USING LAS LINKS TO OBTAIN THE TEACHER INCENTIVE ALLOTMENT (TIA)

DRC is pleased to announce that LAS Links has been approved by the TEA as a growth measure in Texas under Texas Education Code (TEC), 48.112 (Teacher Incentive Allotment). This means, using LAS Links data, teachers and campuses may receive funds for the outstanding work they do every day with their Emergent Bilingual (EB) students!
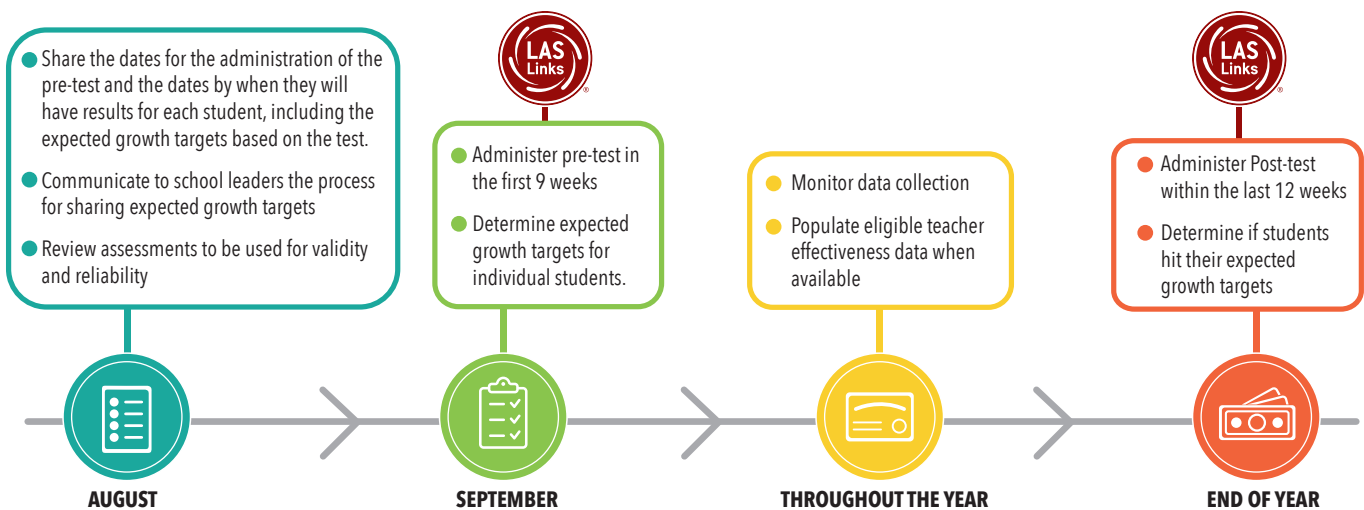
WHAT IS THE TEACHER INCENTIVE ALLOTMENT (TIA)?

TIA was established with the goal of providing outstanding teachers an accessible pathway to a six-figure salary. TIA elevates the education profession by recognizing and rewarding effective teaching and incentivizing outstanding teachers to remain in the classroom and improve student outcomes. Districts use TIA funds to retain their best teachers, recruit promising new teachers, and incentivize teachers to work in high-needs schools and difficult to staff positions. Districts will receive an annual allotment for each eligible designated teacher they employ. Allotments are based on the teacher's designation level and campus of employment, with greater funding for high-needs and rural campuses. Districts may use TIA funds to incentivize effective teachers to remain in the classroom and prioritize high-needs campuses. (Source https://tiatexas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/2022-2023-TIA-Guidebook_12.13.22.pdf)

BENEFITS OF USING LAS LINKS TO OBTAIN THE TIA:

- As the single statewide assessment for the identification of EBs, all Texas LEAs have access to the INSIGHT platform on which all LAS Links Online testing takes place. No new technology is required!

- All LAS Links English test forms are on the same vertical scale allowing LEAs to monitor student growth within grades as well as year over year.
  - LAS Links Online reporting provides longitudinal data allowing stakeholders to easily monitor student growth and meet the reporting requirements of the TIA.

- Using LAS Links is a turn-key solution for all Texas LEAs!

- Share the dates for the administration of the pre-test and the dates by when they will have results for each student, including the expected growth targets based on the test.
- Communicate to school leaders the process for sharing expected growth targets
- Review assessments to be used for validity and reliability

AUGUST

- Administer pre-test in the first 9 weeks
- Determine expected growth targets for individual students.

SEPTEMBER

- Monitor data collection
- Populate eligible teacher effectiveness data when available

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

- Administer Post-test within the last 12 weeks
- Determine if students hit their expected growth targets

END OF YEAR

https://tiatexas.org/pre-test-and-post-test-overview-and-resources/

HOW LAS LINKS MEETS THE 3RD PARTY VENDOR ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS OF THE TIA:

LAS Battery of Assessments (TIA FAQ)

TIA REQUIREMENT 1:
Student growth measured at the individual student level that can be linked to the applicable teacher and is content and standard-aligned.

The LAS Links progress monitoring forms align to the Texas ELPS to provide student proficiency language data for the language domains of Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing across the core subjects of Math, Science, Technical Subjects, Social Studies, History, and Language Arts.

Click here to watch the symposium   Click here for a sample Student Proficiency Report

TIA REQUIREMENT 2:
District application must show evidence of validity and reliability of development, administration, and scoring.

- **Validity of Content:** LAS Links items went through extensive review by internal and external review panels for bias and sensitivity. These panels were composed of experts in limited English proficiency (LEP)/English language proficiency (ELP). Reliability and validity evidence for LAS Links Forms C and D is described throughout LAS Links the technical manual.

- **Valid and Reliable Administration Protocols (including training):** Administration Protocols are the same between the forms used for EB identification and progress monitoring.

- **Valid and Reliable Scoring:**

  - When scoring locally, LEAs are provided training in order to obtain 90% inter-rater reliability.

  - When purchasing DRC Scoring Services: DRC's scoring team are highly educated (no less than a 4 year degree) and well trained scorers, who score with 90%+ inter-rater reliability.

Security Protocols in Place: All LAS Links progress monitoring domains (Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing) are delivered via the DRC INSIGHT platform, the platform used by all Texas LEAs for EB identification testing which means:

- No new technology deployment required and all safety protocols currently in place apply.

- Can be used to set expected growth targets: DRC Growth Study may be used to determine specific Emergent Bilingual language growth targets.

The LAS Links technical report is available upon request

TIA REQUIREMENT 3:

TEA's 3rd Party Vendor Assessment Checklist
1) Ask about the assessment's ability to measure the growth specifically for the eligible teaching assignment you are measuring (not a general assessment)

Using the LAS Links Growth Study, LEAs may measure growth based on the baseline proficiency scale score(s) and proficiency level(s) achieved by each student in either each of the 4 domains or the composite scores.

The LAS Links Growth Study is available upon request

TEA's 3rd Party Vendor Assessment Checklist:
2) Ask if the assessment comes with data reports and individual expected growth targets for

The LAS Links Interactive Reporting System's longitudinal and cohort reports coupled with the LEA defined growth targets provides this information in a clear, concise and easy to interpret fashion.

Click here for sample reports

TEA's 3rd Party Vendor Assessment Checklist:
3) Include any other district concerns: price, adding licenses in the future, training provided,

All LAS Links progress monitoring assessments enjoy the deep discounts provided by the TEA/DRC contract for the identification of EBs. Progress monitoring licenses are purchased and applied to your existing account. No additional training is needed unless scoring locally. Scoring training will be provided through DRC's Professional Learning portal.

Click here to go to order forms

**For more Information
visit www.LASLinks.com/Texas
or contact LAS Links Order Support
LASOrderTX@datarecognitioncorp.com
Toll Free 833-867-5679 Option 1
Customer Service Hours: 8:00 am – 4:30 pm CT M-F**

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