



National Reporting System
for Adult Education

A Project of the U.S. Department of Education

NRS Test Benchmarks for Educational Functioning Levels

Updated February 2018

Adult Basic Education (ABE)

Educational Functioning Level (EFL)	Test Benchmarks
<p>Beginning ABE Literacy (Level 1)</p>	<p>TABE¹ (9–10) scale scores (grade level 0–1.9): Reading: 367 and below Total Math: 313 and below Language: 389 and below</p> <p>Wonderlic GAIN² scale scores: English: 200–406 Math: 200–314</p> <p>CASAS³ Life and Work Reading scale scores: Reading: 200 and below Math: 200 and below</p> <p>Tests Aligned to New ABE EFL Descriptors⁴</p> <p>TABE (11–12) scale scores (grade level 0–1): Reading: 300–441 Mathematics: 300–448 Language: 300–457</p> <p>CASAS Reading GOALS scale scores: Reading: 203 and below</p>

¹ TABE = Tests of Adult Basic Education

² GAIN = General Assessment of Instructional Needs

³ CASAS = Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment System

⁴ See Appendix B of the NRS Technical Assistance Guide for more information on the new EFL descriptors.

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Educational Functioning Level (EFL)	Test Benchmarks
<p align="center">Beginning Basic Education (Level 2)</p>	<p>TABE (9–10) scale scores (grade level 2–3.9): Reading: 368–460 Total Math: 314–441 Language: 390–490</p> <p>CASAS Life and Work Reading scale scores: Reading: 201–210 Math: 201–210</p> <p>Wonderlic GAIN scale scores: English: 407–525 Math: 315–522</p> <p>MAPT⁵ scale scores: All tests: 200–299</p> <p>Tests Aligned to New ABE EFL Descriptors</p> <p>TABE (11–12) scale scores (grade level 2–3): Reading: 442–500 Mathematics: 449–495 Language: 458–510</p> <p>CASAS Reading GOALS scale scores: Reading: 204-216</p>

⁵ MAPT = Massachusetts Adult Proficiency Test

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Educational Functioning Level (EFL)	Test Benchmarks
<p align="center">Low Intermediate Basic Education (Level 3)</p>	<p>TABE (9–10) scale scores (grade level 4–5.9): Reading: 461–517 Total Math: 442–505 Language: 491–523</p> <p>Wonderlic GAIN scale scores: English: 526–661 Math: 523–669</p> <p>MAPT scale scores: All tests: 300–399</p> <p>CASAS Life and Work Reading scale scores: Reading: 211–220 Math: 211–220</p> <p>Tests Aligned to New ABE EFL Descriptors</p> <p>TABE (11–12) scale scores (grade level 4–5): Reading: 501–535 Mathematics: 496–536 Language: 511–546</p> <p>CASAS Reading GOALS scale scores: Reading: 217–227</p>

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Educational Functioning Level (EFL)	Test Benchmarks
<p align="center">High Intermediate Basic Education (Level 4)</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 Life and Work Reading scale scores: Reading: 221–235 Math: 221–235</p> <p>Wonderlic GAIN scale scores: English: 662–746 Math: 670–775</p> <p>MAPT scale scores: All tests: 400–499</p> <p>Tests Aligned to New ABE EFL Descriptors</p> <p>TABE (11–12) scale scores (grade level 6–8): Reading: 536–575 Mathematics: 537–595 Language: 547–583</p> <p>CASAS Reading GOALS scale scores: Reading: 228–238</p>

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Educational Functioning Level (EFL)	Test Benchmarks
<p align="center">Low Adult Secondary Education (Level 5)</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 Life and Work Reading scale scores: Reading: 236–245 Math: 236–245</p> <p>Wonderlic GAIN scale scores: English: 747–870 Math: 776–854</p> <p>MAPT scale scores: All tests: 500–599</p> <p>Tests Aligned to New ABE EFL Descriptors</p> <p>TABE (11–12) scale scores (grade level 9–10): Reading: 576–616 Mathematics: 596–656 Language: 584–630</p> <p>CASAS Reading GOALS scale scores: Reading: 239 – 248</p>

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Educational Functioning Level (EFL)	Test Benchmarks
<p align="center">High Adult Secondary Education (Level 6)</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 Life and Work Reading scale scores: Reading: 246 and above Math: 246 and above</p> <p>Wonderlic GAIN scale scores: English: 871–1000 Math: 855–1000</p> <p>MAPT scale scores: All tests: 600–700</p> <p>Tests Aligned to New ABE EFL Descriptors</p> <p>TABE (11–12) scale scores (grade level 11–12): Reading: 617–800 Mathematics: 657–800 Language: 631–800</p> <p>CASAS Reading GOALS scale scores: Reading: 249 and above</p>

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English as a Second Language (ESL)

Educational Functioning Level (EFL)	Test Benchmarks
Beginning ESL Literacy	<p>CASAS Life and Work Reading scale scores: Reading: 180 and below L&W Listening: 162–180</p> <p>BEST⁶ Plus 2.0: 88–361 BEST Literacy: 0–20 (SPL 0–1)</p> <p>TABE CLAS-E⁷ scale scores⁸: Total Reading and Writing: 225–394 Total Listening and Speaking: 230–407</p>
Low Beginning ESL	<p>CASAS Life and Work Reading scale scores: Reading: 181–190 L&W Listening: 181–189</p> <p>BEST Plus 2.0: 362–427 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>
High Beginning ESL	<p>CASAS Life and Work Reading scale scores: Reading: 191–200 L&W Listening: 190–199</p> <p>BEST Plus 2.0: 428–452 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>

⁶ BEST = Basic English Skills Test

⁷ TABE CLAS-E = Test of Adult Basic Education Complete Language Assessment System – English

⁸ Refer to the TABE CLAS-E Technical Manual for score ranges for individual reading, writing, listening and speaking tests. Table shows only total scores.

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Educational Functioning Level (EFL)	Test Benchmarks
Low Intermediate ESL	<p>CASAS Life and Work Reading scale scores: Reading: 201–210 L&W Listening: 200–209</p> <p>BEST Plus 2.0: 453–484 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>
High Intermediate ESL	<p>CASAS Life and Work Reading scale scores: Reading: 211–220 L&W Listening: 210–218</p> <p>BEST Plus 2.0: 485–524 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>
Advanced ESL	<p>CASAS Life and Work Reading scale scores: Reading: 221–235 L&W Listening: 219–227</p> <p>BEST Plus: 525–564 (exit 565 and higher) BEST Literacy⁹: 76–78 (SPL 6)</p> <p>TABE CLAS-E scale scores: Total Reading and Writing: 557–600 Total Listening and Speaking: 559–600</p>

⁹ 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.

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