



National Reporting System
for Adult Education

A Project of the U.S. Department of Education

NRS Test Benchmarks for Educational Functioning Levels

Updated March 2014

Adult Basic Education

Please refer to the attached Federal Register notice for a list of NRS approved tests and test forms.

Educational Functioning Level	Test Benchmarks
Beginning ABE Literacy	TABE¹ (9–10) scale scores (grade level 0–1.9): Reading: 367 and below Total Math: 313 and below Language: 389 and below CASAS² scale scores: Reading: 200 and below Math: 200 and below Writing: 200 and below Wonderlic GAIN³ scale scores: English: 200-406 Math: 200-314
Beginning Basic Education	TABE (9–10) scale scores (grade level 2–3.9): Reading: 368–460 Total Math: 314–441 Language: 390–490 CASAS scale scores: Reading: 201–210 Math: 201–210 Writing: 201–225 Wonderlic GAIN scale scores: English: 407-525 Math: 315-522 MAPT⁴ scale scores: All tests: 200-299

¹ TABE = Tests of Adult Basic Education

² CASAS = Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment System

³ GAIN = General Assessment of Instructional Needs

⁴ MAPT = Massachusetts Adult Proficiency Test

NRS Test Benchmarks for Educational Functioning Levels
 Updated March 2014

Educational Functioning Level	Test Benchmarks
<p align="center">Low Intermediate Basic Education</p>	<p>TABE (9–10) scale scores (grade level 4–5.9): Reading: 461–517 Total Math: 442–505 Language: 491–523</p> <p>CASAS scale scores: Reading: 211–220 Math: 211–220 Writing: 226–242</p> <p>Wonderlic GAIN scale scores: English: 526-661 Math: 523-669</p> <p>MAPT scale scores: All tests: 300-399</p>
<p align="center">High Intermediate Basic Education</p>	<p>TABE (9–10) scale scores (grade level 6–8.9): Reading: 518–566 Total Math: 506–565 Language: 524–559</p> <p>CASAS scale scores: Reading: 221–235 Math: 221–235 Writing: 243–260</p> <p>WorkKeys scale scores: Reading for Information: 75–78 Applied Mathematics: 75–77</p> <p>Wonderlic GAIN scale scores: English: 662-746 Math: 670-775</p> <p>MAPT scale scores: All tests: 400-499</p>

NRS Test Benchmarks for Educational Functioning Levels
 Updated March 2014

Educational Functioning Level	Test Benchmarks
<p>Low Adult Secondary Education</p>	<p>TABE (9–10): scale scores (grade level 9–10.9): Reading: 567–595 Total Math: 566–594 Language: 560–585</p> <p>CASAS scale scores: Reading: 236–245 Math: 236–245 Writing: 261–270</p> <p>WorkKeys scale scores: Reading for Information: 79–81 Applied Mathematics: 78–81</p> <p>Wonderlic GAIN scale scores: English: 747-870 Math: 776-854</p> <p>MAPT scale scores: All tests: 500-599</p>
<p>High Adult Secondary Education</p>	<p>TABE (9–10): scale scores (grade level 11–12): Reading: 596 and above Total Math: 595 and above Language: 586 and above</p> <p>CASAS scale scores: Reading: 246 and above Math: 246 and above Writing: 271 and above</p> <p>WorkKeys scale scores: Reading for Information: 82–90 Applied Mathematics: 82–90</p> <p>Wonderlic GAIN scale scores: English: 871-1000 Math: 855-1000</p> <p>MAPT scale scores: All tests: 600-700</p>

NRS Test Benchmarks for Educational Functioning Levels
Updated March 2014

English as a Second Language

Please refer to the attached Federal Register notice for a list of NRS approved tests and test forms.

Educational Functioning Level	Test Benchmarks
<p align="center">Beginning ESL Literacy</p>	<p>CASAS scale scores: Reading: 180 and below L&W Listening: 162-180</p> <p>BEST⁵ Plus: 400 and below (SPL 0–1) BEST Literacy: 0–20 (SPL 0–1)</p> <p>TABE CLAS-E⁶ scale scores⁷: Total Reading and Writing: 225-394 Total Listening and Speaking: 230-407</p>
<p align="center">Low Beginning ESL</p>	<p>CASAS scale scores: Reading: 181–190 L&W Listening: 181–189 Writing: 136–145</p> <p>BEST Plus: 401–417 (SPL 2) BEST Literacy: 21-52 (SPL 2)</p> <p>TABE CLAS-E scale scores: Total Reading and Writing: 395-441 Total Listening and Speaking: 408-449</p>
<p align="center">High Beginning ESL</p>	<p>CASAS scale scores: Reading: 191–200 L&W Listening: 190–199 Writing: 146–200</p> <p>BEST Plus: 418–438 (SPL 3) BEST Literacy: 53–63 (SPL 3)</p> <p>TABE CLAS-E scale scores: Total Reading and Writing: 442-482 Total Listening and Speaking: 450-485</p>

⁵ BEST = Basic English Skills Test

⁶ TABE CLAS–E = Test of Adult Basic Education Complete Language Assessment System – English

⁷ Refer to the TABE CLAS–E Technical Manual for score ranges for individual reading, writing, listening and speaking tests. Table shows only total scores.

NRS Test Benchmarks for Educational Functioning Levels
Updated March 2014

Educational Functioning Level	Test Benchmarks
<p style="text-align: center;">Low Intermediate ESL</p>	<p>CASAS scale scores: Reading: 201–210 L&W Listening: 200–209 Writing: 201–225</p> <p>BEST Plus: 439–472 (SPL 4) BEST Literacy: 64– 67 (SPL 4)</p> <p>TABE CLAS-E scale scores: Total Reading and Writing: 483-514 Total Listening and Speaking: 486-525</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">High Intermediate ESL</p>	<p>CASAS scale scores: Reading: 211–220 L&W Listening: 210–218 Writing: 226–242</p> <p>BEST Plus: 473–506 (SPL 5) BEST Literacy: 68-75 (SPL 5)</p> <p>TABE CLAS-E scale scores: Total Reading and Writing: 515-556 Total Listening and Speaking: 526-558</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Advanced ESL</p>	<p>CASAS scale scores: Reading: 221–235 L&W Listening: 219–227 Writing: 243–260</p> <p>BEST Plus: 507–540 (SPL 6) BEST Literacy⁸: 76-78 (SPL 6)</p> <p>TABE CLAS-E scale scores: Total Reading and Writing: 557-600 Total Listening and Speaking: 559-600</p>

⁸ Students can be placed into advanced ESL using Best Literacy but the test does not assess skills beyond this level so students cannot exit Advanced ESL with this test. Retesting of students who enter this level with another assessment is recommended.

NRS Test Benchmarks for Educational Functioning Levels
Updated March 2014