

## Office of Assessment, Accountability, and Analytics

# K-3 Numeracy Screener FAQ

The Louisiana Department of Education is collaborating across offices to develop and implement a K–3 numeracy screener aligned with <u>Act 650</u> (2024) and <u>Bulletin 118</u> that mirrors the purpose, design, and tools of the K–3 Literacy Screener.

The K-3 Numeracy Screener will first be administered in 2025-2026 as a part of a Learning Year. It will become fully operational in 2026-2027. The details for the Learning Year will continue to be shared and communicated to schools and systems throughout summer 2025. All K-3 sites will administer the K-3 Numeracy Screener throughout the 2025-2026 school year.

#### **Question 1**

When does the K-3 Numeracy Screener begin?

#### Response

The K-3 Numeracy Screener will be a Learning Year in 2025-2026 and in full implementation in 2026-2027. The administration schedule will follow the dates required for the K-3 Literacy Screener. See the windows below.

- Window 1 Beginning of Year Screener (BOY): First 30 days of school
- Window 2 Middle of Year Screener (MOY): December
- Window 3 End of Year Screener (EOY): April

## **Question 2**

Will BOY, MOY, and EOY all have the same administration format?

## Response

Yes, all administrations will be the same administration format. All K-1 screeners will be delivered in an online platform in an interview style in which the Test Administrator reads each prompt as directed, and monitors or records the student responses during the administration. There will be no scratch paper or physical manipulatives used for grades K or 1 to ensure a streamlined administration process for all students and administrators. Students in Grades 2 and 3 will have both an interview portion and an independent portion of the screener. Students in Grades 2 and 3 will have scratch paper for the portion of the screener for which students provide responses independently in the platform.

What can we expect for the K-3 Numeracy Screener administration?

#### Response

- The K-3 Numeracy Screener will be an individualized assessment that is given through an online platform. It is not in mCLASS, but there will be similarities in the way the numeracy platform operates.
- The screener will be short.
- The screener will allow for only some accommodations that do not compromise the measure.

#### **Question 4**

Will the numeracy screener be administered in mCLASS with DIBELS?

#### Response

No, the K-3 Numeracy Screener will be administered in a separate testing platform. To the extent possible, the platform will be similar to mCLASS. Additionally, training and further information for District Test Coordinators (DTCs) to train Test Administrators will be provided throughout the summer.

## **Question 5**

Will the screening platform require a secure browser?

#### Response

Yes, as with the secure K-3 Literacy Screener, Windows devices will use the Safe Exam Browser (SEB) and Chromebooks will screen in kiosk mode. More detailed information will be provided over the summer, but in the interim please review the <u>Assessment Technology Specifications</u> for more information.

## **Question 6**

Will the screening administration be recorded?

## Response

Yes, all screening will require that audio recording is enabled.

Is the screener timed, and if so, how much time will it take to screen a student?

#### Response

Yes, all screeners will be timed. The specific estimated time per grade and screener is listed below. Additional time will be provided for students who qualify for an additional time accommodation.

Grade Band	Expected Time
Kindergarten	5-7 minutes
1st Grade	7-10 minutes
2nd Grade	7-10 minutes
3rd Grade	10-12 minutes

#### **Question 8**

Will teachers be required to successfully complete training to administer the screener?

#### Response

K-3 Numeracy Screener administration training is required for all Test Administrators. Test Security training is required of all Test Administrators for each test administration (BOY, MOY, EOY). This is not in place of the grades <u>K-4 Numeracy Course</u> found in the <u>Louisiana Professional Learning Platform</u>.

## **Question 9**

Will the K-3 Numeracy Screener be considered a secure test?

## Response

All test security that is applicable will be required as it is with the K-3 Literacy Screener. All K-3 Numeracy Screeners (BOY, MOY, EOY) will be recorded. Although the BOY and MOY screeners will not be considered secure, screening must be administered in a secure testing environment. The EOY screener will be secure.

## **Question 10**

Will there be a remote testing option for the K-3 Numeracy Screener?

## Response

During the BOY and MOY administrations, there will be a remote option. For the EOY, the screener will be secure and there will not be a remote option.

Which skills will be measured during the K-3 Numeracy Screener? Do these skills represent the full depth of the grade level standards?

#### Response

The K-3 Numeracy Screener will strategically measure a student's foundational understanding of essential numeracy components. This includes number sense, counting, basic operations, number relationships and quantities, patterns, and the ability to apply mathematical concepts to relevant real-world scenarios. The K-3 Numeracy Screener is not intended to cover the full depth and breadth of the Louisiana Student Standards for Mathematics, however, it is intended to capture students progress and rate of improvement as they interact with grade level content throughout the year. In order to understand student performance on all standards, schools and school systems should continue to utilize their curricular materials and assessments. The reporting categories for the 2025-2026 Learning Year will be: counting strategies, simple problems, fluency, and magnitude.

#### **Question 12**

Who is required to administer the K-3 Numeracy Screener?

#### Response

School systems can choose to have classroom teachers administer the screener or they may choose to have a team selected to screen all students at one or more schools. All Test Administrators must be trained regardless of the model selected. Additionally, we highly recommend planning to share all reporting information, when it is available, with classroom teachers as is encouraged with the K-3 Literacy Screener.

## **Question 13**

How do systems use this information to make informed decisions for high-dosage tutoring?

## Response

During the Learning Year, data reporting will be limited. Systems should refer to the <u>Interim Guidance for Numeracy Screeners</u> for the 2025-2026 school year to inform instruction and track student progress in numeracy. During the Learning Year, only school and system-level reporting will be available.

# **Question 14**

Can a system administer a locally chosen assessment rather than the LDOE K-3 Numeracy Screener?

## Response

Systems must administer the LDOE K-3 Numeracy Screener as mandated by law and policy. In addition, systems should refer to the Interim Guidance for Numeracy Screeners because student level data will be limited during the Learning Year. Therefore, systems should still plan to administer their own screener during the 2025-2026 school year. Additionally, the results of the system selected screener will be required to be reported to the Department. The availability of data from both a literacy and numeracy screener administered three times per year will reduce the need for school systems to purchase other commercial K-3 assessments and will streamline the process for administration and reporting.

Will progress monitoring be available for the K-3 Numeracy Screener?

#### Response

Progress monitoring through the statewide K-3 Numeracy Screener platform is not available during the Learning Year. Additional guidance for progress monitoring will be available in subsequent years. In the meantime, teachers should continue to reference the <u>Interim Guidance for Math Numeracy Screeners</u>.

#### **Question 16**

Will there be a paper option for the students?

#### Response

There will not be a paper form option for students. Students with limited verbal skills should follow the Diverse Learners's Guidance and utilize the online platform to complete the screener.

## **Question 17**

What accommodations will be allowed for students with an IEP, IAP or EL Checklist?

#### Response

More information about accommodations is available in our Accommodations Guide for the Numeracy Screener that will be posted this summer. Please reach out to <a href="mailto:diverselearners@la.gov">diverselearners@la.gov</a> for further information.

## **Question 18**

Will there be an alternate form of the K-3 Numeracy Screener for students who have significant cognitive disabilities?

## Response

Yes, an alternate form of the screener will be available for students who meet the alternate assessment eligibility guidelines. The score will be entered into the numeracy screening platform. The format is consistent with the Literacy Alternate Assessment Rubric that was created as the alternate for the K-3 Literacy Screener.

## **Question 19**

What information will be able to be available on the Kite platform?

## Response

In the Kite platform, DTCs and the Department will be able to see the rate of completion for schools and systems and will have a dashboard that shows screeners that were administered in a short period of time. Test administrator manuals and additional support for use of the platform will be provided through DTCs.