.

For further information, please contact Dr. Nancy Turner, Director of Behavioral & Mental Health Services, at 803-981-1397.