

*The CASAS Reading GOALS 2 series has been approved by the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE) for NRS reporting through June 2032.*

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

**1. In which instructional areas should agencies plan to use the Reading GOALS 2 series?** The Reading GOALS 2 series will serve Adult Basic Education (ABE) programs. Agencies will be able to use the series in any instructional program that focuses on ABE/ASE.

**2. How is the Reading GOALS 2 series different from other reading series?** Reading 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 (2016). Reading GOALS 2 measures the academic vocabulary and higher-order thinking skills contained in the 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. Which placement test should agencies use with Reading GOALS 2? How long is the test?** Both the Form 919R Reading GOALS 2 Appraisal and the Form 920R Reading GOALS 2 Locator accurately place students into the correct pretest. The Form 919R Reading GOALS 2 Appraisal is a 30-minute test available through CASAS eTests and as a paper test. The Form 920R Reading GOALS 2 Locator is a 20-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.

**4. What pre- and post-tests does the Reading 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 reading instruction.

### Reading GOALS 2

Level	Form Numbers	Number of Items	Test Time
Level A	921R-922R	33	35 minutes
Level B	923R-924R	36	60 minutes
Level C	925R-926R	36	70 minutes
Level D	927R-928R	36	70 minutes
Level E	929R-930R	33	70 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.

**5. Which answer sheets should agencies use with the Reading GOALS 2 Appraisal and the Reading 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.

- 6. Can agencies pretest with other reading series while transitioning to Reading 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 Reading GOALS series and post-test on the new Reading GOALS 2 series.
- 7. If someone scores in the low-end inaccurate range marked with an asterisk (\*), what is the policy for retesting?** Examinees who score in 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.
- 8. If someone scores in the lower-end estimate range marked with an open diamond (◊), must the person retest or can agencies use the score?** Lower-end estimate scores may be used for pre- and post-testing. Retesting is not required. Some programs may wish to retest students at the next lower test level to see if they might score lower.
- 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 7, 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 the NRS? How do they calculate learning gains?** These agencies usually monitor students’ learning gains by comparing pre- and post-test scale scores. See questions 7, 8, and 9 for more details about testing and retesting policies.
- 13. What are the Reading GOALS 2 scale score ranges in relation to NRS Levels for ABE/ASE?**

NRS Reading Educational Functioning Levels for ABE/ASE	Reading GOALS 2 Scale Score Ranges
1 Beginning ABE Literacy	203 and below
2 Beginning Basic	204 – 216
3 Low Intermediate	217 - 227
4 High Intermediate	228 – 238
5 Low Adult Secondary	239 – 248
6 High Adult Secondary	249 and above

- 14. Levels B, C, D, and E do not give a scale score until item 7. 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 reading level reliably.

**15. How do agencies get started using Reading GOALS 2 in CASAS eTests?** Agencies may edit their existing reading instructional program templates to update multiple sessions sharing the templates. They also may contact [techsupport@casas.org](mailto:techsupport@casas.org) for assistance with editing or adding new templates with sessions for Reading GOALS 2.

**16. What does Reading GOALS 2 offer for students who require accommodations?** Several accommodations are available for students based on need. Information about available accommodations can be found on the CASAS website: <https://www.casas.org/training-and-support/testing-guidelines/Assessment-Accommodations>

**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 Reading GOALS 2?** Test score reports and CASAS Competency, Task Area, and Content Area reports will be 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 reading test materials that are no longer in use after the switch to Reading 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.)