



Why you can trust NWEA through implementation and beyond

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Thank you for considering MAP Growth

When you work alongside us, you're not a client or customer. You're our partner.

And as our partner, you'll get a system of support designed to help your school or district use our assessment solutions and tools with ease. This eBook is a step-by-step guide to the typical implementation process. Your journey to better outcomes for your students starts right here.

Partnering to help all kids learn®.



Why you can trust NWEA through implementation and beyond

A closer look at our personal, right-sized approach to assessment

Step 1: Before signing on the dotted line...

At NWEA®, implementation begins long before contracts are complete.

Because we're a non-commission-based, mission-driven, not-for-profit organization, success is ensuring all of the students our partners serve have the opportunity to demonstrate what they know. From early conversations and throughout the decision-making process, our account executives ask detailed questions about a prospective partner's technical capabilities, data display needs, and more. These thoughtful discussions help the account executive tailor a long-term plan for implementation and beyond. Starting these conversations early can streamline the process and make implementation even more efficient.

Depending on the size of the school or district, a technical consultant may also be brought in before contracts are complete to begin assessing technical needs and considerations. (See the appendix for a glossary of NWEA roles and responsibilities.)

“Implementation begins long before you sign on the dotted line. We’re success oriented so we bring our best to the table to ensure we ask the right questions to meet the needs of every partner. It’s highly personalized, highly customizable.”

—Mark Kessler, partner accounts training manager, NWEA



Step 2: Begin assessment setup

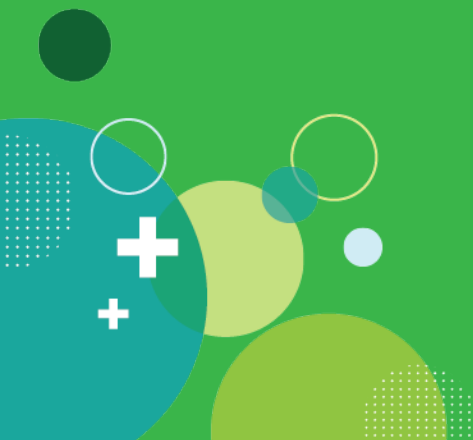
Once the I's are dotted and T's are crossed, the implementation process continues. An implementation support specialist (ISS) is assigned to each new partner. This dedicated team member is available to answer any questions and serve as the primary point of contact at NWEA throughout the first test administration.

The partner also designates a point of contact at the school or district. That staff member or small team receives an introductory email to get registered and set up an account with the online assessment system. Then, the ISS will schedule an onboarding call with the primary contact/s. This is a chance for the partner to ask questions and discuss any new needs or changes.

During this step, technical consultants may work with the partner's point of contact and/or a district's IT department to ensure the devices and network students will use meet system requirements.

“We are here to really partner with them throughout this first season. I always want my partners to feel that they can call me or email me at any time with any kind of question. I am here to support them on what they need.”

—Sarah Alpi, implementation support specialist, NWEA



Step 3: Learn the basics

Getting started with new tools and software can be challenging. That's why partners typically enroll their staff in our [professional learning opportunities](#). These sessions have flexible delivery options—virtual, online, and on-site—to help staff feel confident administering the assessment, accessing reports, and applying data.

Our team of experienced professional learning consultants hold professional teaching certifications and advanced degrees in learning. Many have recently served as educators, from coaches and principals to classroom teachers. They understand your challenges and your passion for helping students reach their full potential.

Professional learning is usually scheduled prior to the first test administration, but partners have the option to continue their training to sustain learning and build a culture of data and growth.

“Working with NWEA has been an amazing experience! We partnered with them to implement MAP® Growth™ and formative assessment practices. They have been with us every step of the way. NWEA professional learning has been customized to meet the learning needs for our teachers, supporting them throughout their journey. Three years later, we are seeing great success. Using our MAP data, the learning continuum, and formative assessment practices, our students are experiencing great growth, closing the achievement gap!”

**—Dr. Lori Stollar, director of curriculum and innovation,
Littlestown Area School District, Littlestown, Pennsylvania**



Step 4: Rostering

Every school or district has a student information system (SIS) that houses all of their data. Within that software are student names and schedules, and a compendium of where students are and who they're with at any given time in the school day.

To administer our assessments, partners need to structure a roster of their students. The point of contact (or another person selected) imports information from the SIS into a spreadsheet template provided by NWEA. Partners can customize and organize the data to display in a manner that best suits their needs.

NWEA also offers a special programs file. Staff like reading coaches, speech pathologists, and talented and gifted coordinators may not have their own class lists in their school's SIS. However, they typically have a caseload of students and may want access to their assessment data to make instructional decisions. The special programs file allows partners to create these lists outside of their SIS.

Some partners, particularly larger schools or districts, may use an [automated rostering tool like Clever](#) to simplify the roster process.

A well-structured roster is the key to unlocking valuable data insights in assessment reports. That's why we work alongside our partners to determine their needs and goals. Whether it's saving time or getting the right data to the right educator, our implementation system of support can help.

“Preparing students to test was as simple as uploading a file, and our district was assigned an extremely helpful implementation specialist who was available to offer assistance every step of the way. The MAP interface is user-friendly, allowing teachers to quickly and efficiently access student test data through their online portal. NWEA’s customer service exceeded our district’s expectations and ensured our seamless transition to utilizing the MAP assessment.”

—Jacob Brown, RTI team leader and dyslexia coordinator, Scranton School District, Scranton, Pennsylvania



Step 5: Completing implementation

A majority of partners complete implementation after their first test administration. However, our personalized approach means flexibility is key. The ISS may determine that staying on for an additional test administration is the best course of action. No matter how long it takes, the implementation process continues until the partner is comfortable rostering their students, administering the assessment, and accessing reports. Throughout the process, the ISS is available for support.

Once implementation is complete, the partner's primary point of contact with NWEA transfers from the ISS to an account manager.

This is implementation done right

At NWEA, we're driven by a commitment to an ambitious mission: Partnering to help all kids learn. It's not just a mantra; it's an obligation present in the work we do each day, including our implementation process.

When implementation is free, personalized, and comprehensive, educators can focus on getting the insights they need to help students make learning gains. That's our goal. And we look forward to partnering with educators just like you to bring that vision to life.

Visit nwea.org to learn more.

What to expect moving forward

We pride ourselves on a comprehensive, personal implementation process. The care and professionalism we offer our partners does not end after the first testing season.

When test administration is complete, partners have access to multiple reports to see student results. Teachers and coaches use these reports to differentiate instruction and pinpoint individual student needs. Higher-level reports give administrators detailed context to drive improvement across schools and systems. If they wish, partners can schedule an in-depth data call with their account manager to ensure they're comfortable accessing reports as well as analyzing and interpreting them.

Account managers will also share new developments in education research and policy from NWEA, work alongside partners to develop their strategic and tactical goals, and more. And on [NWEA Connection](#), partners can talk with fellow educators and NWEA experts to deepen assessment expertise.

APPENDIX: Your NWEA system of support

Account executive

An account executive works primarily with prospective partners looking to improve student outcomes. This person learns the unique needs or concerns of a school or district, and works closely with administrators to develop a plan or strategy to help them achieve their short- and long-term goals with tools and resources from NWEA.

Account manager

Following the first assessment administration, each partner is paired with this contact for ongoing support with their assessment system. Primarily comprised of former educators, account managers provide guidance on critical decisions around assessment best practices and implications at the district, school, and classroom levels.

Implementation support specialist

New partners will be assigned a designated implementation support specialist who will offer customized, targeted support to ensure a successful first testing season. This committed professional will assist with system setup, rostering, test scheduling, and coordinating training.

NWEA Connection

This online community makes it easy to connect with fellow educators and NWEA experts to deepen assessment expertise.

Professional learning consultant

All our consultants are education professionals with extensive experience in classrooms and administration. They deliver workshops virtually and on-site. Additional training is available on our on-demand platform, Professional Learning Online.

Technical consultant

A trusted advisor and subject matter expert on all NWEA products and technical services, this person delivers product trainings and demos, ensures lab readiness, and provides on-site consulting when applicable. Technical consultants work with schools and districts before and after implementation begins.

Technical support team

The technical support team is available to assist partners with technical needs regarding testing, rostering, reports, and system requirements to ensure a successful administration. Offering support via phone, chat, or on the NWEA Connection, this hardworking group knows the ins and outs of every assessment solution—knowledge critical to efficient problem solving and informed decisions when it counts.

	Account executive	Technical consultant	Implementation support specialist	Account manager	Professional learning consultant	Tech support
Before contracts are signed	X	X				
Begin assessment setup		X	X			X
Learn the basics					X	X
Rostering		X	X			X
Completing implementation			X	X		X
Ongoing support after implementation				X	X	X



Partnering to help all kids learn®

Whether you're looking to plan instruction, drive growth, raise state test scores, boost college and career readiness, plan professional learning for teachers, or simply improve outcomes through equitable support for all kids, MAP Growth can help. It's our mission to partner with educators just like you to help all children reach their full potential.

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NWEA is a not-for-profit organization that supports students and educators worldwide by providing assessment solutions, insightful reports, professional learning offerings, and research services. Visit [NWEA.org](https://www.nwea.org) to find out how NWEA can partner with you to help all kids learn.

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