

[Intensive Algebra I](#) is a research-based course designed to support students who persistently struggle in math with passing Algebra I in their first year of high school. Since the original pilot in 2018, students taking Intensive Algebra I continue to show significantly more growth than similar students in traditional Algebra I.

Course Overview

The Intensive Algebra I course combines a high-quality Algebra I curriculum with aligned, prerequisite content. The scope-and-sequence provides students with daily prerequisite support “just in time” for the knowledge to be built upon in Algebra I.

Enrolling Students

Students who scored unsatisfactory, approaching basic, or low basic on the Grade 8 LEAP 2025 should be scheduled into Intensive Algebra I. We encourage all students classified as T9 for math scores to be scheduled into the course to replace the remedial math requirement in their first year of high school.

Due to school closures in the 2019-2020 school year, schools should use a combination of data sources to determine which students to schedule into Intensive Algebra I. Potential data sources include previous math LEAP 2025 scores, LEAP 360 assessment results, curriculum-embedded assessment results, course grades, IEP goals, and attendance records.

Scheduling

Intensive Algebra I requires students engage in **at least 90 minutes of math instruction each day throughout the school year**. Students should be scheduled into two math courses during their first year of high school, an intensive support course and Algebra I. School systems have approached scheduling in many ways to ensure students have the daily instructional minutes needed for success.

Course Recommendations

Course	Course Code Options
Intensive support course options	Math Essentials, Technical Math, or Intensive Supports for Algebra I Other Option: Daily RTI time
Algebra I	Algebra I

School Schedule Recommendations

School Schedule	Recommended Course Scheduling
4x4 Block	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intensive support course scheduled in the first semester. Algebra I scheduled in the second semester. <p>Students will engage in both prerequisite and grade-level learning each day through the Intensive Algebra I curriculum.</p>
A/B Block	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intensive support course scheduled on the A day. Algebra I scheduled on the B day.
7-8 Periods Daily	Both courses are scheduled throughout the year.
Daily RTI Block	Daily RTI time can be used to support students in the prerequisite content using an Intensive Algebra I curriculum.

Teacher Support

Intensive Algebra I can be taught by the same teacher or by two teachers throughout the school year. If students will be working with different teachers for the intensive support course and Algebra I, the teachers must have structured time for collaborative planning to address student needs.

Selecting a Curriculum

Currently, [Agile Mind](#), [Illustrative Mathematics](#), and [Springboard](#) offer Intensive Algebra I courses with aligned, prerequisite lessons to support the Algebra I curriculum. Additionally, a combination of the Eureka Remediation Tools and the Eureka Algebra I curriculum can be used to develop an Intensive Algebra I course. Professional development opportunities can be found in the [Academic Content PD Vendor Guide](#).

Questions?

If you have any questions regarding the Intensive Algebra I course, please contact ClassroomSupportToolbox@la.gov.