Assessing and Addressing Learning Gaps
for Academic and Instructional Recovery

CARES Act funds may be utilized to address the unique needs of special populations. During the transition to remote learning as a result of COVID-19, there is much uncertainty about the level of mastery that students have been able to achieve and concern about learning gaps that have formed and even exacerbated for our most vulnerable students. The transition to remote learning has further revealed inequities in access for students in poverty, students of color, students where English is a second language, and students with disabilities.

A critical step in addressing these learning gaps is to have reliable and actionable student achievement data to inform strategy from the district leadership level to the teacher level. To that end, Certica provides the following educational offerings to assist districts in assessing learning gaps and making instructional decisions that will improve student achievement and incrementally address learning gaps as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

I. **Learning Gap Assessment and Learning Gap Analysis Professional Development**

    The Learning Gap Assessment is a comprehensive, standards-aligned assessment that will provide teachers with student data that is disaggregated by learning standard and depth of knowledge (DOK). The assessment is based on the state assessment blueprint. The associated Learning Gap Analysis Professional Development for both leaders and teachers provides actionable, data-driven strategies with the goal of addressing learning gaps with high-quality remediation and reteaching. The professional development for leaders also focuses on communication strategy for the school community and strategies for how to use the daily schedule more strategically based upon the data.

II. **Benchmark Assessments**

    The CASE Benchmark Assessments follow states' assessment blueprints and provide measurements that are highly correlated with summative outcomes and are customized to match each district's scope and sequence. The CASE Benchmarks are administered every nine weeks and reflect the standards that students have learned, identifying strengths and learning gaps. Benchmark assessments are critical for continuing to monitor the progress that students are making on areas identified as learning gaps as well as how they are mastering new grade-level content.

III. **Formative Assessments**

    To effectively monitor the closure of learning gaps, teachers will need access to high-quality formative assessment content to measure the effectiveness of interventions that have been implemented. Certica provides high-quality, rigorous formative assessment content that enables teachers to apply targeted interventions and instructional approaches to strengthen student outcomes. Certica provides both the Navigate Item Bank and the CASE Item Bank that collectively offers more than 174,000 test items aligned to state standards in mathematics, English language arts, socials studies, and science, in grades K-12.

IV. **Analytics and Reporting**

    As students transition back into school from remote learning, it is critical that educators have easy access to all data sources that inform daily decisions. Teachers will need data related to social and emotional well-being, attendance, discipline, and student achievement—disaggregated by subgroup—to make informed decisions when developing support for each student. The Videri Analytics application brings together data from across the school and district, in a seamless and scalable manner. It provides teachers and administrators with real-time visual reports, intervention lists and student dashboards. With the Videri application, teachers can identify students in need of assistance, design targeted interventions and spot trends in their classroom.