

Getting Started with

CASAS
Assessments

About Us

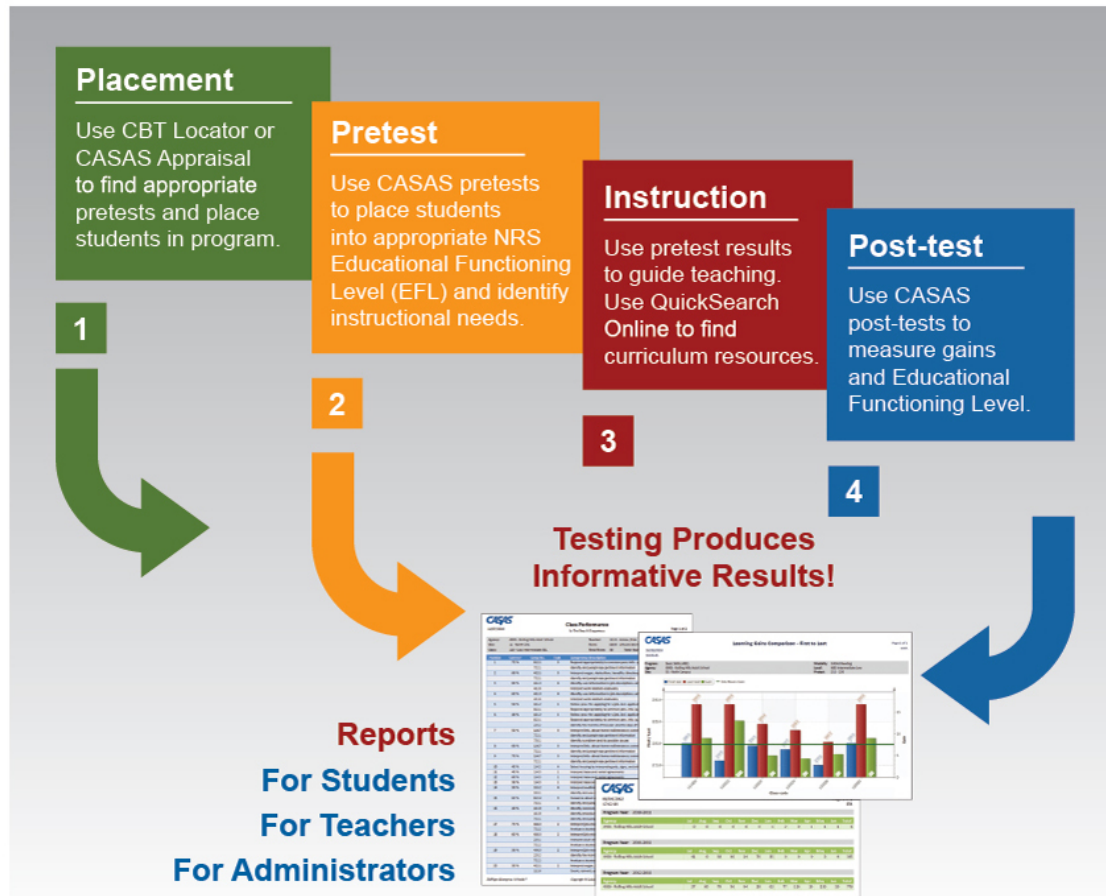
Non-profit organization started in 1980 to develop basic skills assessment for adult education programs

National leader in adult basic education and adult ESL assessment

- Used in over 40 states and internationally
- Approved by US Dept. of Ed for NRS Reporting for ABE and ESL
- Developed by adult educators



How the **CASAS** System Works



1. Placement:

The CBT Locator available only for computer-based testing (CASAS eTests).

The locator test takes up to 15 minutes. An Appraisal test is typically 30-40 minutes.

2. Pretest:

Be sure to assess students in the same assessment series for their pretest and subsequent post-tests.

3. Instruct:

CASAS offers an online tool, QuickSearch Online, to locate instructor-recommended resources for classroom teachers.

4. Post-test:

CASAS recommends post-testing students after 70-100 instructional hours (or a minimum of 40 hours).

NRS Educational Functioning Level			CASAS Score Ranges	Grade Level
EFL	ABE	ESL		
1		Beginning ESL Literacy	180 and below	1
2		Low Beginning ESL	181 – 190	1
3	Beginning ABE Literacy	High Beginning ESL	191 – 200	1
4	Beginning Basic Education	Low Intermediate ESL	201 – 205 206 - 210	2 3
5	Low Intermediate Basic Education	High Intermediate ESL	211 – 215 216 – 220	4 5
6	High Intermediate Basic Education	Advanced ESL	221 – 225 226 – 230 231 – 235	6 7 8
7	Low Adult Secondary Education		236 – 240 241 – 245	9 10
8	High Adult Secondary Education		246 – 250 251 and above	11 12

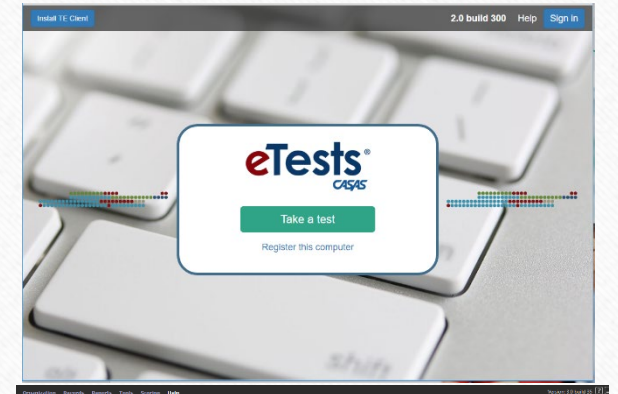
Our Products



Paper-based Assessments



Computer-based Assessments



Data Accountability Software





Intake Process

For all incoming students:

- observe how well the student communicates and fills out registration forms
- administer CASAS writing screening or other writing assessment (optional)
- consider number of years of formal schooling and other information on demographic records
- consider other factors affecting class placement (any certificates or degrees...)

Informal Assessment: Little or no difficulty?



- Administer the paper appraisal:
Form 80 for L&W Reading & L&W
Listening

Reading GOALS Appraisal for
Reading GOALS



- Start the “Intake: Pretest” testing
session



Oral and Written Screening

- The Oral Screening is an optional one-on-one interview used to screen ESL/ELL learners for taking listening and reading locators or appraisal tests. It is six questions.
- The Writing Screening is an additional optional tool to screen ESL/ELL learners for taking reading and listening locators or appraisals. Examinees write two sentences that are dictated.



General Testing Guidelines

- Allow adequate space between students.
- Ask students to turn off and put away their cell phones.
- All personal items must be off the tables.
- Tell students not to talk or get help from other students during the test.
- Scratch paper is allowed for math tests, but not for listening tests. All scratch paper must be collected and shredded after the test.
- No cell phones, dictionaries, translators, or any other items allowed



General Testing Guidelines

- **Guessing by the examinees should be discouraged.** Explain that if they can't answer a question they don't need to mark an answer, and can go on to the following questions.
- **Circulate during testing** to make sure examinees are marking answers at the correct number on the answer sheet.
- **Maintain a positive attitude and atmosphere** about the testing, as your attitude can influence students' attitudes and performance.
- **For students with disabilities**, please refer to the CASAS guidelines for making the appropriate accommodations

Testing Procedures



- Demonstrate how to properly fill in the bubbles properly.
- You may assist the learner as they complete the required demographic information.



- Demonstrate how to respond to test items (practice items will appear at the beginning of each test form).
- You may assist the learner as they complete the required demographic information.



Raw Scores & Scale Scores

- Raw Score: the number of questions a student answers correctly
- Scale Scores: the converted score from a student's raw score that allows for comparison between students and test forms.
- Inaccurate Scores: scores that do not accurately assess a student's skills; i.e. a student scored too low on a form and needs to be retested at a lower level or a student scored too high on a form and needs to be retested at a higher level



Determining the Next Assigned Test

Life & Work Reading Series	
Level	Form
Beg. Lit.	27R, 28R
A	81R, 82R
AX	81RX, 82RX
B	83R, 84R
C	185R, 186R; 85R, 86R*
D	187R, 188R

Raw to Scale Score Reading Appraisal Form 80	
Raw Score	Scale Score
1	171*
2	180*
3	185*
4	189
5	193
6	196
7	199
8	201
9	204
10	207
11	209
12	212
13	214
14	216
15	219
16	222
17	224
18	227
19	230
20	234
21	237
22	240♦
23	242♦
24	244♦
25	246♦

READING Form 80R	
Score	Next Assigned Test
171*	Level A 081R
180*	
185*	
189	
193	
196	Level AX 081RX
199	
201	
204	
207	Level B 083R
209	
212	
214	
216	
219	Level C** 085R or 185R
222	
224	
227	
230	
234	Level D 187R
237	
240♦	
242♦	
244♦	
246♦	

Conclusion



- Any final questions regarding CASAS paper assessments?



- On to CASAS eTests!