

# Circle Progress Monitoring FAQ

**Vendor Name: Children’s Learning Institute (CLI-Engage)**

**Assessment(s) Name: Circle Progress Measure**

Question	Answer
<b>What grades are covered?</b>	Pre-K Multiple Domains (Social and Emotional Development, Language and Communication, Emergent Literacy—Reading and Writing, Mathematics)
<b>Is there a pre/post test?</b>	For the purposes of TIA, districts could use Pre/Post-test option 2.
<b>What is CLI CIRCLE Progress Monitoring (C-PM) Assessment System?</b>	<p>The CIRCLE Progress Monitoring (C-PM) for Pre-K Assessment System is hosted on the Children’s Learning Institute’s CLI Engage platform and is a standardized, criterion-referenced measure that relates to established standardized tests and is sensitive to growth in children’s skills over time.</p> <p>C-PM is designed to be inclusive linguistically and culturally. All direct measures included in the CIRCLE Progress Monitoring System are available in both English and Spanish.</p> <p>The CIRCLE Progress Monitoring System is aligned to the Texas Prekindergarten Guidelines. It provides significant flexibility in administration, including choice of measures and timing of assessments.</p> <p>Measures were designed to be brief; no individual measure exceeds 10 minutes. Additionally, districts/schools can choose to group and sequence the administration of individual tasks to best align with their instructional schedules. The assessment also includes a wide range of reporting features that are instantly accessible.</p>
<b>How can I use CLI CIRCLE Progress Monitoring (C-PM) Assessment System?</b>	C-PM can be used flexibly by providing a choice of measures and timing of assessments. Additionally, CP-M links to CIRCLE activities that target specific skills based on assessment results. CP-M includes a wide range of reporting features instantly accessible such as providing snapshots of student skill levels at the individual, group, class, school, and district levels. The reports use visual indicators to flag students below established benchmarks. Student grouping features and links to recommended activities provide the teacher with the first steps in beginning small group instruction that targets specific skill areas.

<p><b>What was the CLI CIRCLE Progress Monitoring (C-PM) Assessment System designed to do?</b></p>	<p>The purpose of student progress monitoring in early childhood is to measure a snapshot of children’s strengths at different time points in the year and use results to plan and set goals for instruction. CIRCLE Progress Monitoring is best used in conjunction with additional classroom data points to develop a clear understanding of each child’s literacy and math skill development. For example, Circle-PM checklists and other records can be used to build portfolios documenting children’s growth and cognitive development throughout the school year.</p>
<p><b>Does CLI CIRCLE provide expected growth targets for students?</b></p>	<p>No. But growth targets can be set locally.</p>
<p><b>How can districts use CLI CIRCLE Progress Monitoring (C-PM) Assessment System to determine end-of-year student growth for purposes of TIA?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using the Circle Benchmark cut points to determine overall point gain (by test) from Wave 1 to Wave 3</li> <li>• Moving up a band or remaining On Track</li> <li>• Determining average growth based on actual district data and using that as the expected growth target</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Link to TIA’s guidance on setting growth targets using the Circle (C-PM)</a></p> <p>For the purposes of TIA, districts could use option 2 with 3<sup>rd</sup> party pre-test, district set growth targets and a 3<sup>rd</sup> party post-test.</p>
<p><b>What types of data reporting capabilities are included with CLI CIRCLE Progress Monitoring (C-PM) Assessment System?</b></p>	<p>Reports provide evidence of students’ learning for teachers to adjust ongoing instruction. CLI Engage data reporting features provide snapshots of student skill levels at the individual, group, class, school, and district levels. The reports use clear visual indicators to flag students who fall below established benchmarks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>Completion Report</b> tracks the completion of selected assessments.</li> <li>• The <b>Growth Report</b> allows users to view their student’s growth over time.</li> <li>• The <b>Summary Report</b> allows users to view student performance across all domains.</li> <li>• The <b>Parent Report</b> informs families of assessment results and connects them to activities that enable them to support their children at home.</li> <li>• The <b>Group Report</b> groups students with scores below age-related benchmarks and recommends interventions and provides lesson plans for further skill development.</li> </ul> <p>Accessing Reports  <a href="https://public.cliengage.org/training/diving-deeper/accessing-reports/">https://public.cliengage.org/training/diving-deeper/accessing-reports/</a></p>

**What are the best practices for using CLI CIRCLE Progress Monitoring (C-PM) Assessment System in early childhood?**

There are three main purposes for early childhood assessment, each impacting goals for improving educational quality and supporting long-term student achievement.

- Assessment Guides Instructional Planning
  - Determine a child's strengths
  - Set goals
  - Determine individualized activities
- Assessment helps the teacher communicate important milestones in a child's development
  - Support family partnerships
  - Provides opportunities for teachers and parents to work together
- Assessments provide information for evaluating program quality
  - Evaluating overall group performance
  - Identify staff for professional development

For more information on this resource please refer to the vendor website and reach out to a representative.

Vendor Website: <https://public.cliengage.org/tools/assessment/circle-progress-monitoring/>

Vendor Contact: Colleen Allen, [colleen.m.schiebold@uth.tmc.edu](mailto:colleen.m.schiebold@uth.tmc.edu)

For more information on the Teacher Incentive Allotment, please visit the [Teacher Incentive Allotment website](#).