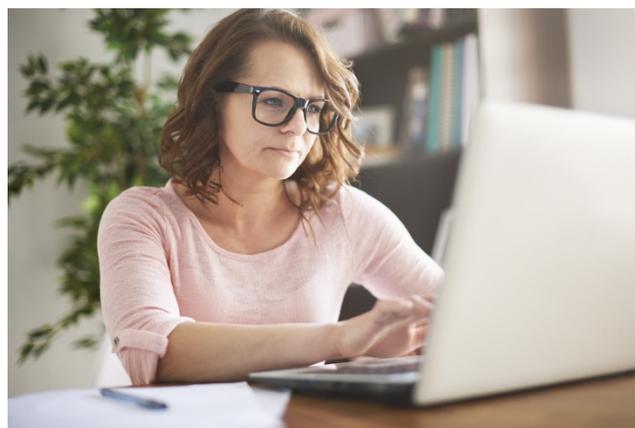


To help educators prepare their students to meet and exceed the rigorous academic expectations and demands of the 21st century, Certica Solutions offers the Formative Assessment Item Bank™, a dynamic, professionally developed Item Bank used for creating custom assessments at the district, building, and classroom levels.

The Formative Assessment Item Bank is a repository of high-quality, standards-based items that are written and/or aligned to educational content standard sets using a rigorous alignment process.

### Item Aligners

Certica works with qualified, trained content experts who have both the necessary education and experience to review items and determine if there is an alignment match. All aligners pass a qualifying test, participate in training, and successfully align several sets of training sample items before they begin aligning items for the Item Bank. All alignment work is routinely checked for accuracy and consistency.



### Item Alignment Considerations

- ✓ **What evidence is required** for a student to demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and skills outlined in the educational content standard?
- ✓ **Would a correct response for this item provide evidence** that a student has achieved mastery of the knowledge and/or skills in the educational content standard?
- ✓ **Would a student use the thinking skills called for in the educational content standard** when answering the item?

### Item Alignment Process

Every item in the Item Bank is written to a specific standard within a specific standards document, and then checked for a possible match to additional standards sets and aligned where appropriate. This work is done using a combination of manual alignments conducted by aligners and alignments selected using a proprietary alignment engine that applies a number of item considerations. This process provides a more consistent and reliable alignment than processes that rely on key words. Inferred alignments go through a number of quality control checks to help ensure the tightest alignments possible. If an item does not align to a standard, the item is not aligned.

Item alignment is an ongoing process; counts may shift as work progresses, and alignments are updated as standard sets change. As a result, the number of items that align to any given standard set will vary. While every effort is made to ensure items are correctly aligned to appropriate standards, Certica recognizes that educators who work with the standards daily are the ultimate authority on alignment. Therefore, Certica permits educators to change existing alignments or add alignments to unaligned items in order to better meet their formative assessment needs. If alignments are modified, the items remain the property of Certica.

Certica Solutions is proud to partner with a large number of education solutions providers to offer our Formative Assessment Item Bank. For a complete list of Item Bank providers within our partner network, please contact us at [PartnerServices@CerticaSolutions.com](mailto:PartnerServices@CerticaSolutions.com).