



# alma™

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is Alma?

Alma is a new approach to student information and learning management. Alma modernizes the core information infrastructure for K-12 schools and districts: SIS, LMS, Communications, Student Analytics, and Data Visualization. Alma was designed to provide visibility to meaningful and understandable student and school-wide information while easing the transition to 21st century instructional practices. At the same time, the platform simplifies and streamlines workflow and communication for educators, enabling them to save valuable time on administrative tasks so they can spend more time doing what they love: teaching our kids and improving classroom performance.

### Who uses Alma?

From large districts to small independent learning communities, schools across the world are adopting Alma to improve operational efficiency, manage school operations smoothly and efficiently, enhance the school-home connection, and analyze critical school and student data for more informed decision-making — all from one centralized, secure location. For teachers, Alma provides a holistic view of student performance and helps automate everyday tasks, reducing busywork so they can focus more time on teaching. Alma also offers dashboards that allow parents and students to view important school information and monitor academic and behavioral progress.

### What are the benefits of Alma?

Alma helps schools improve operational efficiency and student outcomes by streamlining mission-critical systems into one modern solution. Not only does Alma improve visibility into student and school-wide data, but the platform allows schools to transition to progressive educational practices at their own pace, all while saving educators time and energy better used in the classroom.

continued



## What features are currently available and what do you plan to offer soon?

Alma provides core school and classroom management functionality. The set of features that are available for the 2016-2017 school year are:

- Role-based interface for administrators, teachers, parents, and students
- Student Information System
- Standards tracking, curriculum mapping, and lesson planning
- Traditional, proficiency, and standards-based gradebook
- Attendance
- Integrated messaging
- Reporting
- School calendar
- Critical medical alerts
- Google Classroom sync
- Customizable report cards
- Assessment tracking
- Fees
- Transcripts
- Incident tracking
- District portal
- State reporting

Alma was founded on a core belief in user-centric design and continuous improvement. Our products are never “done.” All of the company’s products are based on intensive research at the school level, and are constantly seeking ways to improve and expand its offering to help cut down on educators’ busywork and free up time and resources that can be better spent on student learning. Our suite of features continues to grow with a new tool added every 1-2 months on average.

## What does Alma provide that other solutions don’t?

Alma combines the reliable, high-quality technology tools educators demand with a user experience they deserve. Alma brings a unique combination of advantages: we offer a clean and easy-to-use interface for a wide breadth of tools at an affordable price. Unlike many other SIS



### What does Alma provide that other solutions don't? (continued)

...and LMS solutions on the market, Alma was built from the ground up as a cloud-based, integrated system, which enables easier set up, more flexibility, better interoperability, and lower costs. Furthermore, Alma was built with both traditional and progressive educational practices, which allow schools and districts to roll out new initiatives as they see fit.

### How does Alma's setup and training work?

As a cloud-based system with simple-to-use interface, Alma is designed to streamline the setup process and get schools up and running quickly. Following setup, Alma works closely with its school partners to provide training and support that meets every school's budget. Alma offers optional setup and paid support services for schools that prefer not to handle setup themselves or need greater hands-on support.

### How do you secure student data and ensure privacy?

Alma takes exhaustive measures to ensure data security and student privacy. Because Alma is a permission-based system, users see only the information they are permitted to access. Alma also uses security protocols including SSL encryption and double firewalls to prevent unauthorized access to sensitive school and student information. Alma is fully compliant with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and has signed the national Student Privacy Pledge.