Using LAS Links to Obtain the Teacher Incentive Allotment (TIA)

TEA Approval of LAS Links for the Teacher Incentive Allotment

LAS Links has been approved by the TEA as a growth measure in Texas under Texas Education Code (TEC), 48.112 (Teacher Incentive Allotment). In this session we will discuss the following:

- What is the Teacher Incentive Allotment?

- Benefits of using LAS Links to obtain the TIA

- How LAS Links meet the requirements for the TIA

- 4 Easy steps to utilize LAS Links for your TIA Growth Measure

What is the Texas Incentive Allotment?

TIA was established with the goal of "providing outstanding teachers an accessible **pathway to a six-figure salary"**. Unlike previous education programs, the Teacher Incentive Allotment is not a grant. TIA is based in two sections of the Texas Education Code (TEC),

- §21.3521 (Local Optional Teacher Designation System)
  - Local optional teacher designation systems (local designation systems or systems) allow districts to identify and designate highly effective teachers using single or multi-year appraisal data.

- §48.112 (Teacher Incentive Allotment)
  - The allotment component allows districts employing designated teachers to receive additional funding through the Foundation School Program.

Benefit #1: You Already Use LAS Links in Your District!

All test forms are available on the DRC INSIGHT platform;

The same platform you currently utilize to identify Emergent Bilinguals.

Therefore, no new training needed to install any technology. It is ready to use!

Benefit #2: LAS Links is a TEA Approved Assessment for the TIA

(2021, August 19). *Commonly Used Student Growth Assessments*. WWW.TIATexas.org
https://tiatexas.org/commonly-used-student-growth-assessments/

Benefit #3: LAS Links Fits into the Published TIA Assessment Timeline
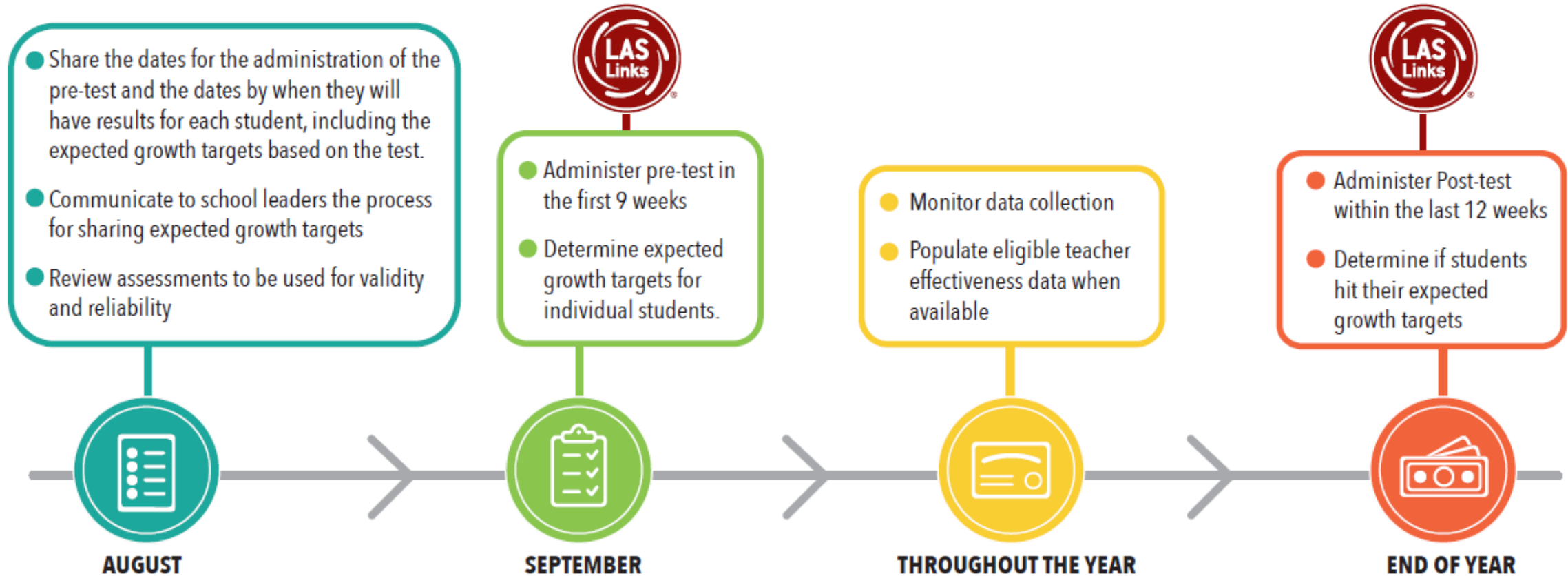
How LAS Links Meets the
# Teacher Incentive Allotment Requirements

Meeting the Teacher Incentive Allotment Requirements

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

✓ LAS Links measures student growth within and across school years at the individual level and is aligned to the Texas ELPS/TELPAS
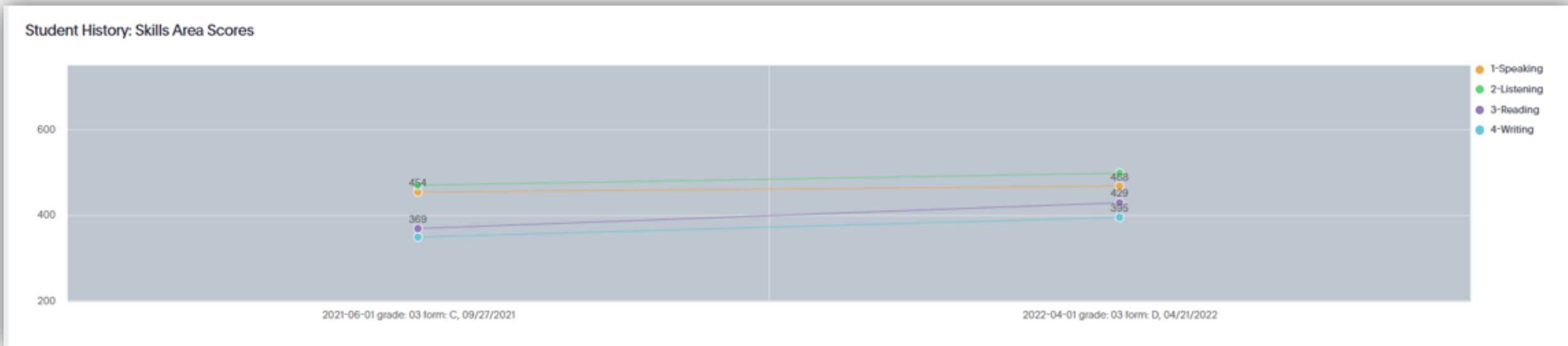
Requirement #2:
Show Evidence of Validity and Reliability of Development, Administration and Scoring

TIA Requirements		LAS Battery of Assessments
Validity of Content	✓	LAS Links items went through extensive review by internal and external review panels for bias and sensitivity.
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	✓	o When scoring locally, LEAs are provided training in order to obtain 90% inter-rater reliability. o When purchasing DRC Scoring Services: DRC's scoring team are highly educated (no less than a 4-year degree) and well-trained scorers.
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.
Can be used to set expected growth targets	✓	DRC's LAS Links Growth Study may be used to determine specific Emergent Bilingual language growth targets.

The LAS Links technical report is available upon request

Requirement #3: TEA's 3rd Party Vendor Assessment Checklist

After Defining the Eligible Teaching Assignment/Category reach out to the vendor and ask to speak to the Texas representative for their product

- ❑ Ask about the assessment's ability to measure the growth specifically for the eligible teaching assignment you are measuring (not a general assessment)
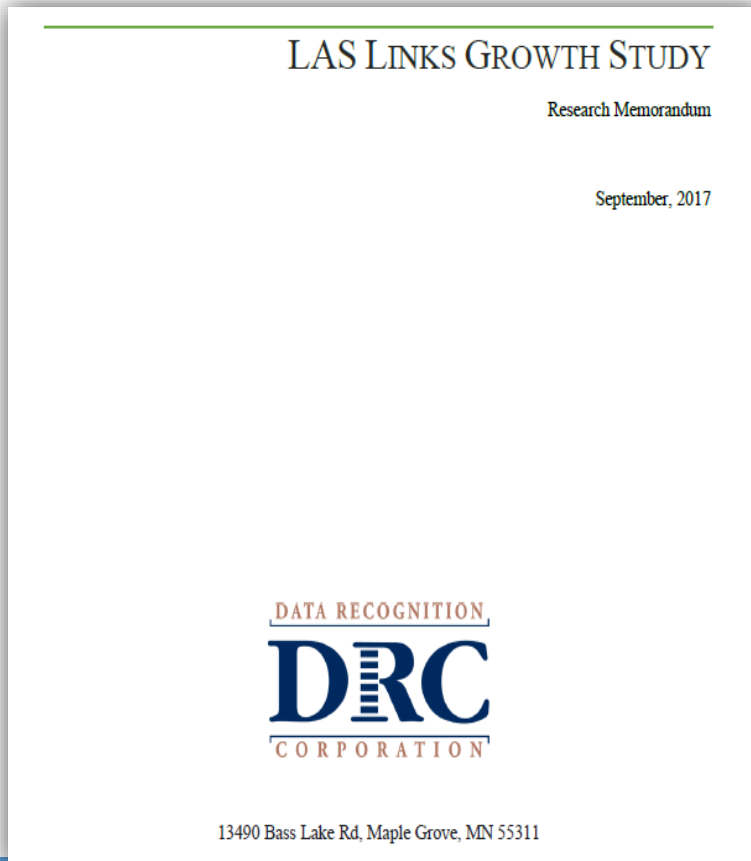
- ❑ Ask if the assessment comes with data reports and individual expected growth targets for students

- ❑ Include any other district concerns: price, adding licenses in the future, training provided, etc.

Checklist Item 1: Ask about the assessment's ability to measure the growth specifically for the eligible teaching assignment you are measuring (not a general assessment)

LAS LINKS GROWTH STUDY

Research Memorandum

September, 2017

DATA RECOGNITION

DRC

CORPORATION

13490 Bass Lake Rd, Maple Grove, MN 55311

Table 5. Expected Score Gain from Regression and Standard Errors

Starting Grade	Test Scale	Starting Proficiency Level	Expected Score Gain	Standard Error
K	Speaking	1	68.99	1.01
K	Speaking	2	31.69	1.16
K	Speaking	3	23.94	1.11
K	Speaking	4	1.75	1.38
K	Listening	1	47.14	0.60
K	Listening	2	33.03	0.86
K	Listening	3	25.19	0.81
K	Listening	4	7.09	1.05
K	Reading	1	80.18	0.78
K	Reading	2	47.15	1.12
K	Reading	3	51.80	1.11
K	Reading	4	27.16	3.39
K	Writing	1	109.45	0.91
K	Writing	2	73.86	1.50
K	Writing	3	29.56	3.70
K	Writing	4	13.64	13.66
K	Overall	1	63.58	0.50
K	Overall	2	50.18	0.68
K	Overall	3	43.71	0.83
K	Overall	4	26.60	3.63
K	Oral	1	53.30	0.59
K	Oral	2	30.69	0.70
K	Oral	3	21.40	0.74
K	Oral	4	4.08	1.08
K	Comprehension	1	63.39	0.61
K	Comprehension	2	42.11	0.78
K	Comprehension	3	39.11	0.82
K	Comprehension	4	26.81	2.33
K	Literacy	1	86.49	0.67
K	Literacy	2	69.75	1.03
K	Literacy	3	57.75	1.64
K	Literacy	4	40.00	11.73
K	Productive	1	76.95	0.66
K	Productive	2	55.00	0.91
K	Productive	3	35.23	1.28
K	Productive	4	12.90	5.33

Requirement #3: TEA's 3rd Party Vendor Assessment Checklist

Checklist Item 2: Ask if the assessment comes with data reports and individual expected growth targets for students.

Requirement #3: TEA's 3rd Party Vendor Assessment Checklist

Checklist Item #3:

Include any other district concerns: price, adding licenses in the future, training provided, etc.

- All Texas LEAs enjoy the deeply discounted pricing afforded by the current TEA/DRC contract;
- Per the TEA guidance, Title III funds may be used for the progress monitoring on Emergent Bilinguals
- Training (professional development) is a key component of the LAS Links TIA implementation.

Side-by-Side Guidance Document

Side-by- Side Guidance Document: Allowable vs. Unallowable Use of Funds

Bilingual Education Allotment (BEA)	**Title III, Part A Funds** *Please note: Local or State funds may not be decreased or diverted merely because of the availability of Title III, Part A funds.*
Assessment/Instructional Materials and Equipment	
Allowable • Assessment for Identification • Assessment for Reclassification • Smart boards • Bilingual thesauruses and dictionaries and other manipulatives that are directly related to the enhancement of instruction to serve English learners • Classroom technology enhancements for teachers and students (i.e., computers, software licenses, etc.). **Unallowable** • Instructional material and equipment to be used by general education students only	**Allowable** • Educational technology/software or instructional materials • Access to, and participation in, electronic networks for materials, training • Assessments for progress monitoring of English learners **Unallowable** • LEAs may not use Title III funds for purposes related to identification and reclassification of English learners Note: Equipment should be supplemental.

TEA: Side-by-Side Guidance Document: Allowable vs. Unallowable Use of Funds To Support English Learners: pg 8

4 Easy Steps to Utilize LAS Links as Your TIA Growth Measure

4 Easy Steps to Utilize the LAS Links as Your TIA Growth Measure

Step 1

Choose LAS Links as Your Pre-test Measure

Step 2

Use the LAS Links Growth Study to determine expected growth targets.

Teachers participate in LAS Links Professional Development as a resource to implement strategies to increase student growth.

Step 3

Assess for Post-test Data with LAS Links

Step 4

Data Gathering for Reporting

Option 1

Use LAS Links progress monitoring forms twice a year (BOY & EOY) to determine growth.

**BOY
LAS Links Form C for EB Progress Monitoring**

**EOY
LAS Links Form D for EB Progress Monitoring**

Step 1: Choose an Option to Use LAS Links as Your Pre-test Measure

Option 2

Use LAS Links identification data as baseline data + a LAS Links progress monitoring form later in the year to determine growth.

BOY
LAS Links Form A for EB Identification

EOY
LAS Links Form C or D for EB Progress Monitoring

Step 2:
Use the LAS Links Growth Study to determine expected growth targets

LAS LINKS GROWTH STUDY

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Determine specific Emergent Bilingual language growth targets based on the baseline proficiency scale score(s) and proficiency level(s) achieved by each student.

Step 2: Professional Development:
Increase Student Growth by Connecting LAS Links Data to Instruction
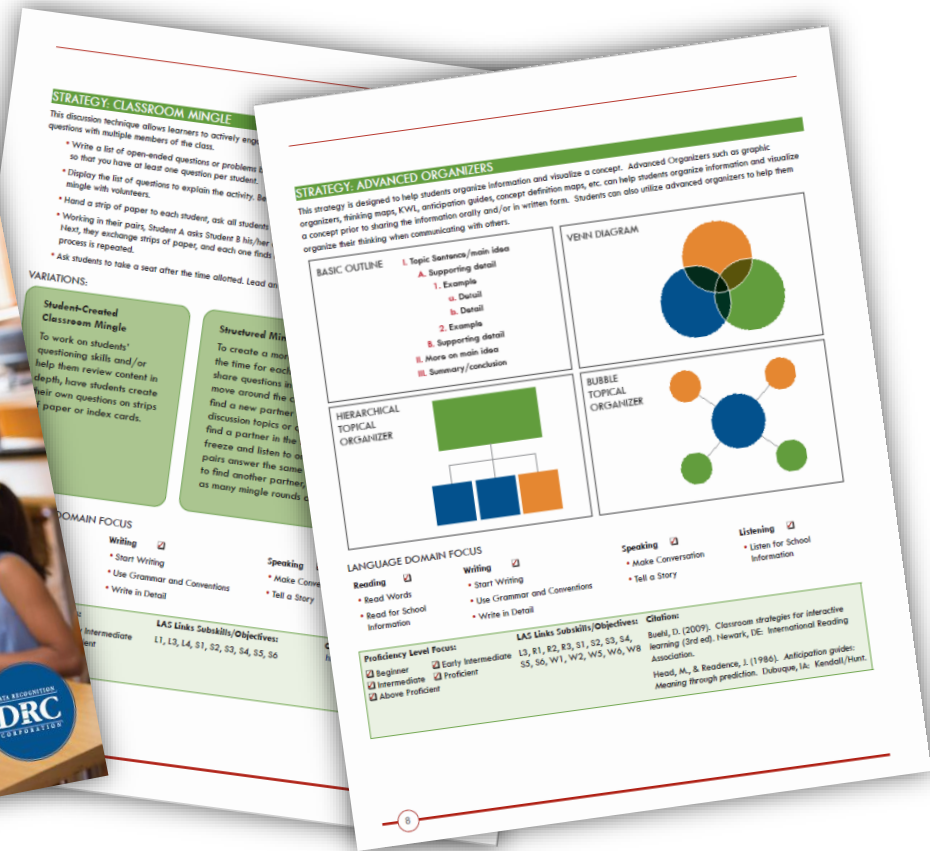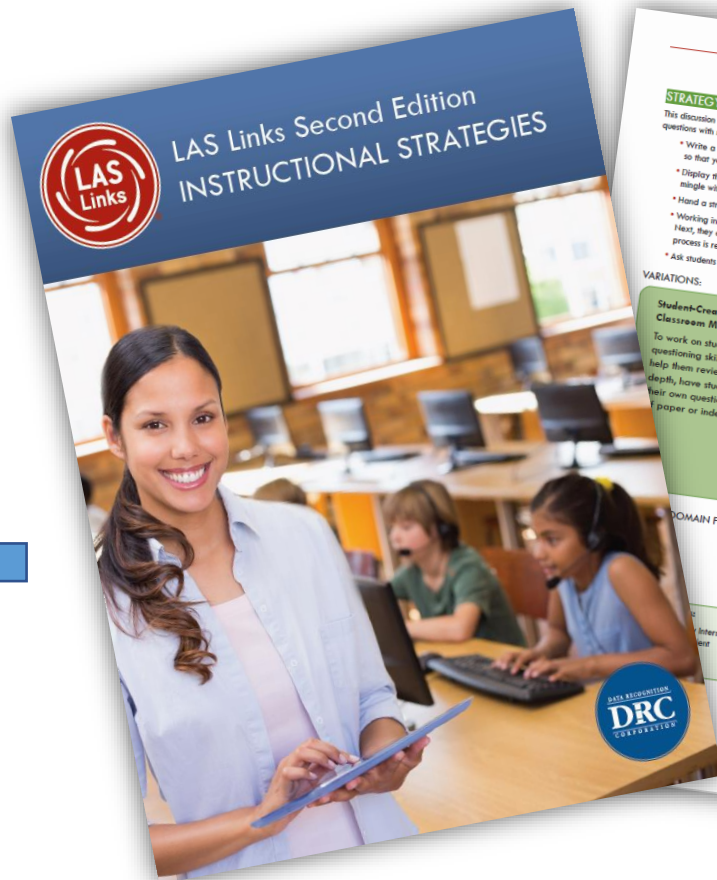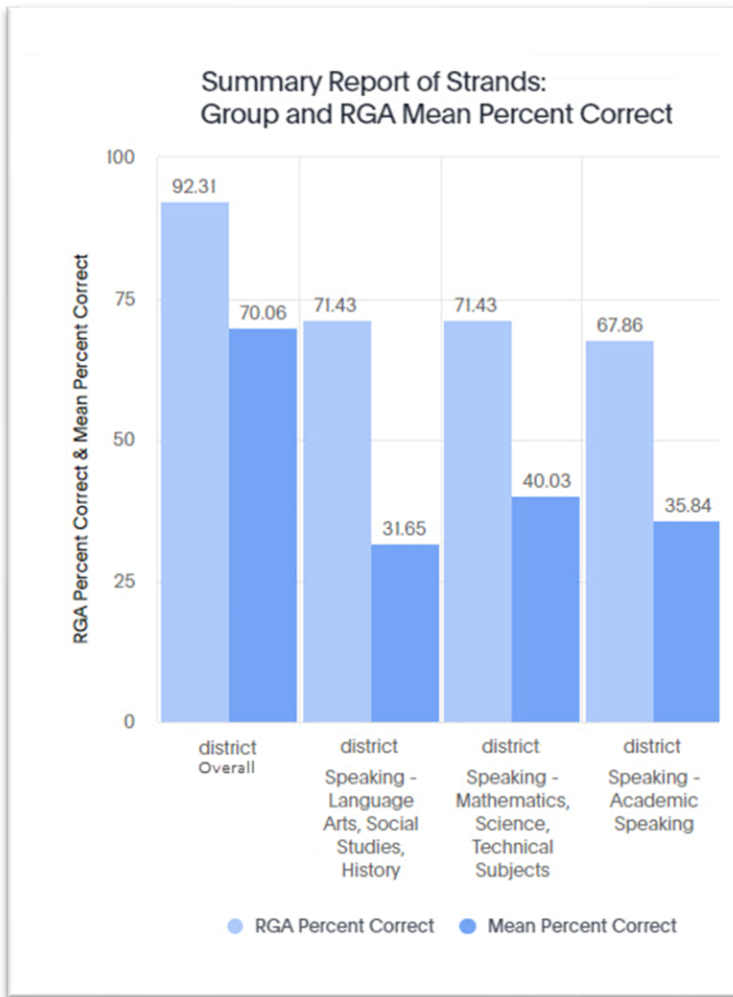
Step 3: Assess for Post-test Data with LAS Links

Option 1

EOY
LAS Links Form C for EB
Progress Monitoring

Option 2

EOY
LAS Links Form D for EB
Progress Monitoring

Step 4: Data Gathering for Reporting: The Longitudinal Roster Report

The Longitudinal Roster Report will provide a scale score (SS) diff score to easily determine if individual students have met the district determined growth targets.

- Provides Diff SS for each student between each testing event, each domain, each composite score

- Uses SS **not** Proficiency Levels to determine growth (VERY IMPORTANT!)

TerraNova Assessments

Standardized Achievement Test Approved for the Teacher Incentive Allotment (TIA)

Summative Test – Approved for the TIA

TerraNova:
- Is available on the DRC INSIGHT Portal (same platform you use for LAS Links)
- Assesses Reading, Language, Math, Science, and Social Studies
- Provides Norm-Referenced, Criterion-Referenced, and Proficiency/Performance levels.
- Provides longitudinal reporting allowing LEAs ability to track performance at the student, class, school, and district level

https://tiatexas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/other_assessment_resources.pdf

Summative Assessments

Resource	Vendor	Description	Subject/Grade Level	Product Type	Formative Assessment	Summative Included	Possible Student Growth Measure
TerraNova	Data Recognition Corporation	Standardized Achievement Test aligned to National Standards for College and Career Readiness.	General Knowledge Assessment: K-12 (not necessarily TEKS aligned)	CCMR Assessment	N	Y	Pre-Test/Post-Test options 2 and 4

Next Steps

Contact your LAS Links Texas Consultants to answer any questions you may have.

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