



Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems

National News and Updates

February 8, 2023

Welcome to the February 2023 CASAS National Webinar

- Your **phones and computers are muted.**
- Presentation questions? **USE Q & A**
- Technical Difficulties? **USE CHAT**
- **Webinar recording & PPT** posted on the website:
<https://www.casas.org/social-media-newsroom/webinars>

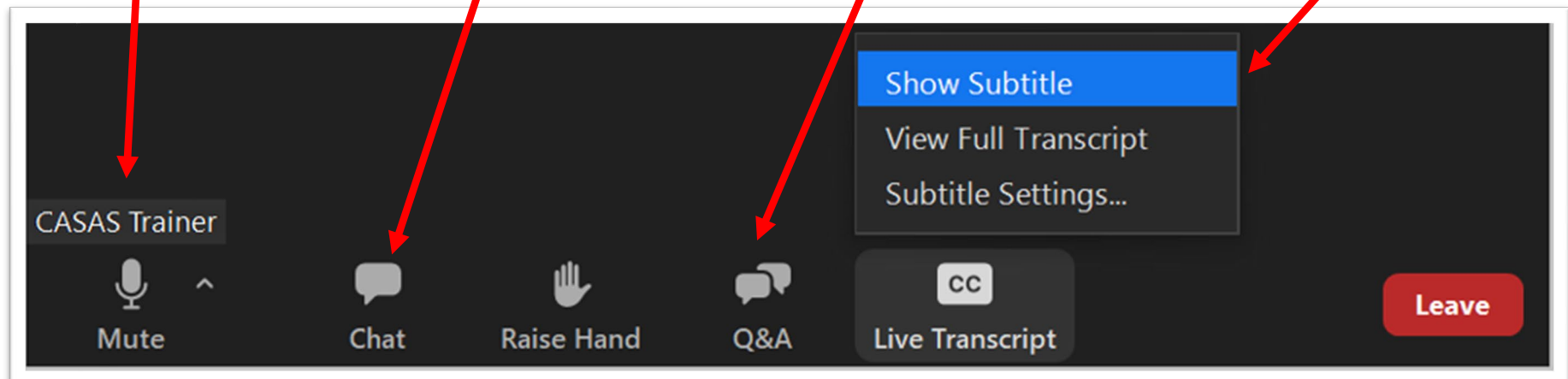
Before we start: Webinar Tips

Check your
audio
settings

Use chat only
for webinar
technical
issues. Select
all panelists for
support

Q & A is used for
questions about
the presentations
and specific
questions for the
presenter(s)

Enable
Closed
Captions

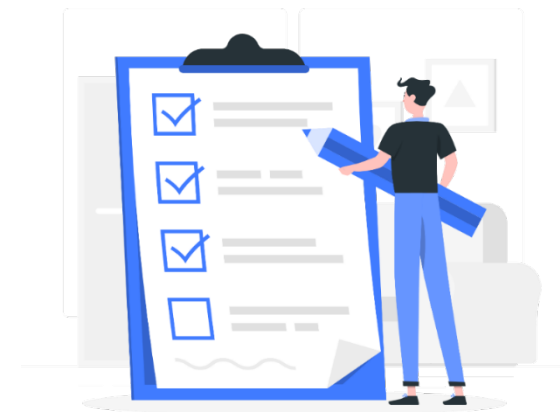


Agenda

- Test Development Updates
- Field Testing & Research Studies
- Four Steps to Improve Writing Skills
- What's New in TOPSpro Enterprise?
- **Sneak preview: Teacher Portal**
- Who's New at CASAS?
- Summer Institute 2023
- Other CASAS News

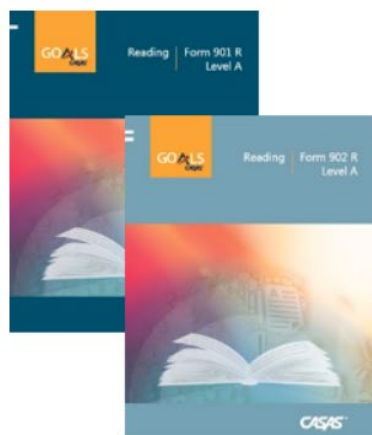


What Color Do You Like For The New “Level E” Booklets?

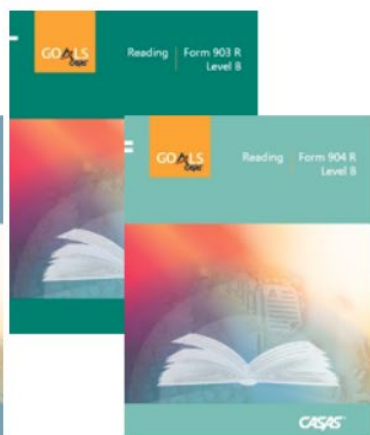


All CASAS tests have the same color scheme.

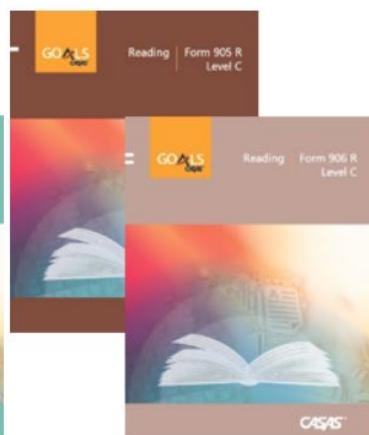
Level A – Blue



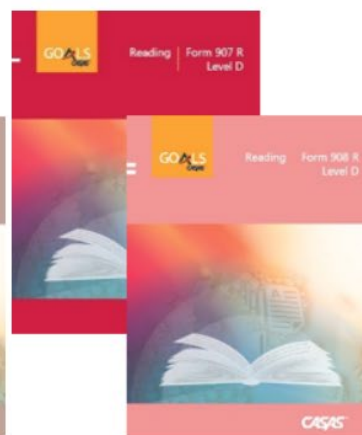
Level B – Green



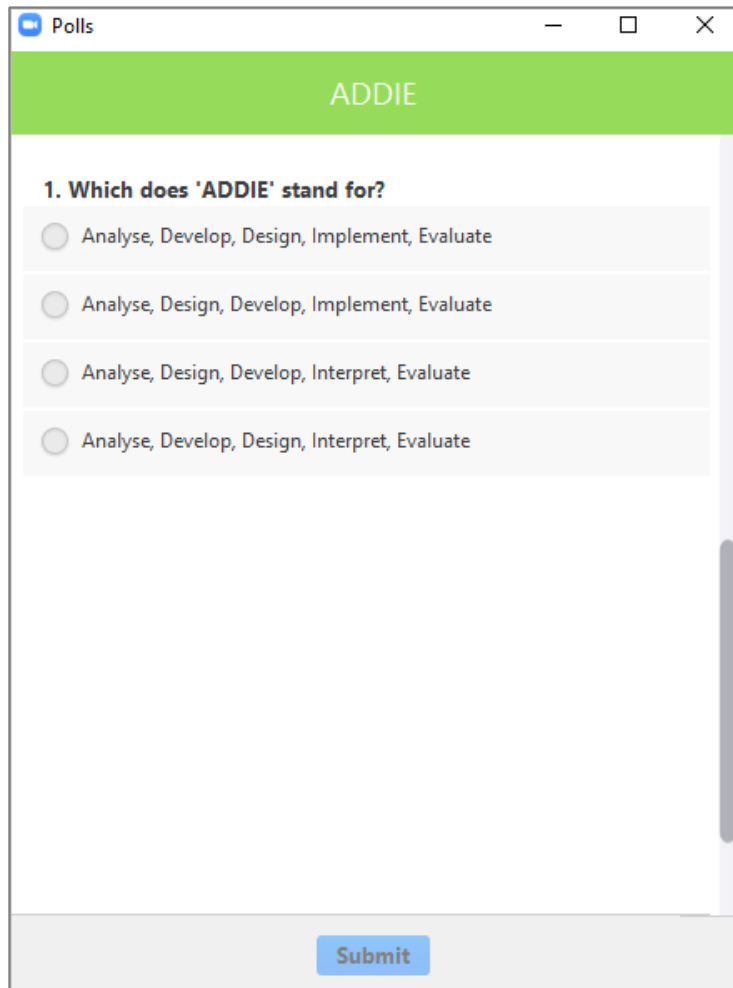
Level C – Brown



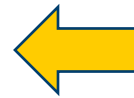
Level D – Red



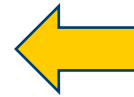
Polls



The screenshot shows a web browser window titled 'Polls'. Inside, there's a green header bar with the text 'ADDIE'. Below it, a question is displayed: '1. Which does 'ADDIE' stand for?'. There are four radio button options listed: 'Analyse, Develop, Design, Implement, Evaluate', 'Analyse, Design, Develop, Implement, Evaluate', 'Analyse, Design, Develop, Interpret, Evaluate', and 'Analyse, Develop, Design, Interpret, Evaluate'. At the bottom of the poll area is a blue 'Submit' button.



3 Close the poll



1 Answer the poll



2 Submit the poll

Test Development Update

Linda Taylor
Senior Advisor

NRS Status of Current & Next Test Series

FOR ABE

Reading GOALS for ABE/ASE	Through February 2025
Math GOALS	Extended through March 2024
New Math GOALS 2 Series	Submitted for NRS Approval on Oct. 1, 2022

NRS Status of Current & Next Test Series

FOR ESL

Life and Work Reading – 80 series

Beginning Literacy – Forms 27 and 28

Reading for Language Arts – Forms 513 and 514

**Extended through
February 2024**

Life and Work Listening – 980 series

**Extended through
February 2024**

New ESL Reading STEPS

**Submitted for NRS
Approval on Oct. 1,
2022**

New ESL Listening STEPS

**Submitted for NRS
Approval on Oct. 1,
2022**

Coming soon - Math GOALS 2 Test Series

5 Levels (A to E),
2 forms per level

Aligned to the
CCR Math
Standards

Similar content
and item types as
in Math GOALS

Appraisals on
eTests and Paper

Locators on
eTests and Paper!

Coming soon - STEPS Test Series for ESL

Reading STEPS and
Listening STEPS

- STEPS = Student Test of English Progress and Success

5 Levels (A to E),
2 forms per level

Appraisals on eTests
and Paper

Locators on eTests
and Paper!

New Test Series Design

CASAS Test Level	NRS Level
Level A	NRS 1 & 2
Level B	NRS 2 & 3
Level C	NRS 3 & 4
Level D	NRS 4 & 5
Level E	NRS 5 & 6

STEPS Test Series for ESL -- Content

- Aligned to the ELP Standards
 - ✓ Increased focus on content standards, together with competencies
- Similar item types as in Reading GOALS
- Reading and Listening STEPS Blueprints – **available now**
 - PDFs posted on CASAS website “News & Updates” page
 - STEPS website page coming soon...

Listening STEPS Sample Item

NRS Level 4

(Ring!)

F: Horizon Internet Services - technical support. How may I help you?

M: Hello. My Internet hasn't been working since the big rainstorm yesterday.

F: I can schedule an appointment for someone to come on Friday.

M: But that's three days from now! I work from home, and I can't do anything without Internet service.

F:

A. Well, your connection should be fine during the storm.

B. I'm sorry, but Friday's the earliest we can send someone.

C. Unfortunately, technical support is already closed.

Research Studies

Karen Burger

National Program Specialist

Assessment Research Coordinator

Thank you!



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA-NC](#)

Beginning ABE Literacy (NRS Level 1) Reading GOALS 2 Item Field Testing



When? Now through March 31, 2023



Who? ABE Learners with a Reading GOALS scale score of 203 or below



Who? Students too low to test in reading



Delivery? eTests and paper/pencil (on site and remote)

Beginning ABE Literacy (NRS Level 1) Reading GOALS 2 Item Field Testing



Methodology? One to four tests. No locator!



Timing? 30 - 45 minutes per test



Student gift cards: \$20 per test (up to \$80!)



Complimentary web-test units

Field Testing Opportunity coming soon!

Reading GOALS 2 Final Forms Studies

When? PY2023-2024



Who? All ABE / ASE Learners



Gift Cards for students!



Delivery? eTests and Paper Pencil

How do I get started?



- Communicate with agency teachers/administrators
- Create a plan for implementation
- Contact CASAS for support along the way!

For more information contact:
Karen Burger / Elizabeth Scheib

Fieldtesting@casas.org

CASAS Writing Assessments: Four Steps to Improving Writing Skills

Janice Fera

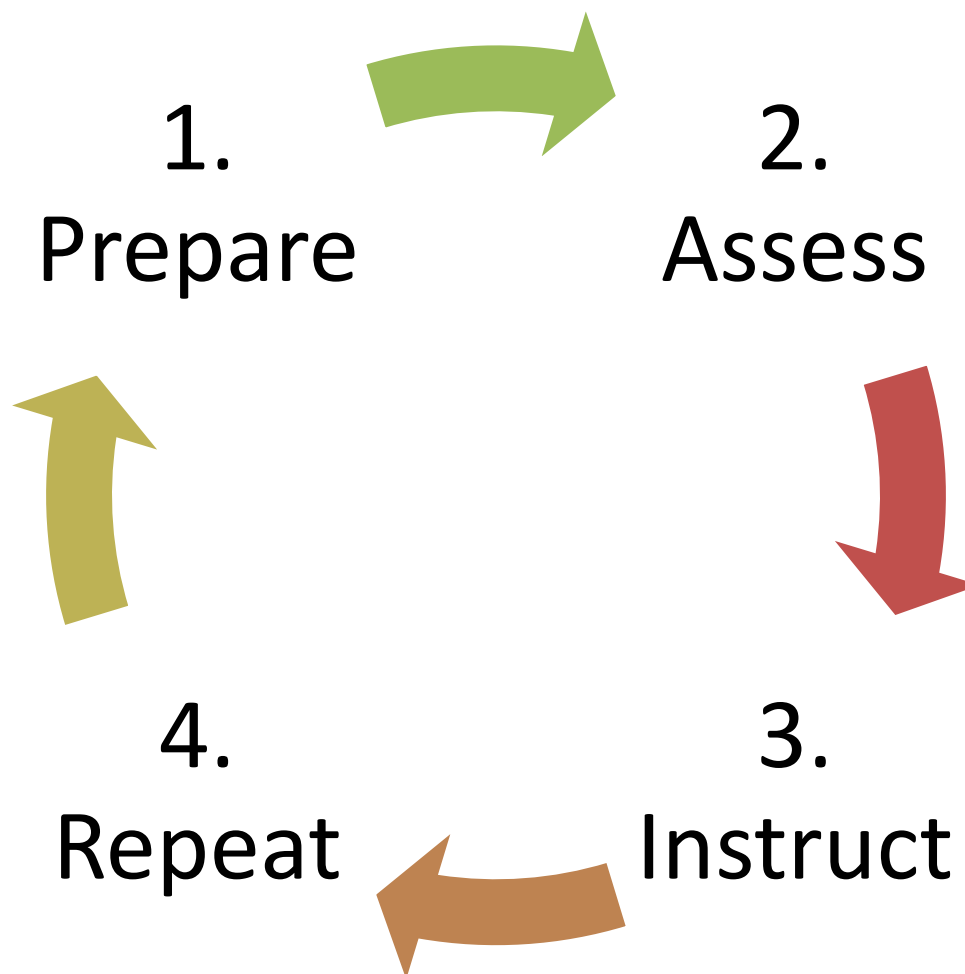
National Program and Technology Specialist

Why is Writing Important?

- ✓ Helps High School Equivalency (HSE) candidates prepare for the GED/HiSET exams
- ✓ Supports students transitioning into employment and secondary education where writing skills are required

How else could your students benefit from better writing skills TODAY?

Four Steps: Improving Writing Skills



Prepare Proctors & Teachers:



TEST
ADMINISTRATION
DIRECTIONS

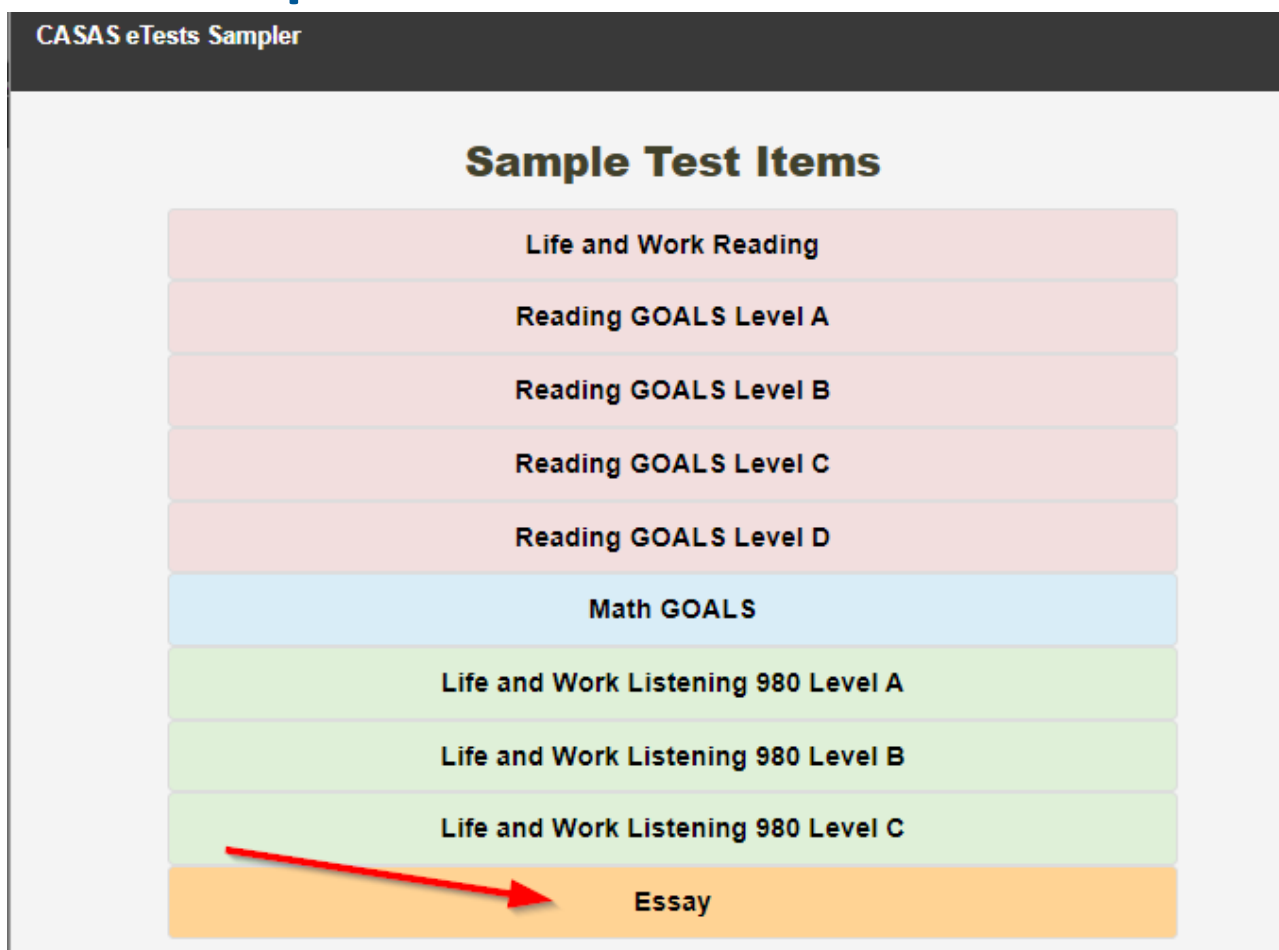


NEW: ESSAY TEST
ADVISORY NOTES



COMING SOON:
WRITING WORKSHOP
(SUMMER INSTITUTE 2023)

Prepare Students: Use The “CASAS eTests Sampler”



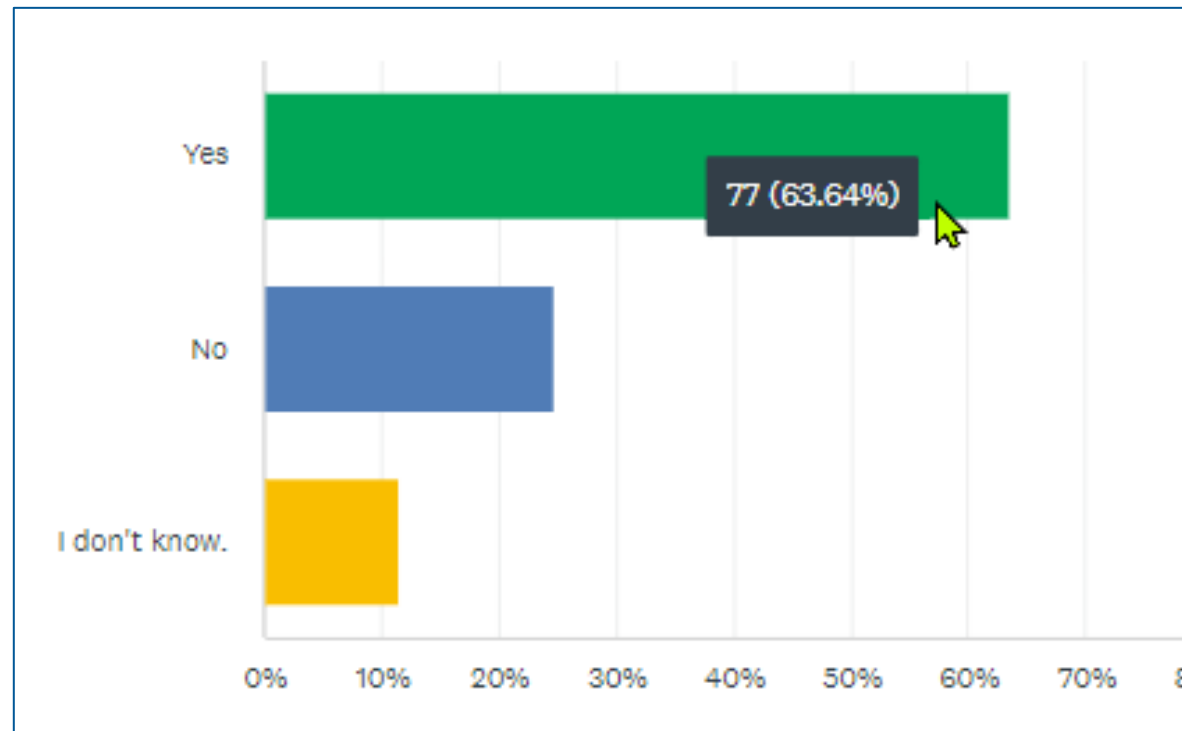
- <https://casasportal.org/eTests>

Sample Essay Test Writing Prompt:

ID:	Name:	Time Remaining: 00:10:00
<p>Healthy eating habits are important but often not followed. Why is this? What can be done about it?</p>		
<p>Maintaining a varied diet is important, but also expensive. It's hard to find time to shop and cook using fresh <u>ingredeints</u>.</p>		
00:10:00	Directions	→

How Are Your Keyboarding Skills?

- **FACT:** Over 63% of students thought better typing skills would have helped them with their essay test.



2. The Writing Assessments



Essay Test



Language Test

<https://www.casas.org/product-overviews/research-and-evaluation/field-testing-opportunities>

Sample Language Test question

1. The chef _____ the meals at the restaurant.

A. cook

B. cooks

C. have cooked

Administer the Essay and Language Tests

eTests Online - Janice Fake Agency06-Feb-23 8:59:36 AMJanice Fera (jfera@casas.org)Logout

Testing Sessions

(4 records) Refresh

Filter by: Status

☐ Save table filters

filter

filter

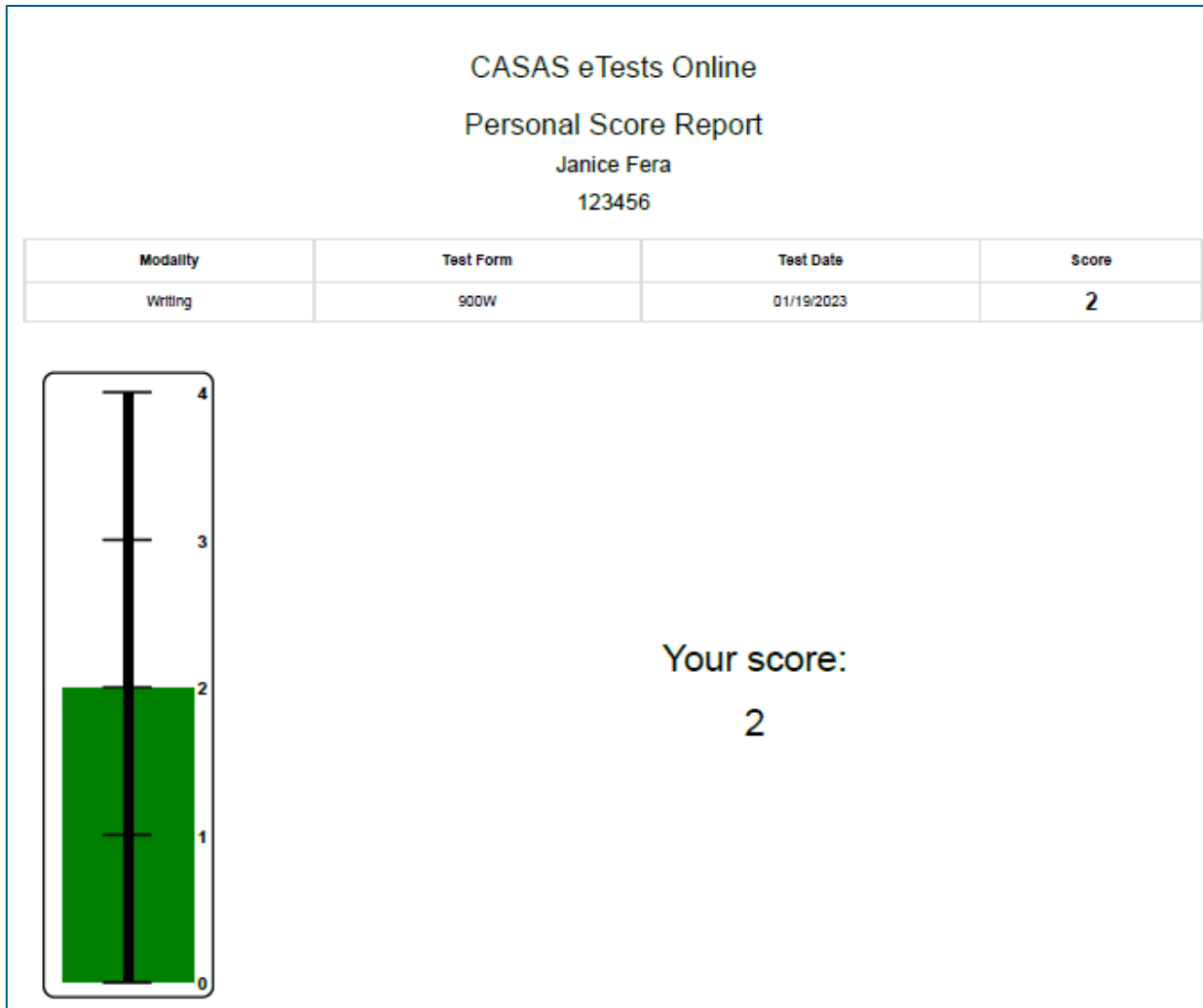
filter

filter

filter

Edit	View	Start	Tests	Delete	Copy	Site	Lab Name	Template Name	Session Name	Start Date
Edit	View	Start	Tests	Delete	Copy	50		Essay Test -- Form 900W (Exercise)	Essay Test - Form 900W	07/01/2022
Edit	View	Start	Tests	Delete	Copy	50		Essay Test -- Form 901W (Employment)	Essay Test - Form 901W	07/01/2022
Edit	View	Start	Tests	Delete	Copy	50		Essay Test -- Form 902W (Advertising)	Essay Test - Form 902W	07/01/2022
Edit	View	Start	Tests	Delete	Copy	50		Language Test Initial Research Study	Language Field Test - DO NOT EDIT	07/01/2022

Essay Personal Score Report (PSR)



Personal Score Report (PSR), page 2


Becoming a Better Writer

Suggestions for Improvement:

Main Idea	When you write, make sure your main idea is clearly stated in the beginning. Focus on your main idea throughout the entire essay. Make sure that you include enough details and examples to support your main idea. Also, explain everything in your essay clearly so that the reader is not confused about what you mean. Extra information will help the reader understand what you are writing about.
Organization	Keep working on putting your sentences together in an organized way, so that your ideas are easy to follow. Using transition words will help to smoothly connect your ideas to each other.
Word Choice	Try to reduce the number of word-choice errors in your writing. Make sure that you are using words correctly, so the meaning is always clear. Also, use a variety of words and sentence structures in your writing. Avoid repetition where possible.
Grammar & Mechanics	Try to use more complex sentence structure throughout your essay. Also, continue to check your sentences carefully and fix any errors in grammar, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation. Fixing these errors will help the reader understand what you are saying.

- In TOPSpro Enterprise:
Reports → CASAS eTests → Personal Score Report

PSR for Language



01/25/2023
00:39:23

Personal Score Report

by Site

[Redacted]

Page 1 of 2
PSR3

Agency: [Redacted] Class: N/A
Site: [Redacted] Teacher: N/A

Modality	Test Form	Test Date	Total	Correct	CCR Language Level
Language	FT-US-LA-001	10/07/2022	20	3	C

Language Content Area	Total Items	Number correct	Percent correct
Nouns and Pronouns	4	0	0%
Verbs, Adverbs and Adjectives	7	2	29%
Phrases, Clauses and Sentences	4	0	0%
Punctuation	5	1	20%

- <https://www.casas.org/product-overviews/research-and-evaluation/field-testing-opportunities>

3. Instruct – How to Teach Writing?

What's Your Methodology?

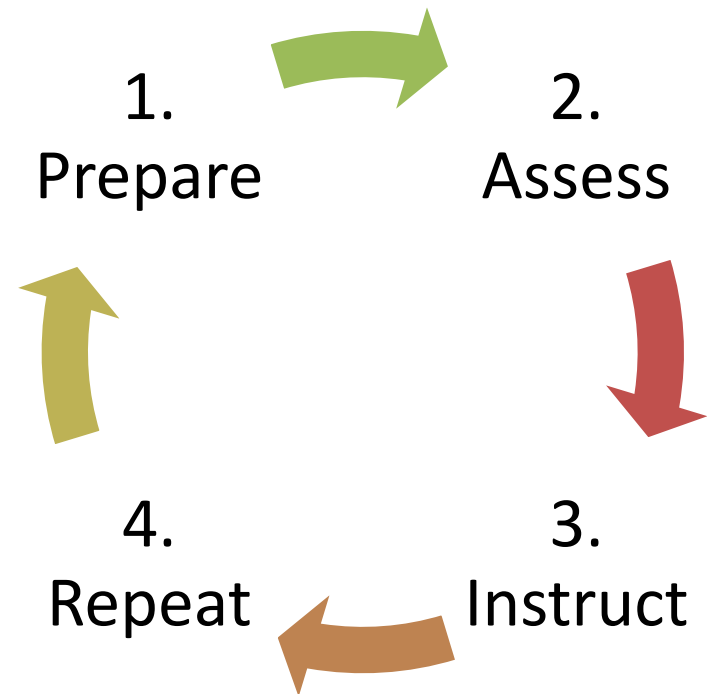
- Student populations:
 - ABE: Level 3 and above
(based on CASAS Reading GOALS score)
 - ESL: High Intermediate and Advanced levels
- Create an outline?
- List of key words?
- Compose using the keyboard – or on paper first?
- How to use their time effectively?

3. Instruction – Writing Skills (cont’d)

- QuickSearch Online
- “Inference” and “Conclusion”
 - CASAS Competencies and Content Standards, Competencies #7.2.4
 - Reading Content Standards #4.4
- “Writing Workshop: Introductory Paragraph”
Andrew Keiler, South Bay Adult School
- “Ideas for Teaching Writing Skills”, CASAS
Summer Institute 2023

4. Repeat the Process

- Parallels the cyclical nature of composition
 - Writing, editing, re-writing
- Re-take the test to see how your score has improved.



How To Get Started?

- Download the training materials
- Schedule an internal meeting with your teachers and counselors to map out your plan.
- Contact techsupport@casas.org to make an appointment to have Essay and Language Test installed into your eTests environment

What's New in TOPSpro Enterprise (TE)?

NEW: Teacher Portal !!

Annotated TE Enhanced Release Notes

National TE Network Meetings

Interested in a Pilot Study on the Teacher Portal?

- Email techsupport@casas.org
 - When is a good time (and contact method) to reach you?

Annotated Release Notes – TE Build 34

- New, detailed documentation
- Screenshots
- Examples
- <https://www.casas.org/product-overviews/software/topspro-enterprise/topspro-enterprise-help/annotated-release-notes>

Annotated Release Notes

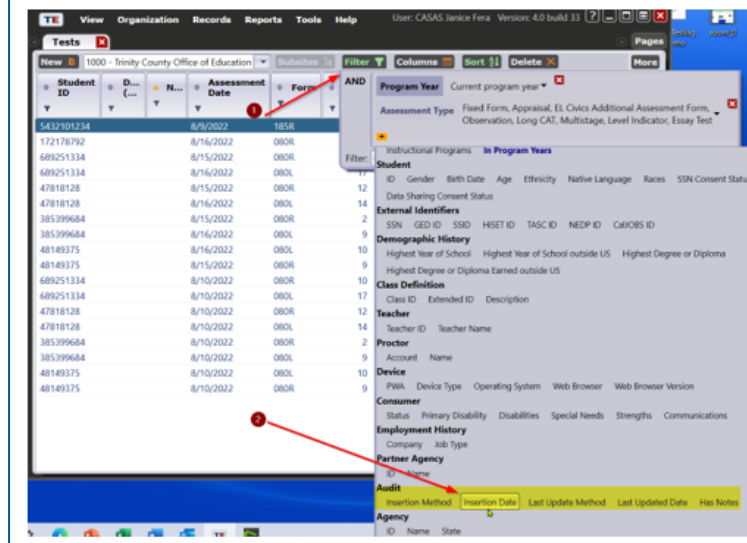
TOPSpro Enterprise (TE) 4.0 Build 34
01/13/23

TOPSpro Enterprise:

1. New: Added optional Audit filter data selections to most listers.

Open any of the TE listers (tests, students, classes, teachers), click the "FILTER" tab, and scroll to the bottom. The Audit choices are available for selection. TOPSpro Enterprise has always tracked auditable statistics such as Insertion Method/Date and Update information, but this new Filter feature gives agencies an easy way to access that information.

The example below shows Records > Tests, and a data manager who wants to view which tests had an Insertion Date between July 1 and December 1, 2022. Click the <FILTER> tab, choose "Insertion date", choose "Custom Interval," and input the start and end dates of the range. Click OK and the test records lister will update.





National TE Network Meeting

- **Friday, February 10, 2023, 9-10:30am PST**
- Register:
 - <https://www.casas.org/training-and-support/casas-live-facilitated-training>
- Previous zoom recordings and handouts:
 - <https://www.casas.org/training-and-support/casas-peer-communities/california-adult-education-accountability-and-assessment/training-and-networking>

Overview: TOPSpro Enterprise

- Great for beginners
- Live zoom webinars hosted by CASAS Tech Support trainers
- **February 23, 2023**, 11am--12:30 pm PST
- **March 30, 2023**, 11am--12:30 pm PST
- Register:
- <https://www.casas.org/training-and-support/casas-live-facilitated-training>

Who's New at CASAS?

Laura Fetter

Program Development Manager

New CASAS President

Jane Eguëz



New Program Development Manager



Laura
Fetter

New National Program Specialist

Astrid
Robitaille



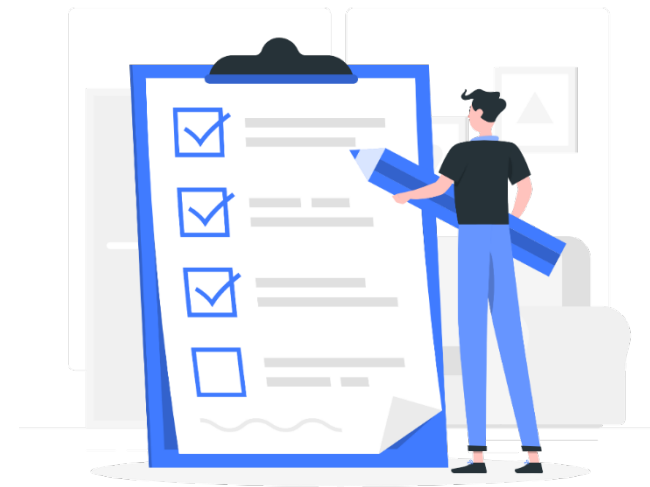
See you at COABE!

CASAS has 11 informative sessions and a booth - Come by and say hello!



Will you share your plans with us?

- Are you planning to attend the CASAS Summer Institute June 13-16 in Orange County, California?
- Yes, virtually
- Yes, in person
- Unsure at this time
- Unable to attend



Summer Institute 2023

Kristine Mains
National Program Specialist



CASAS National Summer Institute 2023

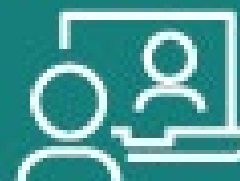
Hyatt Regency Orange County

June 12 to 15

In-person



Virtual



Highlights from 2022



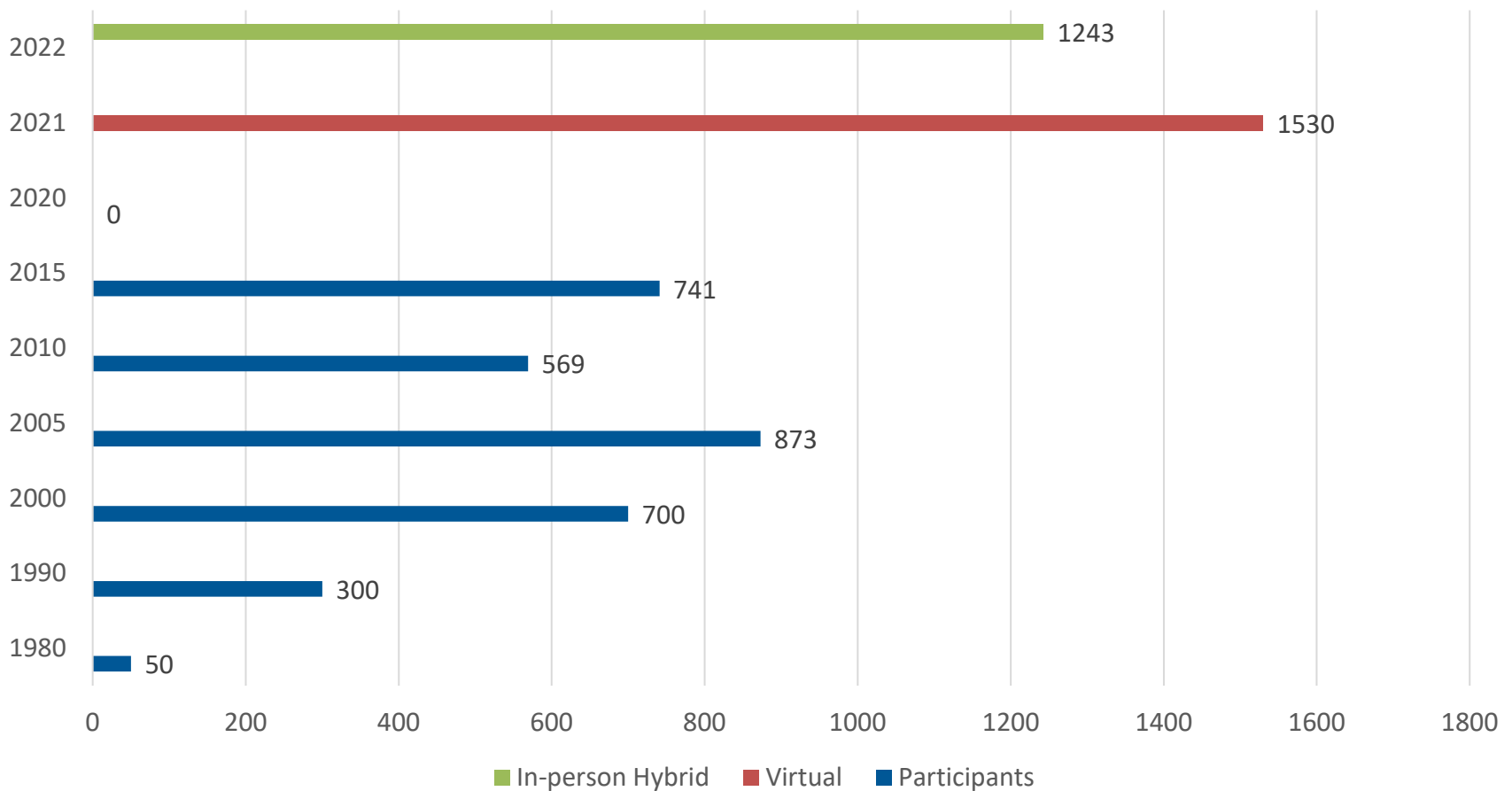


**SUCCESS ISN'T SOMETHING THAT
JUST HAPPENS - SUCCESS IS
LEARNED, SUCCESS IS PRACTICED
AND THEN IT IS SHARED.**

- SPARKY ANDERSON

CASAS National Summer Institute

Attendance Growth



Why should you attend?

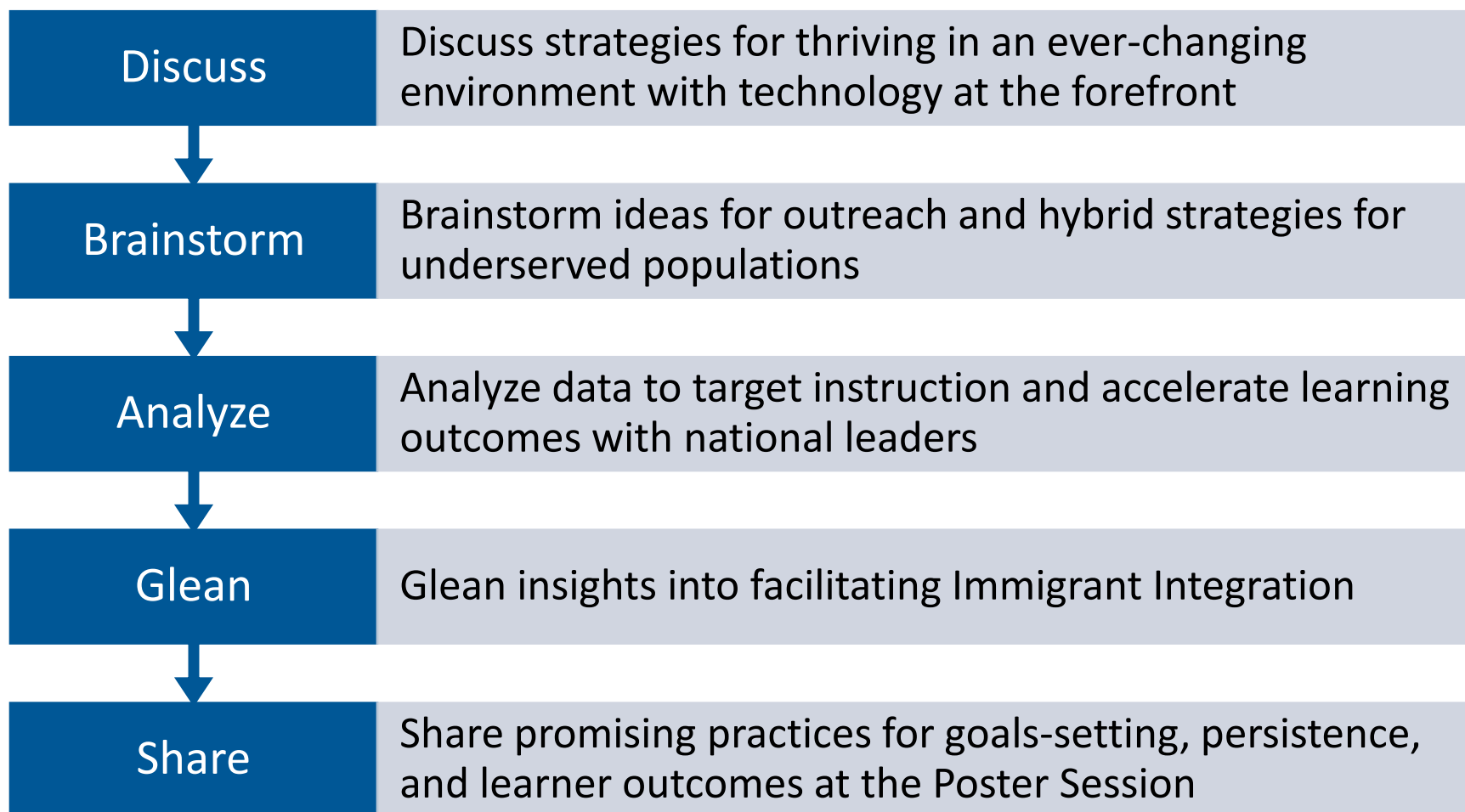


Successful innovation requires relentless commitment, consistency, and collaboration.

~Monique Beedles



Reason 1 – Gather with Colleagues



Reason 2 – Update your Knowledge

- Learn about new test series and developments
- Attend Technology Labs for hands-on practice
- Get certified to administer CASAS eTests or paper tests
- Use data to your advantage – TOPSpro Enterprise (TE)
- Understand inclusive programming for EL Civics and Citizenship
- Learn how the National External Diploma Program (NEDP) can benefit your students
- Discuss how to give students the job-seeking edge with the Workforce Skills Certification System (WSCS)
- Much more!

Reason 3 - Join the fun!

- CASAS Social events
- Great food (yes, really)
- Beautiful facility and a pool
- Family-friendly environment
- Group Fitness and Vinyasa Yoga
- Local restaurants within walking distance



Who should attend?

Administrators, teachers,
test proctors, support staff

Workforce development
professionals

Business and industry
representatives

State-level adult education
personnel



When is National Summer Institute?



Monday, June 12

Virtual: Technology trainings only

**No in-person offerings on Monday*



Tuesday – Thursday June 13 to 15

In-person: Trainings, workshops, and panels.

Virtual: Selected trainings and workshops

Hybrid: Selected in-person sessions streamed

Hyatt Regency Orange County



Book your hotel room early!

Hyatt Regency Orange County California
11999 Harbor Blvd, Garden Grove, CA 92840

[Hotel Booking Link](#)

Hotel Rates:

- \$177 (plus tax) for single and double occupancy
- Each additional guest in room is \$25

Parking per day:

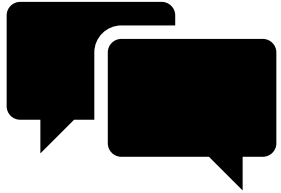
- Self Park - \$18
- Valet - \$36.

General Schedule

Monday June 12, 2023	Tuesday June 13, 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. - Virtual Technology Training ONLY* <i>*No in-person offerings on Monday</i> 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration Open 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 a.m. Group Fitness 7:30 a.m. Breakfast 7:15 a.m. Registration opens 9:00 a.m. Sessions 12:30 p.m. Hosted Lunch 1:45 p.m. to 5 p.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concurrent Training Sessions 6:00 p.m. - Vinyasa Yoga

General Schedule (continued)

Wednesday June 14, 2023	Thursday June 15, 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6:30 a.m. – Group Fitness • 7:30 a.m. – Breakfast • 8:00 a.m. – Registration opens • 9:00 a.m. – Keynote • 10:45 a.m. – Sessions • 12:15 p.m. - Lunch on Your Own • 2:00 p.m. – Sessions • 3:30 p.m. – California Consortium and Focus Groups • 5:30 p.m. - Evening Reception • 7:15 p.m. - Vinyasa Yoga 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6:30 a.m. - Vinyasa Yoga • 7:30 a.m. – Breakfast • 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Poster Session • 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Registration • Sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. • 11:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. • 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. • 2:45 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.



What people are saying...

Meeting with other education professionals from different areas of the United States broadens our horizon on what best practices are out there that we can glean from.

A lot of good information and resources. New ideas and technology.

The presenters were awesome and had great energy.

The best presenters, trainings, and attendees of any conference I have been to. Highly recommend!

Registration Options

In-person
\$680

Virtual
\$500

In-person
Technology Lab
Fee – \$80 each



The banner features a large graphic on the left consisting of two overlapping triangles: a teal one on the left and an orange one on the right, separated by a white diagonal line. Inside the teal triangle is a white icon of two people at a computer, with the word "Virtual" below it. Inside the orange triangle is a white icon of three people standing, with the text "In-person" below it. To the right of this graphic, the text "CASAS National Summer Institute 2023" is displayed, with "CASAS" in blue and the rest in green. A small orange sun icon is to the left of "Summer". Below this, "Hyatt Regency Orange County" and "June 12-15" are written in blue. Further down, "Registration is open." is in blue, and a large orange button with the word "Register" in white is at the bottom.

CASAS National
Summer Institute 2023

Hyatt Regency Orange County
June 12-15

Registration is open.

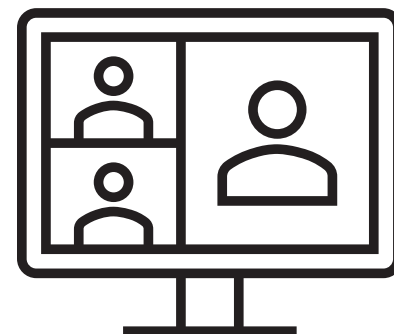
Register

June 12 – Virtual Technology Trainings Only

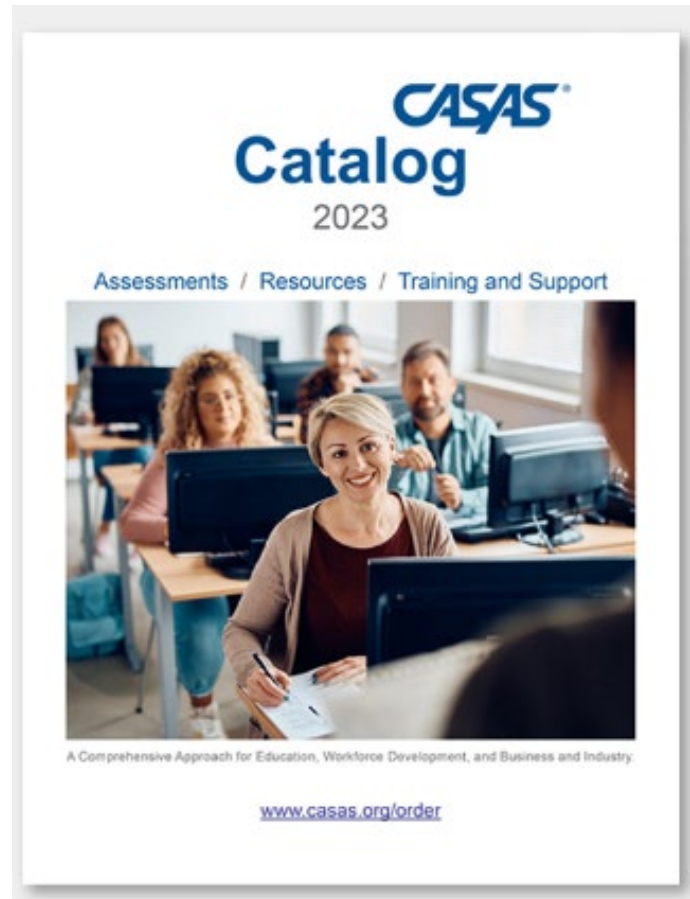
Upcoming Events

“Office Hours” with CASAS Staff

- Attendees drive the sessions with their questions
- **Fridays, 11am Pacific/2pm Eastern**
 - **Save the Dates: February 10, March 10, March 24**
- Register:
<https://www.casas.org/training-and-support/casas-live-office-hours>



Download the **NEW** CASAS Catalog



- <https://tinyurl.com/55wycts8>

Presidents' Day Observed

- Closed Friday and Monday, February 17-20, 2023
- No Tech Support



National News & Updates Webinar

What's New

- [eTests Test Security: Take a Test](#)
- [Field Testing Opportunities](#)
- [Getting started with CASAS eTests](#)
- [Remote Testing](#)
- [Office Hours Registration](#)
- [National News & Updates Webinars](#)
- [Live Facilitated Training Registration](#)
- [Fairness and Equity Statement](#)
- [Help Documentation & Videos](#)
- [Social Justice Resources](#)
- [FAQs](#)

- **Wednesday, April 19**
- 11 am Pacific/2 pm Eastern
- [Click](#) to register today!



Thank you for attending!

Recording of this webinar and the PPT will all be posted in the What's New/News and Update Webinars section on the CASAS website.

- Summer Institute, casas-si@casas.org
- General CASAS Information, info@casas.org
- Order Department – orders@casas.org
- Field Testing – fieldtesting@casas.org
- Tech Support – techsupport@casas.org
- Training – training@casas.org
- eTests Implementation – golive@casas.org
- Remote Testing – remotetesting@casas.org