



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF

EDUCATION

**OSSE GUIDANCE LETTER (OGL) - ADULT AND FAMILY EDUCATION (OGL-AFE 1 – 19 Revised)
with Updated CASAS Correlation Charts**

DATE: June 4, 2019

TO: OSSE Adult and Family Education Sub-grantees,
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Core Partners, and
Other DC Agencies and Providers
Implementing the Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems (CASAS)

FROM: J. Michelle Johnson, State Director, OSSE Adult and Family Education

RE: CASAS New and Expiring Assessments – Guidance for CASAS Administration – UPDATE

The DC Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Adult and Family Education (OSSE AFE) announces a change in the approved Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems (CASAS) tests that DC providers and partners can use to assess and measure the performance and progress of adult students in OSSE AFE-funded programs or at partner agencies.

The CASAS assessments noted below in Chart 1 will expire for Adult Basic Education (ABE)/Adult Secondary Education (ASE) on June 30, 2019. Therefore, effective immediately and/or no later than July 1, 2019, OSSE AFE-funded programs and partner agencies who administer assessments for placement and/or educational purposes to ABE/ASE and English as a Second Language (ESL) students must use the approved CASAS paper tests or computer eTests noted in Chart 2 - National Reporting System (NRS) Approved CASAS Assessments. These tests have been determined to be suitable for use in the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) National Reporting System (NRS) for Adult Basic Education and English Language Learners.

OSSE AFE-funded providers must pre- and post-test students using the same series; only validity matched pairs of assessments within the same CASAS series are allowable for reporting student gains. Therefore, please ensure that students who have been pre-tested using one of the tests listed in Chart 1 are post-tested with the same series before June 30, 2019. For example, a student who has been administered a CASAS Life and Work Reading pre-test and/or a Life Skills Math pre-test must be administered a CASAS Life and Work Reading post-test and/or a Life Skills Math post-test before June 30, 2019. Agencies may not administer the new CASAS GOALS Reading and Math Series listed below in Chart 2 as a post-test for students who have been pre-tested with one of the expiring series noted in Chart 1.

For OSSE AFE-funded providers, the approved assessments become available on June 3, 2019. For WIOA Core Partners and other DC agencies and providers that use CASAS eTests in the DC State Container, the approved assessments become available on July 1, 2019.

For your convenience, OSSE Adult and Family Education, in collaboration with CASAS, has prepared new testing sessions with the approved assessments. The new testing sessions titled “OSSE ABE” in CASAS eTests uses the GOALS Reading and Math series for Adult Basic Education students. The new testing sessions titled “OSSE ESL” in CASAS eTests uses the Life and Work Reading Series, Life and Work Listening, and GOALS Math Series, as appropriate, for English Language Learners. Additional information about the National Reporting System (NRS) Levels, CASAS Scale Score Ranges and Grade Level Equivalents (GLEs) is noted below in Chart 3 - CASAS Correlation Charts.

CHART 1: EXPIRING CASAS ASSESSMENTS (PAPER TESTS AND COMPUTER eTESTS)
CASAS Assessments with National Reporting System (NRS) Approval for Adult Basic Education (ABE) and Adult Secondary Education (ASE) Students
<p><u>CASAS Reading Assessments</u> (Expire on June 30, 2019)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CASAS Beginning Literacy Reading Assessments: Forms 27 and 28. • CASAS Life and Work Reading Assessments: Forms 81, 82, 81X, 82X, 83, 84, 85, 86, 185, 186, 187 and 188. • CASAS Secondary Level Reading for Language Arts Assessments: Forms 513 and 514. • CASAS Reading for Citizenship Assessments: Forms 951, 951X - 952, and 952X. • CASAS Reading for Developmental Disabilities Assessments: Forms 310 and 311.
<p><u>CASAS Math Assessments</u> (Expire on June 30, 2019)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CASAS Life Skills Math Assessments: Forms 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37 and 38. • CASAS Secondary Level Mathematics Assessments: Forms 505 and 506.
CASAS users are advised to shred all paper-based copies of expiring assessments.

CHART 2: NATIONAL REPORTING SYSTEM (NRS) APPROVED CASAS ASSESSMENTS

Please note that appraisals do not require approval for the National Reporting System. An appraisal is administered solely to determine “placement” into the appropriate pre-test level and form. Only pre-tests and post-tests, which must be approved for the National Reporting System, may be used to measure student performance, progress and outcomes.

CASAS Assessments with NRS Approval

for Adult Basic Education (ABE) and Adult Secondary Education (ASE) Students

Reading GOALS – (NRS Approved for ABE/ASE through February 5, 2025)

	Reading (Paper Tests)	Reading (Computer - eTests)	Math (Paper Tests)	Math (Computer - eTests)	Listening (Paper Tests)	Listening (Computer - eTests)
Appraisal	900R	900R				
Level A	901R, 902R	901R, 902R				
Level B	903R, 904R	903R, 904R				
Level C	905R, 906R	905R, 906R				
Level D	907R, 908R	907R, 908R				

The Reading GOALS (Greater Opportunities for Adult Learning Success) series is aligned with the College and Career Readiness (CCR) Standards for Adult Education. Test items in the Reading GOALS series rely on complex texts and assess vocabulary and higher order thinking skills (Depth of Knowledge), including the citation of evidence, making inferences, drawing conclusions, and analyzing claims.

Special note: For CASAS eTests, a student may be administered the fixed form Reading GOALS locator instead of an appraisal.

Math GOALS – (NRS Approved for ABE/ASE through March 7, 2022)

	Reading (Paper Tests)	Reading (Computer - eTests)	Math (Paper Tests)	Math (Computer - eTests)	Listening (Paper Tests)	Listening (Computer - eTests)
Appraisal			900M	900M		
Level A/B			913M, 914M	913M, 914M		
Level C/D			917M, 918M	917M, 918M		

Math GOALS (Greater Opportunities for Adult Learning Success) series is aligned with the College and Career Readiness (CCR) Standards for Adult Education. Test items in the Math GOALS series focus on situational scenarios, inclusive of word problems, that reflect real-world applications and traditional academic contexts that require simple to advanced calculations. Formulae are provided within the test item so that the assessments focus on math concepts and skills rather than memorization. Basic calculators are provided by the testing site for paper tests and within the online system for eTests.

Special note: For CASAS eTests, a student may be administered the fixed form Math GOALS locator instead of an appraisal.

CHART 2: NATIONAL REPORTING SYSTEM (NRS) APPROVED CASAS ASSESSMENTS (Continued)

Please note that appraisals do not require approval for the National Reporting System. An appraisal is administered solely to determine “placement” into the appropriate pre-test level and form. Only pre-tests and post-tests, which must be approved for the National Reporting System, may be used to measure student performance, progress and outcomes.

CASAS Assessments with NRS Approval for English as a Second Language (ESL)/English Language Learners (ELL)

Beginning Literacy Reading Assessments – (NRS Approved for ESL through Feb. 2, 2021)

	Reading (Paper Tests)	Reading (Computer - eTests)	Math (Paper Tests)	Math (Computer - eTests)	Listening (Paper Tests)	Listening (Computer - eTests)
Pre-Level A	27R, 28R	27R, 28R				

Beginning Literacy Reading Assessments may be administered to ESL/ELL students with very limited literacy skills. These assessments are available in a computer-delivered format as CASAS eTests or as paper tests.

Life and Work Reading and Listening Assessments – (NRS Approved for English as a Second Language (ESL)/English Language Learners (ELL) through Feb. 2, 2021)

	Reading (Paper Tests)	Reading (Computer - eTests)	Math (Paper Tests)	Math (Computer - eTests)	Listening (Paper Tests)	Listening (Computer - eTests)
Appraisal	80R	80R			80L	80L
Level A	81R, 82R,	81R, 82R,			981L, 982L	981L, 982L
Extended Range*	81RX, 82RX	81RX, 82RX				
Level B	83R, 84R	83R, 84R			983L, 984L	983L, 984L
Level C	85R, 86R, 185R, 186R	85R, 86R, 185R, 186R			985L, 986L	985L, 986L
Level D	187R, 188R	187R, 188R				

The Life and Work Reading Appraisal is appropriate for ESL/ELL populations and assesses through the ASE level. The Life and Work Listening Appraisal is appropriate for ESL/ELL students only and assesses through the Advanced ESL/ELL level. Each test is administered separately. Appraisals are available in a computer-delivered format as CASAS eTests or as paper tests. The Life and Work Reading and Listening series focus on everyday life and workplace reading and listening skills. A Life and Work Appraisal Form 80R or 80L should be administered for placement into the appropriate reading or listening pre-test reading or listening level and form. These assessments are available in a computer-delivered format as CASAS eTests or as paper tests.

Special note: For CASAS eTests, a student may be administered a computer-adaptive locator instead of an appraisal.

*Forms 81RX and 82RX are extended range tests that serve as a “bridge” between Level A and Level B forms.

CASAS CORRELATION CHARTS

National Reporting System (NRS) Levels, CASAS Scale Score Ranges and Grade Level Equivalents (GLEs)

CASAS GOALS Reading Series (Updated July 11, 2019)

NRS Levels	Adult Basic Education (ABE)/ Adult Secondary Education (ASE) Levels	Scale Score Ranges CASAS Reading GOALS Series	Grade Level Equivalents (GLEs)
1	Beginning ABE Literacy	193 and below	K
		194 - 203	1
2	Beginning Basic Education	204 - 210	2
		211 - 216	3
3	Low Intermediate Basic Education	217 - 222	4
		223 - 227	5
4	High Intermediate Basic Education	228 - 230	6
		231 - 234	7
		235-238	8
5	Low Adult Secondary Education	239-243	9
		244 - 248	10
6	High Adult Secondary Education	249 - 253	11
		254 and above	12

CASAS GOALS Math Series (Updated July 11, 2019)

NRS Levels	Adult Basic Education (ABE)/ Adult Secondary Education (ASE) Levels	Scale Score Ranges CASAS Math GOALS Series	Grade Level Equivalents (GLEs)
1	Beginning ABE Literacy	184 and below	K
		185 - 193	1
2	Beginning Basic Education	194 - 198	2
		199 - 203	3
3	Low Intermediate Basic Education	204 - 209	4
		210 - 214	5
4	Middle Intermediate Basic Education	215 - 221	6
		222 - 225	7
5	High Intermediate Basic Education	226 - 228	7
		229 - 235	8
6	Adult Secondary Education	236 - 240	9
		241 - 244	10
		245 - 248	11
		249 and above	12

CASAS Life and Work Reading Series

NRS Levels	English as a Second Language (ESL) Levels	Scale Score Ranges CASAS Life and Work Reading Series	Grade Level Equivalents (GLEs)
1	Beginning ESL Literacy	180 and below	1
2	Low Beginning ESL	181 - 190	1
3	High Beginning ESL	191 - 200	1
4	Low Intermediate ESL	201 - 205	2
		206 - 210	3
5	High Intermediate ESL	211 - 215	4
		216 - 220	5
6	Advanced ESL	221 - 225	6
		226 - 230	7
		231 – 235*	8

*English as a Second Language (ESL) students who score 236 or above on a CASAS Life & Work Reading Appraisal should be administered a CASAS Reading GOALS locator and pre-test.

OSSE Adult and Family Education offers Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems (CASAS) Implementation Training and eTest Coordinator and Proctor Training bi-monthly to providers and partners. A recorded webinar about expiring assessments and approved assessments, including the GOALS Reading and Math series, is being posted on the [OSSE website](#) on the Adult and Family Education webpage that includes information on policies and procedures as well as assessment.

The U.S. Department of Education mandates that adult education programs use only the approved paper tests and computer eTests published in the [Federal Register/Vol. 83, No. 24/Monday, February 5, 2018](#) or [Federal Register/Vol. 84, No. 45/Thursday, March 7, 2019](#). If a particular test form or computer delivery format is not explicitly specified for a test in the Federal Register, it is not approved for use in the National Reporting System (NRS).

The OSSE Adult and Family Education FY 2019-20 DC Assessment Policy for WIOA Providers and Core Partners with revisions to the NRS-approved CASAS Assessments and the CASAS Correlation Chart is posted on the [OSSE website](#).

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