

# CASAS National News and Updates Webinar on Remote Testing

April 22, 2020

## Presenters:

- Linda Taylor – VP Assessment Development
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# Welcome!

## Housekeeping Notes

- Please make sure your **phones and computers are muted**.
- Please **enter your name, state, role and email** in the Chat Box.
- Please **post questions in the Chat Box to “Everyone”**. Include your **name and email** in the post.
  - We will pause periodically to check for Chat Box questions.
  - If CASAS Staff cannot respond during the call, we will respond to you later and post responses on the CASAS website.
- **Recording of the webinar, PPT and Chat Box responses** will all be posted in the News and Updates Webinars section in the “What’s New” section on the CASAS website – [www.casas.org](http://www.casas.org).

# Agenda

- **Welcome**
- **CASAS Remote Testing**
  - Overview
  - Phase 1 – now until end of April
  - Phase 2 – **starting May 4, 2020!**
  - Phase 3 – TBD
- **Questions and Comments from the Field**
- **Next Steps**

# CASAS Remote Testing Overview

# OCTAE Guidance on Remote Testing

- OCTAE’s April 17, 2020 (20-4) memo provides **testing flexibility** to states
- States may “allow local programs to **exempt students** enrolled in distance education programs **from pre- and post-testing** if a local program is unable to conduct testing due to the widespread effect of the COVID-19 pandemic...” (Q2)
- States must specify the time frame for COVID-19-related exemptions and **identify students who are exempted** from testing.
- OCTAE’s March 27, 2020 (20-3) memo, Q7 states that remote testing with NRS-approved tests must **follow test publisher guidelines** regarding:
  - Student identification
  - Test security
  - Remote proctor training

# OCTAE Guidance on Remote Testing

- OCTAE met with all test publishers on April 9, 2020.
- CASAS met with OCTAE on Friday, April 17, 2020.
  - CASAS has permission to roll out remote testing.
  - OCTAE was “quite impressed” with our remote testing plan and timeline!
- CASAS conducted a webinar on Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup> for state directors and state-level staff to inform them about remote testing.

# Remote Testing Benefits

- Provide **continuation of services**
  - **Post-test** to achieve MSGs
  - **Pretest** new students
    - baseline scores for NRS reporting
    - placement information to guide distance learning instruction
- Develop capacity to test distance learners, adding assessment flexibility.
- Remote testing is the wave of the future for distance learning.

# Remote Testing Challenges

- Proctor and student access to technology
  - Appropriate devices (smart phones too small to display test questions)
  - Internet bandwidth – competition with others in household
- Student test environment may lack:
  - Privacy
  - A quiet place to test without distractions
- New procedures to learn and implement with multi-step processes for both proctors and students
- Proctor training
- Test security
- Equity concerns



# CASAS Approach to Remote Testing

- Researched 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendors, AI solutions, video platforms
- Talked to state directors and state-level staff
- Interviewed practitioners familiar with distance learning
- Weighed multiple factors:
  - Cost
  - Technology constraints for both proctors and students
  - Test security
  - Ease of implementation
  - Urgency to start quickly

# CASAS Approach to Remote Testing

## Test Security Measures

- Live proctoring -- initially 1:1
- Recorded test sessions
- Remote testing agreements
  - Agency
  - Proctor
  - Student

## Cost

- Minimal costs using video conferencing with CASAS eTests software
- 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendor solutions (\$15 – 20 per hour) -- TBD

## Delivery

- Existing eTests proctors with additional remote test training
- CASAS remote testing can only be delivered via CASAS eTests, not Paper tests
- If not remote testing following CASAS procedures, **a proctor must be physically present to administer all CASAS tests.**

# CASAS Remote Testing Phases

**Phase 1 Starting April 20<sup>th</sup>**

- **Clinical Tryouts and Initial Pilots**
  - **Zoom 1:1 (one proctor to one test taker)**
  - **For NRS-approved pre- and post-tests**
    - Reading and Math GOALS for ABE/ASE
    - Life and Work Reading for ESL

**Phase 2 Starting May 4<sup>th</sup>**

- **Roll out Zoom 1:1 to other states and agencies**
  - Life and Work Listening
- **Pilot other platforms 1:1 (e.g., GoToMeeting)**
- **Pilot proctoring with more than 1 test taker**

**Phase 3 TBD**

- **Pilot with 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendors**

# CASAS Remote Testing Phase 1

# Phase 1 – Clinical Tryouts and Pilots

- **Starting April 20<sup>th</sup>**
- Zoom 1:1 (one proctor to one test taker)
- For NRS-approved pre- and post-tests
  - Reading and Math GOALS for ABE/ASE
  - Life and Work Reading for ESL

## **“GoRemote!” Prerequisites**

- Have already implemented eTesting
- Meet minimum technical requirements
- Submit CASAS Remote Testing Agency Agreement
- Complete remote proctor training

# Technical Requirements

## Proctor requirements

- Windows 10 (or Mac with Windows 10 capability)
- Webcam
- Microphone and speakers
- Zoom client app with paid Pro level account or higher
- Min. 2 megabits per second (Mbps) download speed

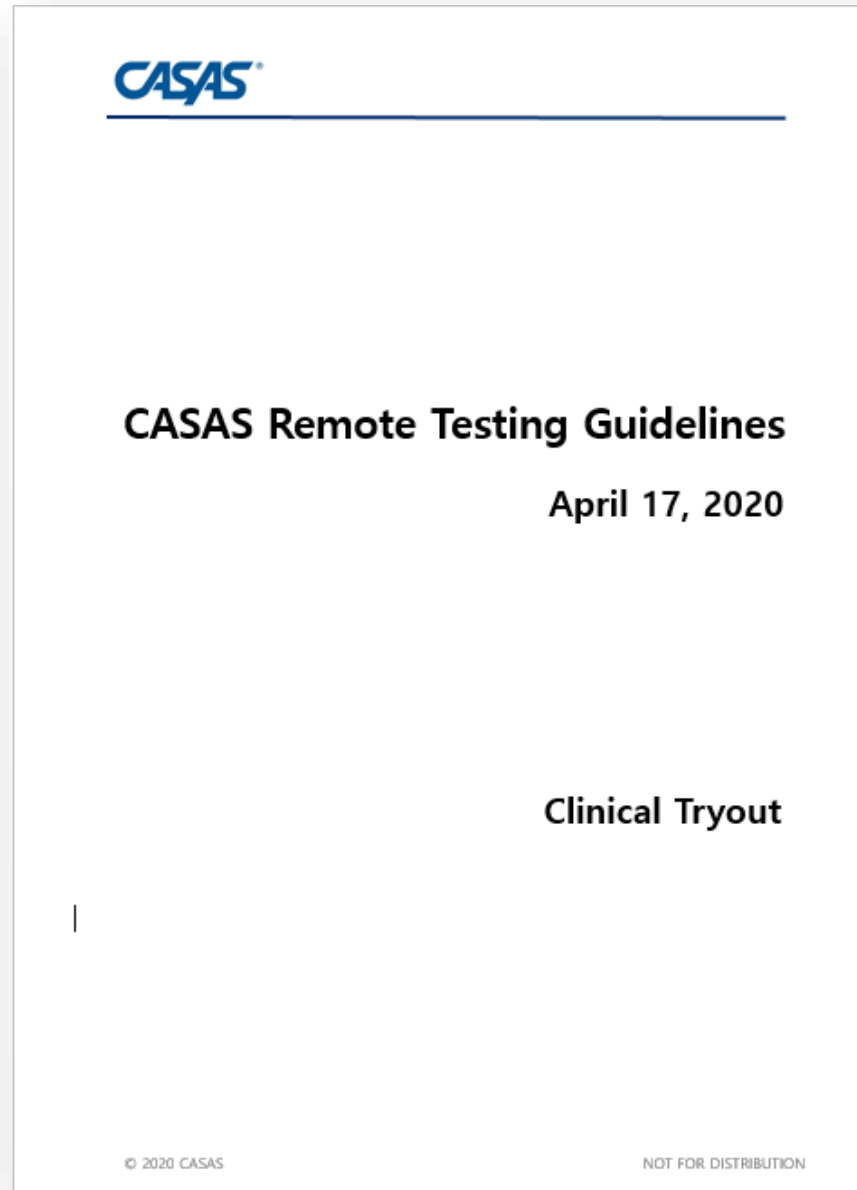
## Test taker requirements

- Windows 10 laptop, desktop, or tablet computer
- Mac desktop or laptop computer
- iPad – minimum 9.7-inch screen, 2048 x 1536 resolution, iOS 11 or higher
- Webcam
- Microphone and speakers
- Zoom client app installed
- Min. 2 megabits per second (Mbps) download speed

# Agency Remote Testing Agreement

- Local agencies must submit this form before starting to do remote testing.
  - One per agency
- Indicate process to verify student identity
- Agree to all privacy, test security, technology, and test administration requirements in the *CASAS Remote Testing Guidelines*.

New!





# Training Tools

- Proctor webinars
- *Remote Testing Guidelines* document
- Short how-to videos
- Remote Testing FAQs
  
- Individual program/proctor mentoring with CASAS Staff “partner” during Phase 1

# Test Preparation and Administration

## Before Testing Day

- Proctor meets before testing day with test taker to confirm technical requirements, go over test procedures, and answer questions to make the test taker comfortable with the process.
- Test taker is informed that the test session will be recorded.

## On Testing Day

- The eTests certified proctor sets test up in eTests as usual on their Windows 10 computer and conducts test 1:1 live via Zoom using remote sharing.
- The test session is recorded.



### Reading Practice Items

- This practice has
- 9 items.

### Directions

Click on your answer.

1. To skip an item, click → before answering.
2. You may review all items when you finish.

Click the → to begin.



# CASAS Remote Testing Phase 2

# Phase 2 -- Rollout

- **Starting May 4<sup>th</sup>**
- **Roll out Zoom 1:1 to states and agencies that were not in the Phase 1 Pilot**
  - Add Life and Work Listening
- **Pilot other platforms 1:1 (e.g., GoToMeeting)**
- **Pilot proctoring with more than 1 test taker**
  - Proctoring more than one test taker at a time is more challenging.
  - Maximum number of test takers at a time TBD – probably not more than 4 or 5.

# CASAS Remote Testing Phase 3

## Phase 3 -- Pilot with 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendors

- CASAS is exploring working with 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendors.
- More options will continue to be added.

# Ongoing Monitoring and Research

- Identify tests administered remotely in TOPSpro Enterprise
- Compare student performance on remote vs. in-person testing
- Monitor possible test security issues in remote testing



# New TOPSpro Field for “Unable to Test due to Force Majeure”

- Released on April 15<sup>th</sup> in TE
- Documents students who were unable to be tested due to school closures or other reasons, as requested by OCTAE

# Questions and Comments from the Field

# Next Steps

# Interested in remote testing?

When your state is ready with a plan to implement remote testing, please contact us at:

[Remotetesting@casas.org](mailto:Remotetesting@casas.org)

The CASAS team is ready to assist agencies onboard with remote testing.

# Upcoming National Webinar

**For All CASAS Users**

**Save the Date...**

- **May 20, 2020**
  - 11 am Pacific/2 pm Eastern
- Send an email with ideas for future News & Updates to [training@casas.org](mailto:training@casas.org)

# Thank you for attending!

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