



CASAS sessions at COABE 2023

April 2-5, 2023, in Atlanta.

Times shown in Eastern Standard.

➤ The New CASAS ESL Tests and Burlington English: A fresh, updated and WIOA-aligned approach to preparing students for new workforce skills.

M1 – Presenters: Laura Fetter, Robert Breitbard, Jane Eguez

Monday, April 3 – 8:00 to 9:15 a.m. Room L503

Experts agree that the nature of work is becoming far more demanding and complex. We need to get our students ready! A new CASAS ESL reading and listening test series has been developed to better assess students' progress in attaining higher order thinking and problem solving skills. Come learn how the new CASAS STEPS tests align not only to the world of work but supports your IET and IELCE efforts. Also addressed will be how easy it is to use the results of the new CASAS tests with BurlingtonEnglish for instruction that leads to student success.

➤ Meeting NRS Performance Goals (Part I)

M2 – Presenter: Jay Wright

Monday, April 3 – 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Room INTL 2

Explore how top performing agencies address performance improvement. Identify effective ways to exceed performance goals. Use federal outcomes and data tables to serve as "targets" for performance and persistence measures. The approaches use a data-based focus to address issues such as: Include agency staff in data review. Ensure data results relate to student priorities. Use assessment results to inform instruction. Use data to target students "geographically" to improve regional marketing with partner agencies.

➤ Meeting NRS Performance Goals (Part II)

M3 – Presenter: Jay Wright

Monday, April 3 – 2:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. Room INTL 2

Explore how top performing agencies address performance improvement. Identify effective ways to exceed performance goals. Use federal outcomes and data tables to serve as "targets" for performance and persistence measures. The approaches use a data-based focus to address issues such as: Include agency staff in data review. Ensure data results relate to student priorities. Use assessment results to inform instruction. Use data to target students "geographically" to improve regional marketing with partner agencies.

CASAS Overview and Updates – Raising the Bar

M4 – Presenters: Jane Egue, Linda Taylor

Monday, April 3 – 2:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. Room A602

Learn how to implement quality ABE and ESL programs that include standardized accountability measures and tools for learners, teachers, and administrators. Join 40+ states who have adopted CASAS – an integrated system to build successful Adult Education Programs. Learn how the CASAS framework - including workforce readiness and HS diploma options - assists programs to assess, instruct and track progress from beginning literacy through transition to post-secondary and the workforce. CASAS is a non-profit organization.

Moving Ahead: California's Continuous Improvement Approach to IELCE for Immigrant Integration

M5 – Presenters: Lori Howard, Cory Rayala

Monday, April 3 – 3:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

California has developed an Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education system of performance-based instruction and assessment that prepares English learners to participate in society as workers, parents, and active community members. Come learn how California's continuous improvement approach to IELCE encourages learner persistence and promotes immigrant integration. Participants will be provided with extensive resources!

NEDP®: An Alternative High School Completion Option

M6 – Presenter: Margaret Kirkpatrick

Monday, April 3 – 3:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Room L506-507

The National External Diploma Program (NEDP®) is an applied performance assessment system for adults and out-of-school youth to earn a high school diploma plus an occupational or specialized skill which can be offered as a total remote program. The NEDP® evaluates the reading, writing, and workforce readiness skills of participants in life and work contexts.

Go Fly a Kite – Engage New Students During their first 12 Hours of Instruction

T1 – Presenters: Jay Wright, Thoibi Rublaitus

Tuesday, April 4 – 8:00 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. Room INTL 2

“12 hours of instruction” has been a requirement in federal reporting and is also an important milestone for student persistence. This workshop addresses how the 12 hours requirement affects your agency’s data, and strategies for engaging students in those first 12 hours, to a) ensure students attain 12 hours and qualify for data reporting; and b) gives students extra support necessary in the early stages so they move forward and achieve their personal goals.

HyFlex Instruction: A Reflection from Three Districts: Effectiveness, Suggestions for Application, and Student Outcomes

T2 – Presenter: Kay Hartley

Tuesday, April 4 – 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Room M103

HyFlex classroom instruction is synchronized with remote locations, allowing real time participation. When sessions are recorded, students can then review lessons as needed. Three districts provide information on their success. CASAS engaged three California adult education programs in an action research project to determine the effectiveness of HyFlex instruction. Panel members will answer the following action research question: Does the HyFlex instructional model result in measurable continuity of participation and improvements in student learning gains?

Myths and Legends of Mastery Teaching: Project-based Virtual Professional Development for ESOL Instructors

T3 – Presenters: Jayme Adelson-Goldstein, David Coleman, Lori Howard

Tuesday, April 4 – 3:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Adult English language teachers still need support in meeting their learners’ needs across virtual, hybrid and/or hyflex learning environments, but sometimes one more Webinar may seem a bridge too far. Come explore ways to engage and energize instructors through hybrid, short-term, project-based professional learning. Facilitators share the PD plan, projects, and assessments that promote instructors’ voice and choice and model mastery teaching. Planning templates and materials provided.

Supporting English Learners in Achieving their Career Goals

W1 – Presenters: Lori Howard, Ryan Burke, Dana Orozco, Anel Martinez

Wednesday, April 5 – 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Room A703

English learners can receive support to achieve their career goals with Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education (IELCE). Presenters describe keys to the effective administration of IELCE programs as well as exemplary program models, challenges, and successes. Participants will evaluate the models for their own program use. The extensive online resources provided include descriptions of models and links to instructional materials and presentation slides.

CASAS Raises the Bar for ABE, HSE Prep, HS Diploma, and Work Readiness

W2 – Presenters: Jane Eiguez, Linda Taylor

Wednesday, April 5 – 1:30 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. Room A703

This session presents information about using the CASAS Reading and Math GOALS assessments in ABE and HSE Preparation programs. Participants review test blueprints and alignment to the CCR Standards for Adult Education, to CASAS Competencies, and likelihood of passing the GED and HiSET. The relationship to NEDP – an alternative HS diploma - and how to measure and assess Soft Skills as part of the Workforce Skills Certification System will also be shared.