

2020–2021 CATALOG

mCLASS[®] Texas Professional Development



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Introduction

Throughout the years, Amplify’s professional development sessions have both built educators’ capacity and also been well-received. For example, in the 2019–20 school year, Amplify delivered over 350 training sessions to educators in order to launch mCLASS with DIBELS 8th Edition and received over 2,000 responses from educators in our post-session surveys. Survey results indicated that participant satisfaction was high and that educators felt prepared to deliver the assessment immediately following the session. **96 percent** of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that “The session met its objectives,” and **95 percent** of educators agreed or strongly agreed that “After this session, I feel confident in administering and scoring my grade-level measures.”

Highly experienced and qualified facilitators conduct Amplify training and professional development sessions. We have over 100 professional development facilitators, each with an average of 15–20 years of classroom and/or administrative experience, established presentation skills, technical competence, client management skills and specialized professional certifications. Amplify facilitators understand the day-to-day challenges facing teachers, principals, and district leaders when integrating new systems into daily practice.

We will use a majority of local Texas facilitators, since Amplify understands the importance of having facilitators with deep local knowledge and experience. The members of our current cadre of Texas-based facilitators have a strong background in early literacy development, Science of Reading, and reading pedagogy. In the 2019–20 school year, educators who attended trainings delivered by Amplify facilitators indicated strong satisfaction based on post-session survey results. Over **96 percent** of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that facilitators were knowledgeable, receptive to questions, and engaging, as they used multiple modalities of learning and delivered the sessions at a good pace.

In addition to our facilitators, Amplify’s content development team has contributors with an average of 10–15 years of experience teaching in classrooms, leading in schools, and designing successful professional development engagements throughout the country. As teachers and administrators who had used Amplify products in practice, our team understands the knowledge and skills educators need to successfully implement the program and use data to inform their instruction.

Amplify looks forward to collaborating with TEA stakeholders to deliver an impactful professional development plan that will support TEA’s goals for students and educators and build capacity at all levels. Below, the four dimensions of support are described in detail.

I. Self-paced online course

In order to reach educators new to mCLASS Texas Edition as efficiently and effectively as possible, Amplify will provide educators using mCLASS Texas Edition throughout the state with access to our self-paced online course. This self-paced online course is a comprehensive training resource that will equip educators at all levels with the knowledge and expertise they need in order to effectively implement mCLASS Texas Edition, interpret assessment results, and make data-driven instructional decisions for whole-group, small-group, and intervention instruction.

The course consists of multiple modules and includes a combination of texts, videos, activities and formative checks for understanding for participants to apply and assess their learning. Participants will be able to select the modules that they most want to review and move through each module at a pace that matches their

needs. They will also be able to refer back to previously reviewed content if they are in need of additional support. In addition to reflecting research-based best practices for adult teaching and learning, the online course hosts a multitude of reference resources that educators will be able to download to support them with consistent administration and data-driven instructional planning.

All in all, this online course will offer educators the flexibility and differentiated support needed to be successful. It will also be a valuable complement to any in-person support that TEA stakeholders, authorized providers, and local cohort leaders give schools and a helpful resource when questions arise.

The table below provides information about the self-paced online course in greater detail:

Self-paced online course (free for K–2 mCLASS Texas Edition users)

mCLASS Texas Edition online course	
Audience	Session objectives
All educators utilizing mCLASS Texas Edition	• Explain how mCLASS Texas Edition assesses the basic early literacy skills required for students to become proficient readers. • Administer and score all mCLASS Texas Edition assessment measures according to standardized guidelines. • Interpret student data and identify instructional needs for whole-group and small-group instruction. • Navigate targeted skills-focused lessons available in mCLASS Texas Edition and prepare to deliver strategic whole-group and small-group instruction.
Session length and delivery method	
Self-paced, approximately 8–10 hours	
Maximum number of participants per session	
N/A	

II. Webinars aligned with benchmark windows

Complementing the initial training content provided for educators throughout the state, Amplify will also deliver three optional one-hour webinars designed to support educators in deepening their data analysis and instructional planning practices.

Each webinar will be delivered live two times for a total of six webinars throughout the year. A recording of each webinar will also be made available to educators throughout the state if they are unable to attend these webinars and/or would like to refer back to them throughout the year. A description of the webinars are below:

mCLASS Texas Edition optional webinars (free for K–2 mCLASS Texas Edition users)

mCLASS Texas Edition data-driven instructional planning webinars for teachers and coaches

Audience

All educators utilizing mCLASS Texas Edition

Session length and delivery method

1 hour, 3x/year, aligned assessment windows

Maximum number of participants per session

No maximum

Session objectives

- Learn how to analyze students' composite scores, measure scores, and probe-level details.
- Explain how to identify instructional trends and reflect on potential root causes for holdbacks in students' data.
- Review best practices for forming and adjusting small groups using measure scores.

III. On-demand resources

Amplify will provide teachers and leaders with access to an expansive suite of complimentary on-demand resources, such as videos and online tutorials. Educators can access these on-demand resources anytime they need them and use them as refreshers throughout the year. Several examples of these supports are described below.

On-demand resources for teachers and leaders (free for K–2 mCLASS Texas Edition users)

Resource	Length and delivery method	Session objectives
mCLASS Texas Edition Scoring Rules Videos	3–5 minute videos	Participants will: Review the scoring rules for each mCLASS Texas Edition measure.
mCLASS Texas Edition Levelled Audio Practice Videos	1-minute videos	Participants will: Practice applying their knowledge of administration and scoring rules for mCLASS Texas Edition with a series of levelled audio files for each measure.
mCLASS Texas Edition Reporting Tutorial for Teachers	Online tutorial	Participants will: Identify the key features in mCLASS Texas Edition classroom reports, including benchmark reports for each time of year, individual student data, historical data, and progress-monitoring data.
mCLASS Texas Edition Reporting Tutorial for Leaders	Online tutorial	Participants will: Identify the key features in mCLASS Texas Edition aggregate reports in the Reporting and Analysis Suite.

IV. Additional optional professional development offerings

Should LEAs prefer different formats or durations for onsite training sessions, or if they'd like advanced training for their educators to deepen their data-driven instructional planning skills, Amplify offers a suite of additional optional trainer-led sessions, available for purchase by the state or individual districts. We welcome the opportunity to partner with TEA, Regional Service Centers, and LEA stakeholders to further customize this approach as desired based on the district's needs and scheduling realities.

Amplify's suite of professional development offerings consists of three types:

Foundations Sessions

Foundations Sessions support teachers and leaders who are new to the program in a strong implementation. Educators will learn about the research-based principles of the program's approach and the key features of the program, while practicing observing and delivering each program.

Strengthening Sessions

Strengthening Sessions deepen educators' understanding of the programs' principles and how to move instruction and student outcomes to the next level. Session offerings focus on topics such as data analysis and delivering targeted instruction to effectively address students' needs.

Coaching Sessions

Coaching Sessions consist of individual days or a series of days for an Amplify facilitator to work with teachers and/or leaders on a variety of skills to meet their needs including: observing and providing feedback on assessment administration, analyzing data, co-planning data-driven instruction, observing and debriefing small-group lessons, analyzing school-wide trends and action planning with leaders, aligning available instructional materials to needs, conducting walkthroughs and identifying instructional trends, and strategizing school-wide structures and sustainability.

Foundational Sessions (for optional purchase)

mCLASS Texas Edition initial training

Audience

Teachers new to mCLASS Texas Edition

Session length and delivery method

1 day, onsite

Maximum number of participants per session

30

Session objectives

- Explain how mCLASS Texas Edition assesses the basic early literacy skills required for students to become proficient readers.
- Administer and score mCLASS Texas Edition assessment measures according to standardized guidelines.
- Interpret student data and identify instructional needs for whole-group and small-group instruction.
- Navigate targeted skills-focused lessons available in mCLASS Texas Edition and prepare to deliver strategic whole-group and small-group instruction.

mCLASS Texas Edition refresher training

Audience

Teachers with experience in mCLASS Texas Edition

Session length and delivery method

½ day, onsite

Maximum number of participants per session

30

Session objectives

- Review the new improvements that are available in the measures, reports, and instructional tools with mCLASS Texas Edition.
- Build fluency in administering and scoring select mCLASS Texas Edition assessment measures according to new standardized guidelines.
- Interpret student data and identify instructional needs for whole-group and small-group instruction.
- Explore targeted skills-focused lessons available in mCLASS Texas Edition and prepare to deliver strategic whole-group and small-group instruction.

Strengthening Sessions (for optional purchase)

mCLASS Texas Edition data-driven instructional planning for teachers

Recommended three times a year (beginning, middle, and end of year)

Audience

New or experienced teachers in mCLASS Texas Edition

Session length and delivery method

- 1 full day, onsite
- 1 full day, remote

Maximum number of participants per session

- Onsite: 30
- Remote: 15

Session objectives

- Analyze students' composite scores, measure scores, and probe level details.
- Identify instructional trends and reflect on potential root causes for holdbacks in students' data.
- Form and adjust small groups using measure level results.
- Create a comprehensive instructional plan for core instruction, small-group instruction, and intervention in order to address students' needs.
- Generate activities aligned to the basic early literacy skills that students need in each small group
- Prioritize and commit to action steps they will implement in the classroom after the session

mCLASS Texas Edition data-driven instructional planning for leaders

Recommended three times a year (beginning, middle, and end of year)

Audience

New or experienced leaders in mCLASS Texas Edition

Session length and delivery method

- 1 full day, onsite
- 1 full day, remote

Maximum number of participants per session

- Onsite: 30
- Remote: 15

Session objectives

- Interpret aggregate reports at the district, school, teacher, grade, and sub-group level.
- Identify celebrations and reflect on underlying causes for instructional holdbacks in aggregate reports.
- Leverage reflections and identify both short-term and long-term schoolwide instructional priorities.
- Create a strategic coaching plan with schoolwide and classroom specific supports.
- Customize and practice leading data conversations with teachers.
- Prioritize and commit to action steps they will implement at their school after the session.

IV. ADDITIONAL OPTIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFERINGS

Coaching Sessions (for purchase)

Amplify Coaching onsite visits for teachers and/or leaders

Audience: All teachers and leaders

Session length and delivery method	Maximum number of participants per session	Session objectives
1 day, onsite	30	Each school can receive a one-day onsite coaching visit, or two schools can be consecutively scheduled for a one-day visit. Prior to the visit, the school's instructional leadership team will align with the Amplify facilitator on their unique needs and customize the coaching visit schedule. Participants may choose from a variety of topics that include, but are not limited to: observing mCLASS Texas Edition implementation and providing feedback, analyzing benchmark or progress-monitoring data, planning instruction, or co-planning small-group lessons.
½ day, onsite	30	Each school can receive a ½-day onsite coaching visit, or two schools can be consecutively scheduled for a one-day visit. Prior to the visit, the school's instructional leadership team will align with the Amplify facilitator on their unique needs and customize the coaching visit schedule. Participants may choose from a variety of topics that include, but are not limited to: observing mCLASS Texas Edition implementation and providing feedback, analyzing benchmark or progress-monitoring data, planning instruction, or co-planning small-group lessons.

IV. ADDITIONAL OPTIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFERINGS

Amplify recognizes that schools and educators may have diverse preferences for when and how they learn. As such, our proposed professional development sessions can be delivered through multiple approaches, including:

Onsite Sessions are delivered in person (up to 30 participants).	Virtual Sessions are delivered remotely through webinars (up to 15 participants).	Online Courses are taken independently by participants and are self-paced.	Training of Trainers (TOT) Sessions are delivered to participants and will prepare them to turnkey training content to their colleagues.
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The typical professional development session lengths are as follows:

Half-day: 3 hours

Full day: 7 hours (including a one-hour lunch)

Amplify is able to deliver any of the sessions above in a Training of Trainers (TOT) format should the state or individual districts have limitations on their teachers’ or leaders’ schedules, or if they prefer to target these professional development opportunities to a subset of teachers and leaders. The sessions above can be delivered to lead teachers, instructional coaches, or leaders from each school, and participants will receive materials at the conclusion of the session in order to turnkey training content to their colleagues. Amplify can continue to collaborate with the state or individual districts to design custom district-wide or school-specific professional development engagements that will respond to their unique needs.

Amplify is open to collaborating on the proposed professional development plan to best meet TEA's needs for timing, scale, and content. We welcome the opportunity to work together on models that provide educators with a higher touch, include more resources, or use different training approaches.

To order any of our professional development services, please contact the Amplify Texas hotline:

texas@amplify.com

(512) 877-9111

amplify.com/mclass-texas

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