

## How to Determine if a Test is a Screening or Diagnostic Assessment

| <b>Feature</b>                      | <b>Screening</b>  | <b>Diagnostic</b>  |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>What is the purpose?</b>         | To find out who is at risk  | To determine exact next step for instruction                   |
| <b>Relationship to instruction?</b> | An indicator of the essential priorities for instruction  | An in-depth assessment that targets next steps for instruction |
| <b>Who is it given to?</b>          | All students  | Small number of students for instructional planning            |
| <b>When is it given?</b>            | Three times a year  | Once   |
| <b>How long does it take?</b>       | A few minutes   | 15 minutes or more   |
| <b>Is it standardized?</b>          | Yes   | Not necessarily  |
| <b>Is there a benchmark goal?</b>   | Yes. There must be a cut point below which students are not predicted to be OK in the future unless they get support. | No   |