# What Is Progress Monitoring: A Note-Taking Guide

## Module Overview

This module provides a general introduction to progress monitoring and its role within the data-based individualization (DBI) process.

### Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course, you will be able to do the following:

* Define progress monitoring.
* Understand the role of progress monitoring in the DBI process.

## Using the Note-Taking Guide

As you engage in the module, **take notes on the key themes and answer the summary questions** at the end of each section. After you complete the module, check your reflections against the provided responses at the end of this document.

## Section 1: What Is Progress Monitoring?

This module focuses on defining progress monitoring and differentiating progress monitoring from other types of assessment used within education. It describes the key characteristics of progress monitoring measures, considerations for graphing progress monitoring data, and how progress monitoring fits within the DBI process. Use this space to define key terms, jot down notes, and reflect in ways that best support your learning.

### Notes

| Key themes  | Notes  |
| --- | --- |
| Progress monitoring definition |   |
| Types of assessment |  |
| Progress monitoring versus monitoring progress |  |
| Progress monitoring versus screening |  |
| Key characteristics of progress monitoring measures |  |
| Considerations for graphing progress monitoring data |  |
| Benefits of progress monitoring |  |
| Role of progress monitoring within the DBI process |  |

### Summary Questions

| Question | Response  |
| --- | --- |
| What are the different types of educational assessment and how are they distinct?  |  |
| What type of assessment is progress monitoring? |  |
| What are the key characteristics of a progress monitoring measure?  |  |
| Why is it important to graph progress monitoring data? |  |
| What role does progress monitoring play within the DBI process?  |  |
| Where can you learn more about progress monitoring?  |  |

## Sample Responses

This section presents sample responses to the questions provided after each section. You may use these responses and compare them with your responses.

|  Section | Summary questions |  Sample responses |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Section 1: What Is Progress Monitoring? | What are the different types of educational assessment and how are they distinct?  | * Summative assessments measure what students have learned after instruction is complete.
* Diagnostic assessments evaluate students’ current skills and knowledge to identify strengths, weaknesses, and gaps. They inform instructional planning and intervention selection.
* Formative assessments gauge student learning during instruction to determine how students are responding.
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|  | What type of assessment is progress monitoring? | * Progress monitoring is a type of formative assessment.
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|  | What are the key characteristics of a progress monitoring measure?  | * A progress monitoring measure is brief and easy for teachers to administer repeatedly; is sensitive to change, which means it can pick up on improvements in student skills; meets standards of validity and reliability based on research; and follows standardized administration and scoring procedures.
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|  | Why is it important to graph progress monitoring data? | * Graphing progress monitoring data allows you to visualize the student’s progress over time, set goals, and make data-driven instructional decisions.
* Key features of a progress monitoring graph include a baseline, a goal, a trend line, and a phase line.
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|  | What role does progress monitoring play within the DBI process?  | * It is used in Steps 2 and 5 of the five-step DBI process to determine if and when instructional changes may be needed for a student.
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|  | Where can you learn more about progress monitoring?  | * You can learn more about progress monitoring by going to the Progress Monitoring page on the National Center on Intensive Intervention’s (NCII) website.
* On the NCII website, you can find the Academic and Behavior Tools Charts, the Progress Monitoring Goal-Setting Guide, and other modules on progress monitoring, such as *How Do I Select an Academic Progress Monitoring Measure?* and *Graphing and Analyzing Progress Monitoring Data*.
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This resource was produced under U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, Award No. H326Q210001. Celia Rosenquist serves as the project officer. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the positions or policies of the U.S. Department of Education. No official endorsement by the U.S. Department of Education of any product, commodity, service, or enterprise mentioned in this document is intended or should be inferred.

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