

## Goals and Objectives:

The primary goals of Math Innovation Zones (MIZ) are as follows:

- Increase student achievement in math with a specific focus on improving 8<sup>th</sup> grade Algebra I readiness
- Promote long-term financial sustainability in school districts

## General Description:

Math Innovation Zones is authorized by Section 28.020 of the Texas Education Code as established by Senate Bill 1318 and funded by the General Appropriations Act, Article III, Rider 41, 85th Texas Legislature. MIZ promote Pre-K through 8th grade math achievement by supporting school districts and charter schools in the creation and expansion of high-quality, blended learning programs. Blended learning is an innovative classroom model that leverages technology as a tool for teachers to personalize classroom instruction for all students. When implemented with high fidelity, blended learning has resulted in strong academic gains across many Texas districts.

### Phase 1: Pilot Math Innovation Zones

TEA developed a set of blended learning fidelity of implementation requirements. Once developed, TEA identified pilot Math Innovation Zones across a diverse set of Texas local education agencies (LEAs) to test the effectiveness of the defined requirements. TEA is currently monitoring the pilot program’s planning and execution phases while providing the following supports:

- MIZ State Approved Blended Learning Software Vendor List
- MIZ State Approved Technical Assistance Network
- Outcomes-Based Grants for Achieving Predetermined Benchmarks
- TEA Negotiated Vendor Rates
- MIZ Programmatic Tools and Resources

### Phase 2: Pilot Pay for Success Financing

Once TEA has demonstrated improved outcomes through pilot Math Innovation Zones, it will launch a Pay for Success (PFS) financing model to scale the program. PFS will minimize financial and operational risks, allowing the program to scale across districts and charter schools in Texas. TEA will work closely with a Pay for Success intermediary and a third-party evaluator to ensure this is an effective mechanism for scale.

**Authority:** Texas Education Code (TEC) § 28.020

**Funding:** The General Appropriations Act, Article III, Rider 41, 85th Texas Legislature, 2017

Use of Funds	FY 2018	FY2019
Competitive Grants to School Districts	\$3,550,000	\$3,900,000
Pay for Success Intermediary	\$225,000	
Pay for Success Evaluator	\$225,000	
Blended Learning Evaluator		\$100,000
<b>Total Projected Expenditures for the Biennium:</b>	<b>\$4,000,000</b>	<b>\$4,000,000</b>
<b>Total Allocated Expenditures for the Biennium:</b>		<b>\$8,000,000</b>

**Resources:** [https://tea.texas.gov/Academics/Learning\\_Support\\_and\\_Programs/Math\\_Innovation\\_Zones/](https://tea.texas.gov/Academics/Learning_Support_and_Programs/Math_Innovation_Zones/)

### By the Numbers

#### Phase 1: Pilot Math Innovation Zones

2018-2019: Round 1 Pilot

- Over **9,000** Students Across **14** Districts and Charter Schools Representing Over **285,000** Students; All Planning Grant Participants are Eligible for Outcomes-Based Follow-On Grant
- **5 Pilot Grant Districts and Charters:** *Dallas ISD, KIPP Houston, Mineola ISD, Spring Branch ISD, and Tulia ISD*
- **9 Exploratory Sites (Non-Grant Participants):** *Austin Achieve (Austin); Cisco ISD; Grand Prairie ISD; Laredo ISD; NYOS Charter School (Austin); Point Isabel ISD; Pioneer Technology Arts Academy (Greenville); Southside ISD (San Antonio); and Uplift Education (Fort Worth)*
- **4 State Approved Software Vendors:** *Imagine Math, ST Math, IXL Math, Reasoning Mind*
- **5 State Approved Technical Assistance Vendors:** *Afton Partners, CA Group, Education Elements, Engage2Learn, Clever*

2019-2020: Round 2 Pilot

- **10-15 Grant Recipients in Round 2 Cohort:** new set of grantees identified to launch MIZ
- **14 Round 1 grantees expand program to new grades,** doubling the number of students receiving benefits

#### Phase 2: Pilot Pay for Success Model

2020 – 2021: Round 3 Pilot

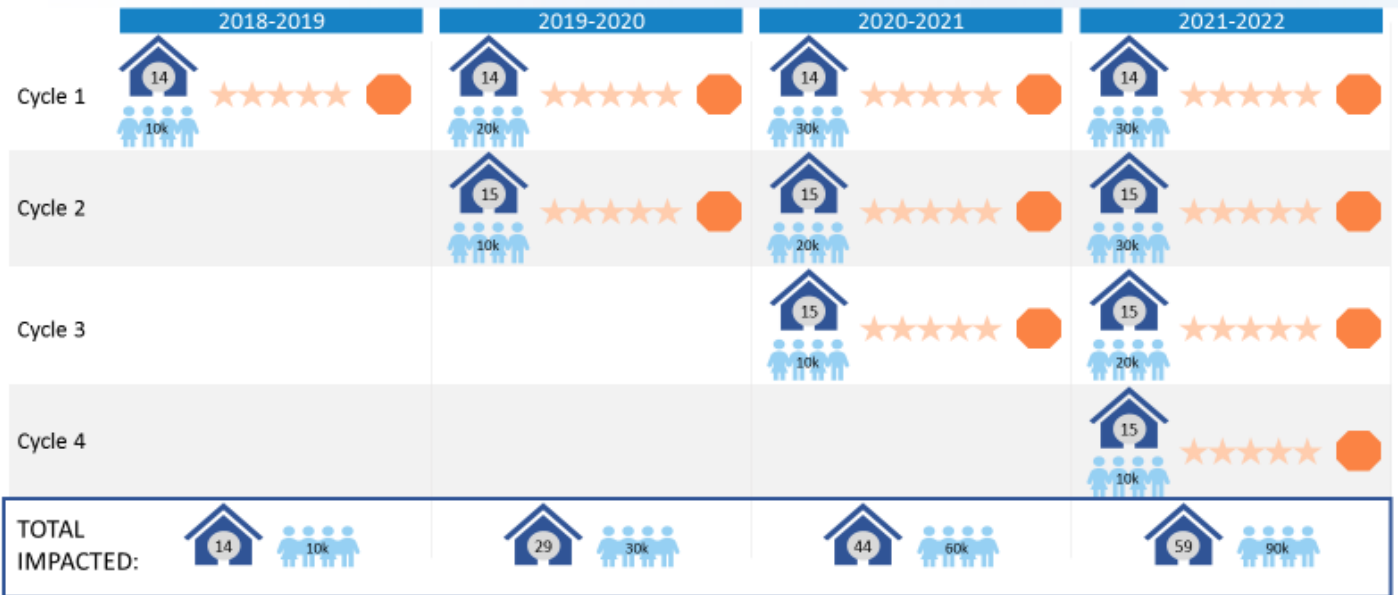
- **10-15 Districts Pilot Pay for Success Model:** Subset of grantees test new financing mechanism to decrease barriers to scale
- **25-30 existing grantees scale program to new grades**
- **10-15 grant recipients in Round 3 cohort**



## Math Innovation Zones: Outcomes and Scale

**Key**

- # Districts & Charters
- Fidelity of Execution Check
- # Students
- Summative Assessment



Within four years, MIZ will be impacting 90k students through a financially sustainable program proven to increase math achievement results at scale.



## Evidence of Improved Outcomes with Blended Learning

**Imagine Math**  
Formerly Think Through Math



Advanced statistical modeling shows students in Grades 3-8 who attempted 20 or more Imagine Math lessons had statistically significant higher STAAR-Mathematics scores than non-users

975k

**IXL Math**



The percent of students that met or mastered grade level on STAAR increased nearly 7 percent more than the state average with at least 30 minutes of usage per week

377k

**Reasoning Mind**

Recently acquired by Imagine Learning



Reasoning Mind students had a higher percent increase on STAAR (almost 7%) from 2014 to 2015 on STAAR, while the statewide increase was only 1% in Grades 3-5

92k

**ST Math**



In the 2016-2017 academic year, schools using ST Math in Texas outgrew similar schools in a statewide rank increase of 9.1 percentile points as defined by performance on the STAAR

95k

### Evidence of Impact on Student Achievement in Texas

Texas Students Served:

Blended Learning Evidence of Impact:

Click icon to access study

