

mCLASS® Texas Edition

Frequently asked questions

General information

1. How much does mCLASS Texas cost?

- Licenses for mCLASS Texas are provided by TEA (free) in Kindergarten, Grade 1, and Grade 2.

2. Does mCLASS Texas meet Texas requirements?

- Yes, it is aligned to Texas' Language and Literacy expectations and meets TX dyslexia requirements for Kindergarten - 2nd grade. TEA selected mCLASS Texas Edition as the Alternative Kindergarten Diagnostic. [An alignment to TEKS has also been completed.](#)

3. Will Amplify submit data for the ECDS collection?

- The reporting of kindergarten program data for ECDS is mandatory for all public school districts and open-enrollment charter schools that administer the commissioner-approved TX-KEA or the identified alternate assessment, mCLASS® Texas Edition. Amplify, as your assessment vendor, will submit your BOY Kindergarten data for both English and Spanish directly to TEA in TEDS-compliant XML format.

4. What are all of TEA's options for assessment?

- Amplify has been chosen as one of two approved Kindergarten assessments that TEA will provide to all Texas LEAs.
- There are two options, both free, and both provided by TEA: 1) KEA (Kindergarten Entry Assessment), by the Children's Learning Institute (CLI), and 2) mCLASS Texas, by Amplify.
- Here is [TEA's announcement](#) covering the options.

5. Do you have to use all grades or can you choose K, 1, or 2?

- For continuity, we encourage you to use the solution in all grades. However, schools and districts are able to choose any combination of grades.

6. For how long has TEA authorized mCLASS Texas?

- The authorization period for TX-KEA and mCLASS Texas as free, Commissioner-selected literacy screening tools for Kindergarten - Grade 2 was extended to July 2023. This means that districts and open enrollment charters can use either of these tools to conduct the required beginning-of-year literacy screening for the 2020-2021, 2021-2022, and 2022-2023 school years.

7. Where can I find more information?

- The [Amplify Texas](#) website will continue to provide basic information and is helpful to share with your colleagues seeking to learn more.
- We have a dedicated team to support Texas districts through this process. You can reach them at 512-877-9111 or texas@amplify.com.

mCLASS Texas - What is included and how it works

8. What is included for free, and what is an additional purchase?

Schools can have the full solution of mCLASS Texas Edition in K-2 for free, without any additional purchase. The additions offer printed materials, live professional development, Grades 3-6, and broader assessment, instruction, and intervention. The following table outlines what is included and what is offered for additional purchase.

	Included for free	Additional purchase
mCLASS Texas Edition licenses	Grades K-2 in English and Spanish All TEA required assessments -- This includes <i>all</i> measures required for universal and dyslexia screening. Progress monitoring is also included.	mCLASS Texas for Grades 3-6 in English mCLASS Texas for Grade 3 in Spanish
mCLASS Texas Edition assessment materials	Free download from the University of Oregon website and Amplify site (student-facing materials need to be printed for use with the assessment.)	Printed classroom kits provide an affordable option for schools and districts that do not want to print their own.
Professional Development	A self-paced online course is available for all teachers. In addition, ongoing support is provided throughout the year with follow-up strengthening webinars, office hours, and on-demand resources.	We offer a wide range of full-day and half-day onsite and remote sessions. Our Texas team can share details and pricing with you and help you determine what is right for

		you.
Instruction and Intervention	<p>Instructional guidance for the whole class, small groups, and individual students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommended groups and activities based on skill profiles. • Analysis for individual students in each developmental sub-skill. • Targeted instructional resources are aligned to literacy skills progression. 	<p>Amplify Reading lessons integrated with mCLASS, with automatic placement of students into the program (K-5)</p> <p>mCLASS Intervention (30-min daily, outside the core K-6)</p> <p>CKLA core ELA curriculum (preK-5)</p>
Reporting	<p>Quick and actionable reports provide detailed insight into students’ reading development across foundational literacy skills for classroom teachers and literacy specialists, principals, and district leaders.</p> <p>Learn more about reports in our mCLASS Texas Reporting Guide.</p> <p>Reports meet TEA data reporting requirements.</p>	
Parent resources	<p>The Home Connect Letter allows educators to share information in English and/or Spanish about the child’s reading development in parent-friendly language.</p> <p>This supports the HB 3 requirement to provide a written report to parents within 60 days of administration.</p> <p>Letters include print and online instructional resources for families to help reinforce practicing the skills at home.</p>	
Additional assessments	RAN (Rapid Automatized Naming) is available in English to support additional assessment of risk.	mCLASS Math (K-3)

		mCLASS Text Reading Comprehension (TRC) available for grades K-6 in English and Spanish
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9. What are the measures included in mCLASS Texas for Kindergarten through Grade 2?

	Kindergarten		
	BOY	MOY	EOY
Satisfying ERI (shaded)	DIBELS 8 or IDEL	DIBELS 8 or IDEL	DIBELS 8 or IDEL
Dyslexia Screening (shaded)			In addition to DIBELS/IDEL: -Spelling -Listening Comp (OL)
Additional optional measures that bring value	Inventory Measures: PA Blending or Letter Sounds (Spanish) -Vocabulary -Listening Comp (OL)	Inventory Measures: PA Blending or Letter Sounds (Spanish) -Spelling -Vocabulary -Listening Comp (OL)	Inventory Measures: PA Blending or Letter Sounds (Spanish) Vocabulary

	First Grade		
	BOY	MOY	EOY
Satisfying ERI (shaded)	DIBELS 8 or IDEL **20/21 1st graders not screened for dyslexia in K must be screened in the first 20 days	DIBELS 8 or IDEL	DIBELS 8 or IDEL

Dyslexia Screening (shaded)		In addition to DIBELS/IDEL: -Spelling -Listening Comp (OL)	
Additional optional measures that bring value	Inventory Measures: PA Blending or Letter Sounds (Spanish) -Spelling -Vocabulary -Listening Comp (OL)	Inventory Measures: PA Blending or Letter Sounds (Spanish) Vocabulary	Inventory Measures: PA Blending or Letter Sounds (Spanish) -Spelling -Vocabulary -Listening Comp (OL)

	Second Grade		
	BOY	MOY	EOY
Satisfying ERI (shaded)	DIBELS 8 or IDEL	DIBELS 8 or IDEL	DIBELS 8 or IDEL
Dyslexia Screening (shaded)	In addition to DIBELS/IDEL for select students administer: -Letter Naming Fluency <i>(Use grade 1 EOY paper-pencil form)</i> -Spelling -Listening Comp (OL)		
Additional optional measures that bring value	Vocabulary	Vocabulary	Vocabulary

10. How long does it take to administer the required measures by grade? How long do the optional and inventory measures take?
- The mCLASS Texas assessment is designed to maximize educators’ time. Most measures take only one minute each, with total assessment time depending on the measures given to a student by grade and adaptive assessment flow. On average, the following administration times are expected for the DIBELS 8th Edition measures:
 - i. Kindergarten: 3 to 5 minutes per student
 - ii. Grade 1: 5 to 6 minutes per student

- iii. Grade 2: 4 minutes per student, plus 4 minutes for the group administered Maze measure in English
- o Oral Language Screener is about 5 minutes per student.
- o Spelling and Vocabulary are online, group administered measures and take a total of 5-15 minutes.

11. Can mCLASS Texas be administered virtually?

- o Yes, we have collaborated with our partners at the University of Oregon to offer guidance for how to use mCLASS to assess students' learning remotely.
- o Our [mCLASS Texas onboarding site](#) has a section on Remote Assessment containing resources, and [mCLASS' Remote Assessment site](#) has additional detailed guidance.

12. Does the reporting include Lexile level or Guided Reading reading levels?

- o Our TRC running record, offered for optional purchase, gives Guided Reading levels and each book also has a Lexile level. Let us know if you'd like a demo of TRC running records, and you can also read more [here](#).

13. Can I get a demo account to see the assessment in more detail?

- o We have a demo posted on our mCLASS Texas website, which can be accessed [here](#). Contact us at texas@amplify.com to set up time for a more detailed walkthrough.

Implementing the program

14. How do I sign up or learn more about pricing?

- o On our Amplify Texas website <https://amplify.com/mclass-texas/>, you will find an order form. Once you fill in the order form, our Texas team will be in touch with you to discuss next steps. You can also call us directly at 512.877.9111.

15. Do we need to buy or print materials?

- o For Literacy Reading screening, we offer affordable printed kits for purchase so that districts don't have to print on their own. Our Texas team can work with you to determine needs and provide pricing.
 - i. The paper assessment materials for Literacy Reading screening measures are **also available for free download** from the [University of Oregon website](#) and for district or school printing. The student facing

materials for Literacy Reading screening for DIBELS 8th Edition Kindergarten, Grade 1, and Grade 2 are about 90 pages per grade. These must be printed. The Administration and Scoring Guide is 107 pages. It is included in our mCLASS kit and is optional to print.

- The paper assessment materials for Literacy Reading inventory will be made available on the mCLASS site.

16. Once we submit a purchase order, what happens next? How long will it take to get set up?

- Within 3-4 business days of submitting your purchase order, someone from our Implementation Team will contact you to walk through the process of enrolling your staff and students. They will also provide you with the details for accessing online training, and if you have purchased any live training, they can discuss scheduling with you.
- Materials will typically arrive within 15 business days after we receive your purchase order.

17. What Professional Development is available?

- A free, self-paced online course is available to all teachers. In addition, we will provide complimentary follow-up webinars throughout the year, office hours, and on-demand resources. We offer full-day and half-day onsite and remote sessions for purchase. Our Texas team can share details with you and help you determine what is right for you. All facilitated sessions can be offered in train-the-trainer models as well.

18. Is Amplify Reading linked to the data from the mCLASS assessment?

- Yes! [mCLASS with Amplify Reading](#) uses mCLASS data to automatically place students in the Amplify Reading program—no additional assessment required. The research-based adaptive curriculum builds mastery of foundational reading skills, vocabulary, and comprehension with activities aligned to each student's reading goals.
- Amplify Reading is a K-5 digital literacy program that helps reduce the stress of teaching during this pandemic, re-engages students with captivating SEL-based learning, and provides families at home with insights into the most critical area of their child's education—early reading.
- Teachers can see mCLASS and Amplify Reading data in one view, pairing student's Amplify Reading usage, skill progress, and current areas of focus with mCLASS data.

19. Is Amplify Reading available in Spanish?

- Amplify Reading offers Spanish narrative and instruction for foundational skills to help students learn to read in English, and we are actively building

Spanish support across the program. [Learn all about supports for EL's in Amplify Reading here.](#)

- The instruction itself is designed to support dual language learners with proven strategies, and we've seen growth in that population! Learn more about [how Amplify Reading can help close the achievement gap for English learners.](#)

Technology and data

20. What are the hardware and software requirements for mCLASS Texas?

- Our [technical requirements](#) page provides details hardware, software, telecommunications and other requirements for mCLASS.

21. Are you able to import data into other systems?

- Yes! You can easily do a complete download of ALL your raw data in .csv format. This can be formatted and uploaded to any other platform.

22. How will staff login and authenticate, and how is our student and staff data loaded into the mCLASS system?

- mCLASS Texas Edition supports authentication via SSO with Active Directory or other SAML 2.0-compatible providers. Amplify will partner with state or district IT leaders to select the most appropriate authentication mechanism to meet their goals.
- To enroll students, mCLASS Texas offers three options:
 - i. Self Service Enrollment (SSE) is a batch enrollment tool you can use to maintain regular data refreshes as often as needed, via an intuitive three-step process that imports and updates enrollment files in mCLASS. For most customers, the process takes less than 30 minutes.
 - ii. Automated Batch Enrollment (AutoSSE) can be set up as well. District IT administrators and an Amplify representative collaborate to set up the service once. Enrollment files are then automatically sent to Amplify's Secure Landing Zone, and Auto SSE processes the enrollment files to mCLASS. Synchronization can take place automatically on a schedule of the district's choice, e.g., daily or weekly.
 - iii. We also offer OneRoster, Classlink, and many other enrollment options through our partner GG4L. Implementation details will vary with which option you choose.

Additional mCLASS programs

23. How does Text Reading and Comprehension work?

- The Text Reading and Comprehension (TRC) assessment allows teachers to track students' reading progress from every angle. Using the same mCLASS platform, TRC provides additional information on reading and comprehension skills, through an assessment to record reading behaviors through running digital records. It measures reading comprehension, helps determine student reading levels, and provides insight into how each student finds meaning in text. Measures include: Reading Fluency, Accuracy and Comprehension, Concepts about Print, Reading Behaviors, Oral Comprehension, and Written Comprehension.
- The TRC text and task complexity gradient has been validated. No other leveled assessment system provides this empirical evidence.
- TRC is available in both English and Spanish, featuring our authentically written and leveled Atlas book set, covering levels A to Z. The texts were developed specifically to reflect the expected quantitative features and qualitative text measures, and development was guided by experts such as Tim Shanahan, Diana DeFord, and Freddy Hiebert. For Spanish, experts Gisela O'Brien and Elizabeth Jiménez Salinas were editors, and authors from a range of Spanish-speaking countries contributed.
- The TRC book set for English includes 76 books, and the book set for Spanish includes 54 books.

24. What is mCLASS Intervention, and how does it work?

- [mCLASS Intervention](#) is a staff-led reading intervention for K-6 that does the heavy lifting of data analysis and lesson sequencing, freeing up teachers to teach the reading skills each student needs.
- Following a research-based skills progression and using software to analyze results, mCLASS Intervention forms small groups, builds engaging lessons for each group, and updates skill profiles and groups every ten days.
- Every 10 days, educators progress monitor students on the skills they're working on. mCLASS Intervention analyzes these results, so it can update students' placement on the learning progression and identify what they should focus on next. The program forms small groups of 4-6 students, determines the ideal focus for each group, and automatically prepares two weeks of lessons targeted to the current needs of each group.

25. Is there a math assessment available for purchase?

- Yes! mCLASS Math unlocks the mathematical thinking behind assessment results. Universal screening and progress monitoring with diagnostic interviews provide a rich view of at-risk students and gauges the effectiveness of math instruction. Teachers are guided with questions to uncover students' mathematical reasoning and measure fundamental skills required by the TEKS standards and for College and Career Readiness. mCLASS Math covers K-3 in English and Spanish. For more information, email texas@amplify.com.

26. What is CKLA (Core Knowledge Language Arts), and does it work with mCLASS data?

- Built on a systematic scope and sequence and connected to mCLASS, Amplify CKLA Skills offers the explicit skills instruction needed in today's classrooms. Amplify CKLA Skills is a research-based supplemental skills program built on experts' latest findings on how children learn to read. You can use it to supplement your core ELA practice with focused lessons that help you make skills a priority in your literacy block. mCLASS data automatically provides targeted small-group activities directly from CKLA instruction, helping you apply the data to meet all of your students' needs.