

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 GOALS Reading and TABE-M (Math) or CASAS GOALS Math are the two 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.

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. The same difficulty level of the assessment instrument must be used to pre- and post-test a customer except when the customer pre-tests near the top of the range, has made extraordinary progress in class, or retakes the Locator and scores at a higher level.

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 training 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. 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	Grade Level
Beginning Literacy ABE Level 1	Reading 300-441 Math 300-448	0.0 - 1.9
Beginning Basic ABE Level 2	Reading 442-500 Math 449-495	2.0 - 3.9
Low Intermediate ABE ABE Level 3	Reading 501-535 Math 496-536	4.0 - 5.9
High Intermediate ABE ABE Level 4	Reading 536-575 Math 537-595	6.0 - 8.9
Low Advanced ASE ABE Level 5	Reading 576-616 Math 596-656	9.0 - 10.9
High Advanced ASE ABE Level 6	Reading 617+ Math 657+	11.0 - 12.9