

Adult Basic Education (ABE)/Adult Secondary Education (ASE) Required Testing

The ICCB Adult Education approved tests to measure ABE/ASE or High School Credit (HSCR) customer progress are the TABE 11&12 (Test for Adult Basic Education) and the CASAS GOALS (Greater Opportunities for Adult Learning Success). TABE-R (Reading) or CASAS Reading GOALS and TABE-M (Math) or CASAS Math GOALS 2 are the assessments that can be used. The allowed TABE assessments come in forms 11 and 12, and the allowed CASAS GOALS forms come in A, B, C, and D (and also E for Math 2).

It is required that programs use the Locator test or Appraisal to ensure that the customer is placed in the appropriate level for pre-testing. The difficulty level of the assessment instrument administered should match the proficiency of the customer to ensure valid scores. Generally, the same difficulty level of the assessment instrument is used to pre- and post-test a customer. Follow the test publisher materials (TABE Scoring Guides and CASAS Test Administration Manuals) for details.

TABE 11&12 Form L is designed for the lowest-level readers and is intended for native English speakers. If a customer lacks the literacy skills to be assessed with the TABE 11&12 Locator, the Word List can be administered first. It is a predictor of customer's ability to complete the Locator. Results of the Word List diagnostic will determine whether to proceed with the Form L or with the Locator. Form L is a proctored test on a consumable form. It cannot be given as a computer-based test.

For trainings that offer courses that cover a variety of subjects, the program may find it appropriate to assess customers with the TABE-Math (Computation and Applied Mathematics sections) or the CASAS GOALS Math 2. Programs should consider the primary focus of the training program in determining whether to administer and report a math assessment for placement.

Post-testing to measure progress must be done within the guidelines established by test publishers.

Summary of ABE, ASE and HSCR Testing and National Reporting System for Adult Education (NRS) Levels

NRS Levels	TABE 11&12 Scale Score	CASAS GOALS Scale Score	Grade Level
Beginning Literacy ABE Level 1	Reading - 300-441 Math - 300-448	Reading - 203 and below Math 2 – 193 and below	K-1
Beginning Basic ABE Level 2	Reading - 442-500 Math - 449-495	Reading - 204-216 Math 2 – 194-203	2-3
Low Intermediate ABE ABE Level 3	Reading - 501-535 Math - 496-536	Reading – 217-227 Math2 – 204-214	4-5
High Intermediate ABE ABE Level 4	Reading - 536-575 Math - 537-595	Reading – 228-238 Math 2 – 215-225	6-8
Low Advanced ASE ABE Level 5	Reading - 576-616 Math - 596-656	Reading – 239-248 Math 2 – 226-235	9-10
High Advanced ASE ABE Level 6	Reading - 617+ Math - 657+	Reading – 249+ Math 2 – 236+	11-12