



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Wireless Generation to Serve as Subcontractor
on Institute of Education Sciences-Funded Study
of K-3 Formative Mathematics Assessment**

**Company Joins Teachers College, Columbia University and
University of Missouri–Columbia in Advancing Development of Assessments for
Learning**

Brooklyn, NY (September 4, 2007) The U.S. Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences (IES) has awarded a \$1.5 million total grant to Teachers College, Columbia University, and its subcontractors Wireless Generation and the University of Missouri–Columbia. The grant, extended over 4 years, will support longitudinal research on the validity and reliability of mCLASS®:Math, a K-3 mathematics formative assessment.

The studies will advance the development of mathematics assessments that enable teachers to use data on student learning to inform their daily or weekly instruction. Using mCLASS:Math, teachers can frequently monitor the progress of students toward mastery of foundational mathematics skills, identify students at risk, conduct diagnostic interviews that reveal student thinking and problem-solving strategies, and receive instructional recommendations. Based upon cognitive research findings, the assessment has been co-developed by Professor Herbert Ginsburg of Teachers College, Columbia University, and Wireless Generation, an education company known for mobile- and Web-based assessment and reporting tools, as well as in-person professional development, to help school systems improve teaching and learning. Wireless Generation's mCLASS technology enables teachers to give the mCLASS:Math assessment efficiently and accurately using a handheld computer, and makes the resulting data immediately available and useful in instructional decision-making.

The consortium of researchers who will conduct the IES-funded studies are Dr. Herbert Ginsburg, the Jacob H. Schiff Professor of Psychology and Education at Teachers College, Columbia University; Dr. Young-Sun Lee, Assistant Professor in the program of Measurement, Statistics & Evaluation in the Department of Human Development at Teachers College, Columbia University; and Dr. Erica Lembke, Assistant Professor in the Department of Special Education at the University of Missouri–Columbia and a trainer for the National Institute on Progress Monitoring. The research will take place in multiple school districts across the country.

“Unlike reading teachers, math educators currently lack an integrated, practical assessment system for monitoring young students’ math learning, understanding their cognitive processes, and using data to inform classroom instruction. We are pleased that IES has placed the development of such assessments among its priorities,” said Margaret Honey, Ph.D., Senior Vice President of Research at Wireless Generation. “There is widespread concern about U.S. children’s math performance. But we can turn the tide by starting in the early school years, and giving teachers the tools and insights into students’ learning needed to deliver high quality, effective instruction.”

The grant is funded pursuant to the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 Title I of P.L. 107-279. The IES is the research, evaluation, and statistical arm of the U.S. Department of Education.

About Wireless Generation

Wireless Generation pioneered the adaptation of mobile technologies, including handheld computers and digital pens, for use in managing and improving teaching and learning in grades pre-K-12. The company’s commitment to listening to educators and gaining a deep understanding of their challenges has led to the development of offerings that optimally combine mobile tools, Internet technology, and in-person services to help improve student achievement in reading and math. Wireless Generation’s mCLASS® products and services streamline collection of data about student learning needs and school operations, facilitate data analysis and interpretation, and build educators’ capacity to implement data-driven instructional programs that deliver better outcomes for children. State and district school systems across the country and overseas now rely upon these offerings to achieve and sustain growth in their classrooms. More information is available on the Web at www.wirelessgeneration.com.