2024-2025 Early Literacy Assessment Tool (ELAT) Project Application Information Webinar

February 15, 2024

Pursuant to C.R.S. 22-2-141

Project Overview

https://www.cde.state.co.us/coloradoliteracy/elatapplicationprocess

- The 2012 School Finance Act required CDE to select a contractor to supply an early literacy assessment tool for teachers to obtain real-time assessment of K-3 students' reading skill levels.

- The ELAT Project supports <u>state purchase</u> of software that provides individualized assessments with immediate results, stores and analyzes those results, and recommends activities.

- Districts do NOT receive funds directly; CDE manages the funds and pays for the licensing at the state level.

- In 2023, through a competitive process, CDE awarded the ELAT Project contract to Amplify for mCLASS DIBELS 8th Edition and mCLASS Lectura.

- Pending legislative approval, CDE will offer the ELAT Project for the 2024-2025 school year.

- ELAT participants will receive the online tool mCLASS to support the assessments DIBELS 8th Edition and, if applicable, mCLASS Lectura for Spanish-speaking students.

- ELAT participants will receive software licenses to use the assessment(s). The tool mCLASS will store and analyze the results and recommend school and home activities based on those results.

- Hardware is not included. Applicants will be responsible for providing their own hardware. A list of devices that support mCLASS is available here: www.amplify.com/assessment/devices

Purpose

- An early literacy assessment tool is intended to help teachers meet the assessment requirements of the READ Act. The tool allows teachers to obtain real-time assessment of K-3 students' reading skill levels and, based on the results, generate intervention plans and materials.

- The assessment platform, mCLASS:
  - Provides individualized assessments with immediate results;
  - Stores and analyzes assessment results, recommends activities, assists in tracking student performance, and assists in identifying strategies to improve student performance;
  - Provides student grouping recommendations; and
  - Assists in generating and populating individualized plans to improve students' reading skills.

- All local education providers (LEPs) are eligible to apply.

- LEP means a:
  - School district;
  - Charter school authorized through a district or the CSI;
  - Public school within a district applying as a stand-alone applicant; or
  - Public school operated by a BOCES.

- The applicant must enroll students in **kindergarten, first, second,** and/or **third** grades.

CDE is accepting applications from new and renewal applicants. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of available licenses, prioritization will reflect C.R.S. 22-2-14.

1. First preference will be given to LEPs renewing their ELAT participation from the 23-24 school year; then new applicants will be accepted.

2. If there needs to be a selection process for new LEPs, it will be based on highest percentages of K-3 students reading below grade level; and LEPs with the highest percentages of schools that are eligible to receive money under Title 1 of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

1. The current RFA will apply to the 2024-2025 school year (Year 12).

2. Participation in subsequent years is dependent upon appropriations and available licenses.

3. Anyone, new or renewal, who wants to participate in the 24-25 school year must apply.

- Complete and submit ELAT Project application.

- Obtain supported devices to assess all K-3 students on the approved interim assessment. (Hardware purchase is the LEP's responsibility.)

- Collect and submit staff and student roster data to Amplify:
  - Student information: name, grade, date of birth, 10-digit State Assigned Student ID (SASID), state, school district, school, classroom association(s), student email, gender, ethnicity, English language status, and eligibility for special education services and section 504.
  - Staff information: name and staff email address

- Assess all K-3 students at the three designated benchmark periods.

- Progress monitor students:
  - Scoring Well Below Benchmark every 7-10 instructional days
  - Scoring Below Benchmark every 10-12 instructional days

- Attendance at required training and onboarding webinars

Additional requirements for new participants (new to mCLASS and/or new to the ELAT Project):

- Attendance by K-3 teachers or designated local trainers at face-to-face trainings and webinar trainings to support first- and second-year implementation and platform upgrade(s);
- Assurance that local trainers have training time with their teachers to implement what they have been trained on; and
- Attendance by principals at any scheduled instructional leader trainings and/or webinars.

LEPs will receive the following items upon application approval:

1. A welcome email from Amplify with step-by-step enrollment instructions to continue or get started;

2. Amplify DIBELS 8th Edition and/or Lectura licenses for K-3 students; and

3. **One kit per grade level, K-3,** per new school of DIBELS 8th Edition assessment materials and/or **one kit per grade level**, **K-3**, per new school of mCLASS Lectura assessment materials.

- Participants agree to share all data collected using the provided software. These data will be shared with Amplify and CDE.
- Data include:
    - Student identifier information: name, grade, date of birth, state, school, school district, classroom association(s), student email, 10-digit State Assigned Student ID (SASID), gender, ethnicity, English language status, and eligibility for special education services and section 504;
    - Staff identifier information: name and staff email address; and
    - Student outcomes: records and/or scores for the assessments listed as part of the assessment.
- Districts are still required to submit READ Act data through the Data Pipeline.
- Data collected are solely used by Amplify and CDE for the scope of successful project implementation: evaluating implementation fidelity and achievement/ growth results and directing professional development.

See the *Project Assurances and Authorization for Release of Personally Identifiable Information* for additional information.

Project Assurances and Release of Information

- Applicants must obtain signature approval from the appropriate representatives on both the *Project Assurances* form and *Authorization for Release of Personally Identifiable Information* form.

- **These forms do not need to be submitted to CDE**; however, they must be kept on file through December 31, 2026, and be available for verification by CDE program staff.

Application Resources and Guidelines

- **2023-2024 List of Colorado School Codes**

- **READ Act and English Learners: Guidance for Assessment and Determination of a Significant Reading Deficiency in Grades K-3:**

  - Assessment guidance and consideration for multilingual students to inform requests of DIBELS 8th Edition and/or mCLASS Lectura licenses.

Application guidelines for multiple schools applying in a single application:

- Licenses and data of all schools submitted in a district, CSI, or BOCES application will be under the district, CSI, or BOCES umbrella license.
- Charter schools who manage enrollment separate from their authorizer will need to apply to ELAT individually and *not* be included in the district or CSI application. With Amplify's support, charter schools can be linked to their district authorizer's mCLASS account for districts requesting access to charter school's data.

Signature guidelines for applicants applying as a single school:
- The named LEP will be the school's authorizer, either the local district, CSI, or BOCES.
- The authorized representative should be a representative from the district/CSI/BOCES and <u>not</u> a school-level representative.
- The representatives from the LEP, not the school, should provide the signatures for both the *Project Assurances* and *Amplify Authorization for Release of Information*.

- Applications are due **Wednesday, April 10, 2024.**
- The online application is linked in the RFA.
- The RFA contains a worksheet that will help you gather the necessary information.
    - The application form does not save work in progress.
- The application must be completed online using the online form.
- Late or incomplete applications may not be accepted based on the number of complete applications submitted by the due date.
- Once submitted, your application will be reviewed by CDE staff to ensure it is complete.
- The person who submits the application will receive an email notification confirming receipt.

Online Application

Q&A
ELAT@cde.state.co.us