

The CASAS Math GOALS 2 series has been approved by the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE) for NRS reporting through July 2030.

Math GOALS 2 for ABE/ASE Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. In which instructional areas should agencies plan to use the Math GOALS 2 series? The Math GOALS 2 series will serve Adult Basic Education and Adult Secondary Education programs. Agencies can use the Math GOALS 2 series in any instructional program that focuses on mathematics instruction.

2. How is the Math GOALS 2 series different from other math series? Math GOALS 2 offers tests at five levels, thus enabling the series to cover in greater depth the full range of ability levels in the College and Career Readiness (CCR) Standards for Adult Education (2013) and the NRS Educational Functioning Level (EFL) Descriptors for Adult Basic Education mathematics standards. Math GOALS 2 measures academic mathematics and higher-order thinking skills contained in the CCR Standards. Test content continues to be based on CASAS Competencies to maintain relevance for adult learners, including an emphasis on employment-related topics required by WIOA.

3. May students use a calculator with Math GOALS 2? Yes, students may use a calculator throughout all tests in the Math GOALS 2 series. Students may use the calculator embedded in CASAS eTests or a basic or scientific calculator (not a graphic calculator) provided by the agency or school. Programs using paper tests should provide students with a basic or scientific calculator (not a graphing calculator). Students should never use their own calculator nor a cell phone calculator.

4. Which placement test should agencies use with Math GOALS 2? How long is the test? Both the Form 919M Math GOALS 2 Appraisal and the Form 920M Math GOALS 2 Locator accurately place students into the correct pretest. The Form 919M Math GOALS 2 Appraisal is a 30-minute test available through CASAS eTests and as a paper test. The Form 920M Math GOALS 2 Locator is a 15-minute test available only through CASAS eTests. The Locator is not available as a paper test.

Programs should choose the Appraisal if it will be used alone for placement and will not be followed up by a pretest.

5. What pre- and post-tests does the Math GOALS 2 series provide and how long do the tests take?

The series provides two parallel forms of pre- and post-tests at each of five test levels. These levels provide necessary placement opportunities to ensure the most accurate diagnostic information to guide mathematics instruction.

Math GOALS 2

Level	Form Numbers	Number of Items	Test Time
Level A	921M-922M	33	50 minutes
Level B	923M-924M	36	65 minutes
Level C	925M-926M	36	75 minutes
Level D	927M-928M	36	75 minutes
Level E	929M-930M	36	90 minutes

*Students must be allowed up to the time listed to complete the test, but most students will finish the test in less time. Students may be given additional time as an accommodation under certain circumstances.

6. Which answer sheets should agencies use with the Math GOALS 2 Appraisal and the Math GOALS 2 pre- and post-tests? To score tests with TOPSpro Enterprise software: TOPSpro Student Test Record. To score tests manually: General Purpose answer sheet.

7. Can agencies pretest with other math series while transitioning to Math GOALS 2? No. It is essential that pre- and post-testing always occurs within the same series to ensure test reliability and validity. Agencies cannot pretest students on the current Math GOALS series and post-test on the new Math GOALS 2 series.

8. If someone scores in the low-end inaccurate range marked with an asterisk (*), what is the policy for retesting? Examinees who score at the inaccurate range do not receive a scale score. Those who score in the inaccurate range of a Level B, C, D or E test should take the next lower test form to receive a scale score and NRS level. If a student scores at the inaccurate range on a Level A test, CASAS suggests additional mathematics instruction before retesting the student on a Level A test again.

9. If someone scores in the high-end conservative-estimate range marked with a diamond (◆), must the person retest or can agencies use the score? Conservative estimate scores may be used for pre- and post-testing. Retesting is not required. Some programs may wish to retest students at the next test level to see if they might score higher.

10. Do the policies in questions 8 and 9 apply to agencies that must comply with NRS reporting requirements? Yes. Agencies should follow these same guidelines to meet NRS reporting requirements.

11. What information regarding learning gains meets NRS reporting requirements? Agencies and states report students’ learning gains when students move from one NRS Educational Functioning Level (EFL) to another. The NRS system does not ask for student progress by scale score, only by EFL advancement.

12. What about agencies that do not report to NRS? How do they calculate learning gains? These agencies usually monitor students’ learning gains by comparing pre- and post-test scale scores. See questions 8 and 9 for more details about testing and retesting policies.

13. What are the Math GOALS 2 scale score ranges?

NRS Mathematics Educational Functioning Levels	Math GOALS 2 Scale Score Ranges
1 Beginning ABE Literacy	192 and below
2 Beginning Basic Education	193-203
3 Low Intermediate Basic Education	204-213
4 Middle Intermediate Basic Education	214-224
5 High Intermediate Basic Education	225-235
6 Adult Secondary Education	236 and above

14. Levels B, C, D, and E do not give a scale score until item 10. Why do students need to answer this number of questions to obtain a scale score? This ensures that students answer enough questions to assess their math level reliably.

15. How do agencies get started using Math GOALS 2 in CASAS eTests? Agencies may edit their existing mathematics instructional program templates to update multiple sessions sharing the templates. They also may contact techsupport@casas.org for assistance with editing or adding new templates with sessions for Math GOALS 2.

16. What does Math GOALS 2 offer for students who require accommodations? Accommodations materials for the Math GOALS 2 series are currently in development.

17. What can you tell me about your TOPSpro Enterprise system? TOPSpro Enterprise is CASAS-developed data accountability software that simplifies the testing process by scoring tests automatically, tracking student progress, generating useful reports, collecting demographics, managing data for local, state, and federal accountability, and more. TOPSpro Enterprise can collect test results from online or paper testing. The software exchanges data with more than 35 third-party vendors such as LACES, ASAP, BANNER, WABERS, and others.

18. Are TOPSpro Enterprise reports available for Math GOALS 2? Test score reports, CASAS Competency, Task Area, and CCRS Content Standard reports are available.

19. Is there a chart that shows which CASAS tests have approval for NRS reporting? Yes. See <https://www.casas.org/training-and-support/wioa-and-nrs-compliance/nrs-approval-of-casas>

20. What should agencies do with any math test materials that are no longer in use after the switch to Math GOALS 2? Agencies should never use retired tests for test practice with students. Please dispose of all test materials in the following manner:

- a. Shred test booklets and test support materials.
- b. Notify CASAS using school/agency letterhead with this information:
 - a. Number of test booklets and test forms shredded
 - b. Date of shredding
 - c. Signature of school/agency administrator. (Be sure to retain a copy of the letter for agency records.)