CASAS National News and Updates Webinar

December 11, 2024

© 2024 CASAS — Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems. All rights reserved.

Welcome to the December 2024 CASAS National Webinar

- Presentation questions?
  USE Q & A
- Technical Difficulties?
  USE CHAT
- **PowerPoint** is posted on the Webinar Webpage
- Webinar **recording will be posted by December 18**

Message from the President

Jane Eguez

CASAS President

Let CASAS Be Your Compass!

We Wish You a Merry CASASmas!

Agenda

- Test Development and Research Updates
- Promising Practice: National External Diploma Program (NEDP)
- TOPSpro Enterprise Updates
- Training Updates
- Important Reminders

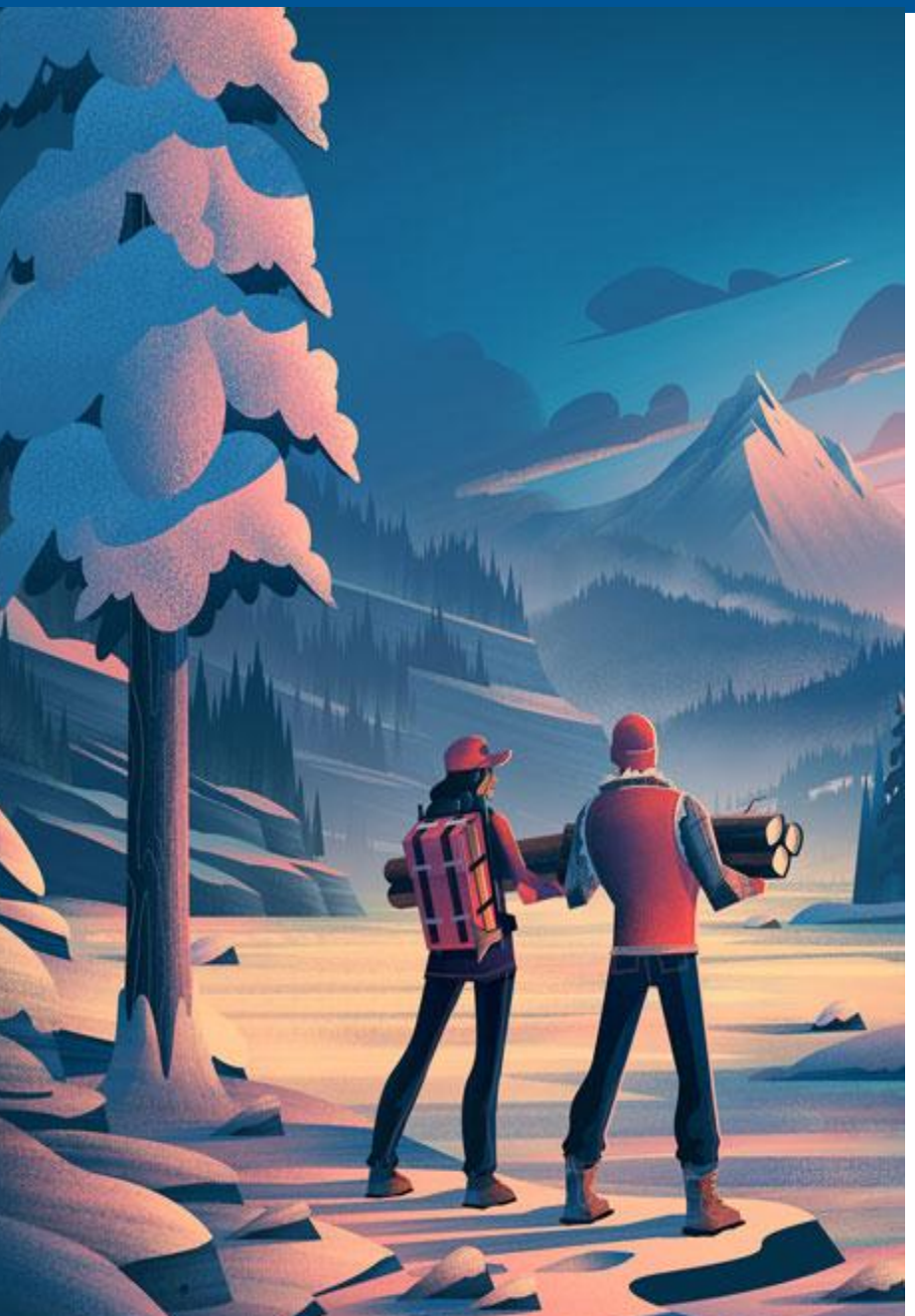
Let CASAS Be Your Compass!

Assessment Update

All I Want from CASAS is to Not Retest

Daniel Esko

Assessment Development Program Manager



Reading

GOALS 2

CASAS

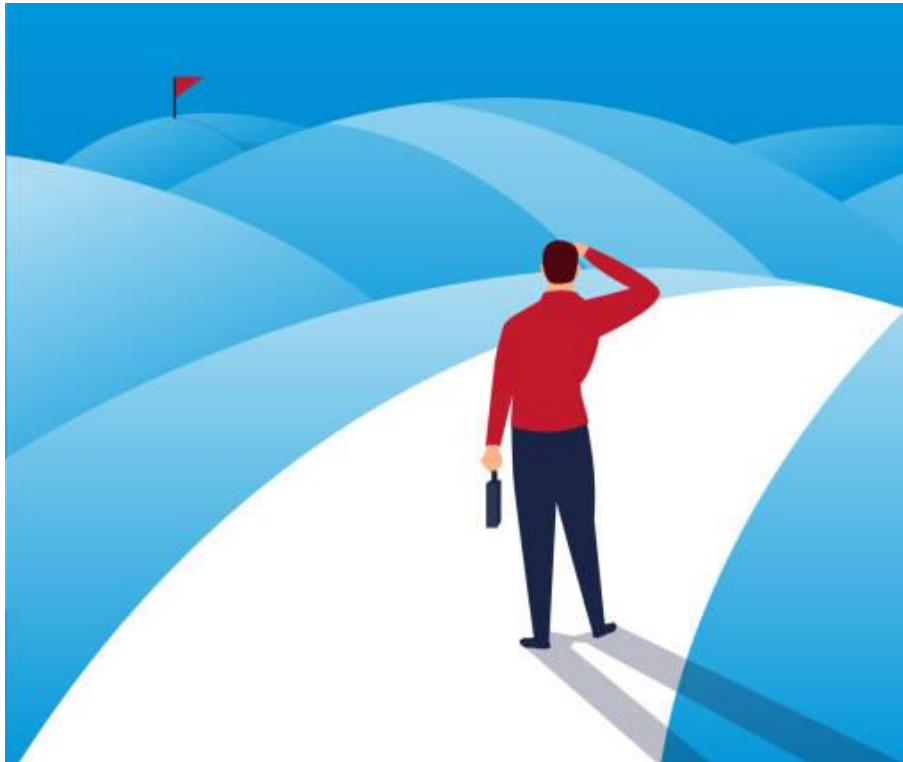
Submit for NRS Approval

Support Materials

We need your help!

Field Testing

- Reading CAT
  (Computer Adaptive Test)
- New Listening Items



Level A Inaccurate Scores (*)

- Reading GOALS
- Math GOALS 2
- Reading STEPS
- Listening STEPS

Level A Inaccurate Scores

Students with low levels of literacy

- Need to place students into NRS Level 1
- Need to assign scale score for reporting

Reading STEPS Level A, Form 621

Inaccurate Score (*)

Next Assigned Tests – Level A, Form 621R

Student Raw Score	Student Scale Score	NRS Level	Next Assigned Test
0	*		
1	*		
2	*		
3	*		
4	160		
5	162		
6	165		
7	167		
8	169		
9	171		
10	172	1	Level A Form 622R
11	174		

Updated Reading STEPS Level A, Form 621

Inaccurate Score (*)

Next Assigned Tests – Level A, Form 621R

Student Raw Score	Student Scale Score	NRS Level	Next Assigned Test
0	160	1	Level A Form 622R
1	160		
2	160		
3	160		
4	160	1	Level A Form 622R
5	162		
6	165		
7	167		
8	169		
9	171		
10	172		
11	174		

OCTAE! OCTAE! OCTAE!
Adds FLEX-I-BIL-I-TY

TIME FOR A POLL…

What winter activity best describes how you feel about using alternative assessments?

- ❑ **No thanks. I'll just sit here inside and drink my hot cocoa.**
- ❑ **Polar bear plunge. I'm ready to jump in with both feet!**
- ❑ **Ice fishing. I want to try it, so I'll put a little line in and see what bites.**

Promising Practice: I'm Dreaming of an Alternative Diploma Option

Margaret Kirkpatrick, NEDP Director

Janita McNemar, NEDP National Training Specialist

Trudy Rice and Roz Rowan, College of Southern Maryland

NEDP:
The National External Diploma Program

An Alternative High School Completion Option

National External Diploma Program (NEDP)

- Competency-based, applied performance assessment
- Series of simulations that parallel job and life situations
- Recognized as Innovative Practice and Innovator for Digital Literacy

Reginald from
Academy of Hope, DC

National External Diploma Program © 2024 CASAS – Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems. All rights reserved.

Key Characteristics of NEDP

- Self-paced and flexible
- Learner self-efficacy and active engagement
- Appropriate for second language speakers and those who learn differently
- High intermediate level score on CASAS reading, math, and writing instruments.

Miran from Fairfax, VA

National External Diploma Program © 2024 CASAS – Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems. All rights reserved.

NEDP Client Outcomes

- Acquire skills needed to demonstrate mastery of competencies
- Are evaluated against a criterion of mastery instead of comparison to others
- Have the flexibility to work and/or obtain workforce training (IET – Integrated Education and Training)

Matt from NY Hub

National External Diploma Program © 2024 CASAS – Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems. All rights reserved.

College of Southern Maryland

COLLEGE of SOUTHERN MARYLAND

Our typical NEDP client…

doesn't do well with timed tests and may have test anxiety

has been away from the classroom environment for a number of years and prefers self- learning

is an older client with life experience/skills

may be balancing home and work schedules

often does not have time in their schedule to attend a class

is mature and self-motivated

College of Southern Maryland

Adult learners who select NEDP prefer a high school diploma program that

- **Is self-paced, with no time limit**
- **Gives flexibility to busy adults**
- **Prepares learners for their next steps**
- **Includes a diverse set of learners**
- **Measures skills in real-world contexts**

COLLEGE of SOUTHERN MARYLAND

CSM Graduate Meryem with CSM President Dr. Yolanda Wilson and Vice President for Continuing Edu and Workforce Development Ellen Flowers-Fields.

College of Southern Maryland's NEDP Statistics

68% Female	57% Age 25 - 44	63% Employed
43% Graduation Rate	66% Retention Rate	58 Active Clients

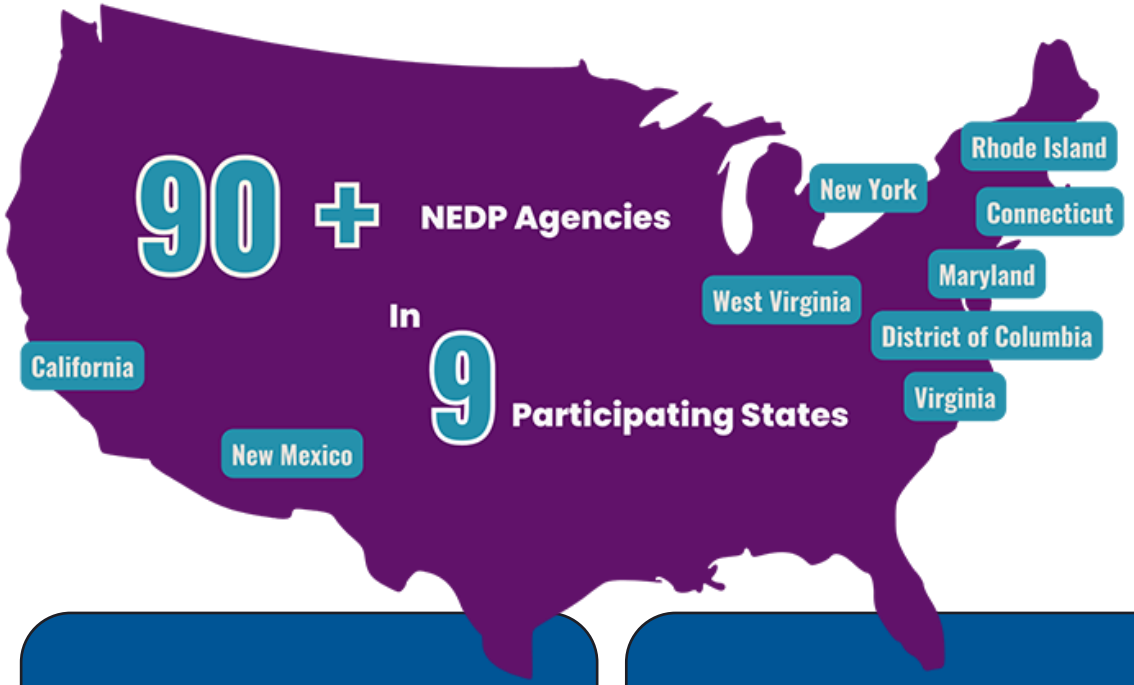
COLLEGE of SOUTHERN MARYLAND

The NEDP Hub

- In the beginning: New York looks at equity of access
- Local, regional, or state Hub
- Available to all qualifying adult learners without a local provider
- Staffed by experienced NEDP Advisor/Assessors
- Delivered via contract with CASAS/NEDP
- All proctored work is completed remotely

Want to Know More?

- Go to www.nedp.org and click **Prospective Providers** for the *NEDP Information Kit*
- Contact us to
  - schedule an information session
  - ask questions
  - connect with other providers



Trudy Rice
tlrice@csmd.edu
Roz Rowan
rdrowan@csmd.edu

Janita McNemar
NEDP National Trainer
jmcnemar@casas.org

Margaret Kirkpatrick
NEDP Director
mkirkpatrick@casas.org

NEDP Inbox
nedp@casas.org

CASAS eTests / TE Updates

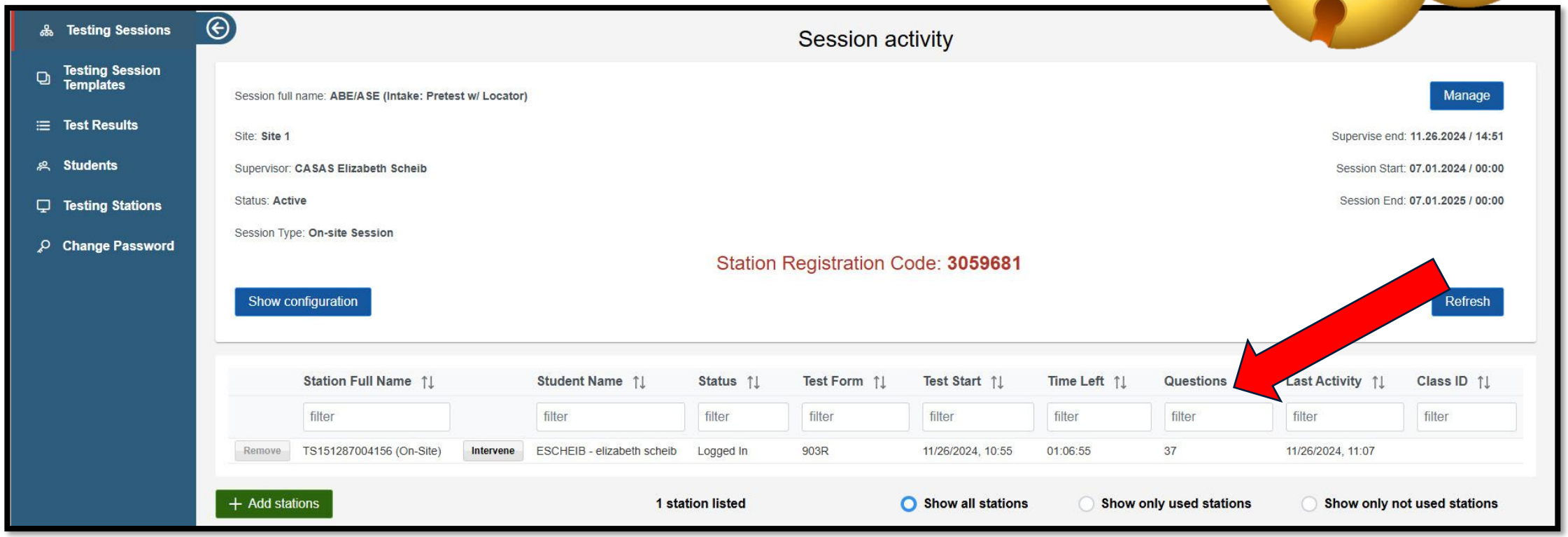
What a bright time, it's the right time, to proctor the right way

Elizabeth Scheib

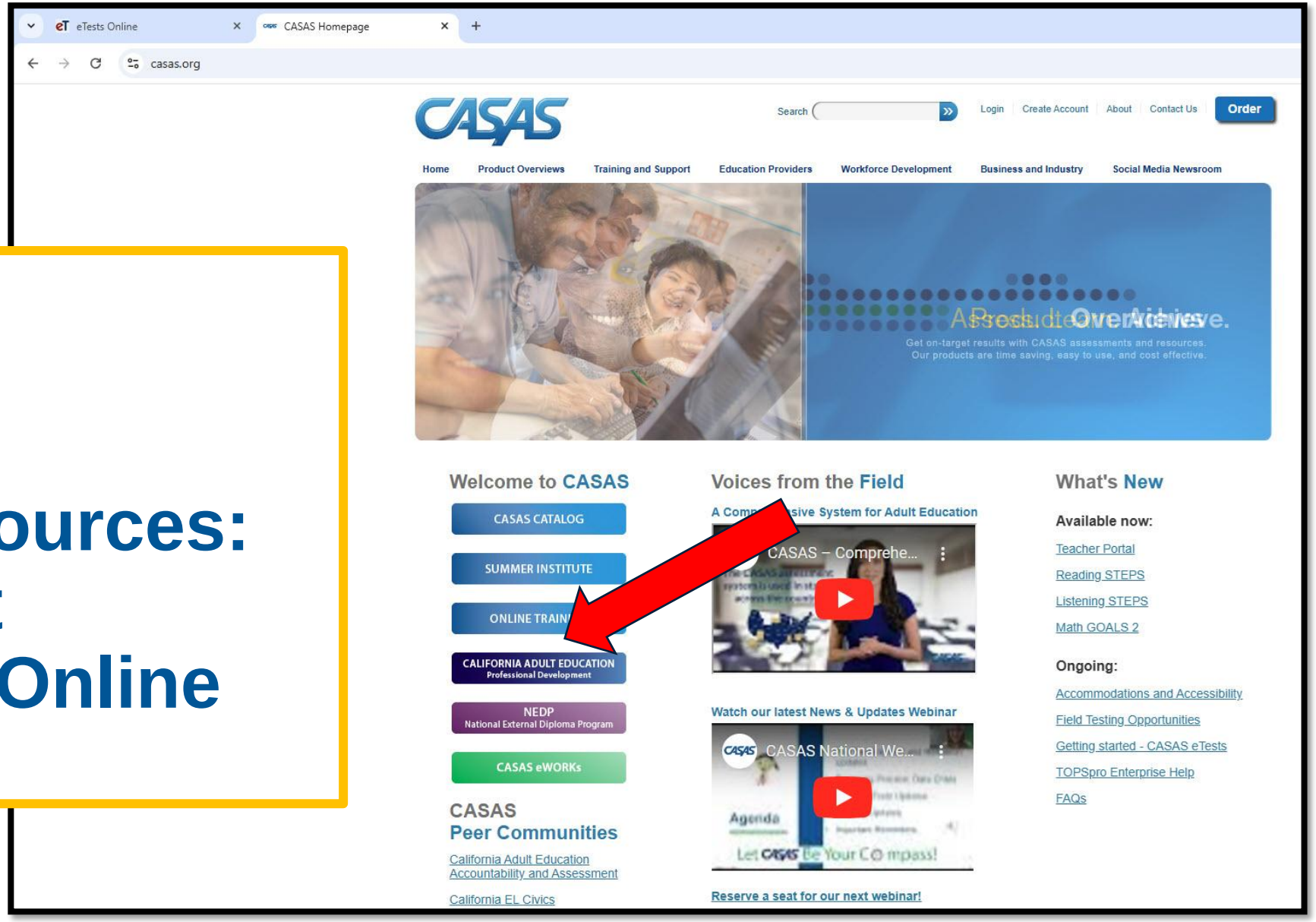
National Program and Onboarding Specialist

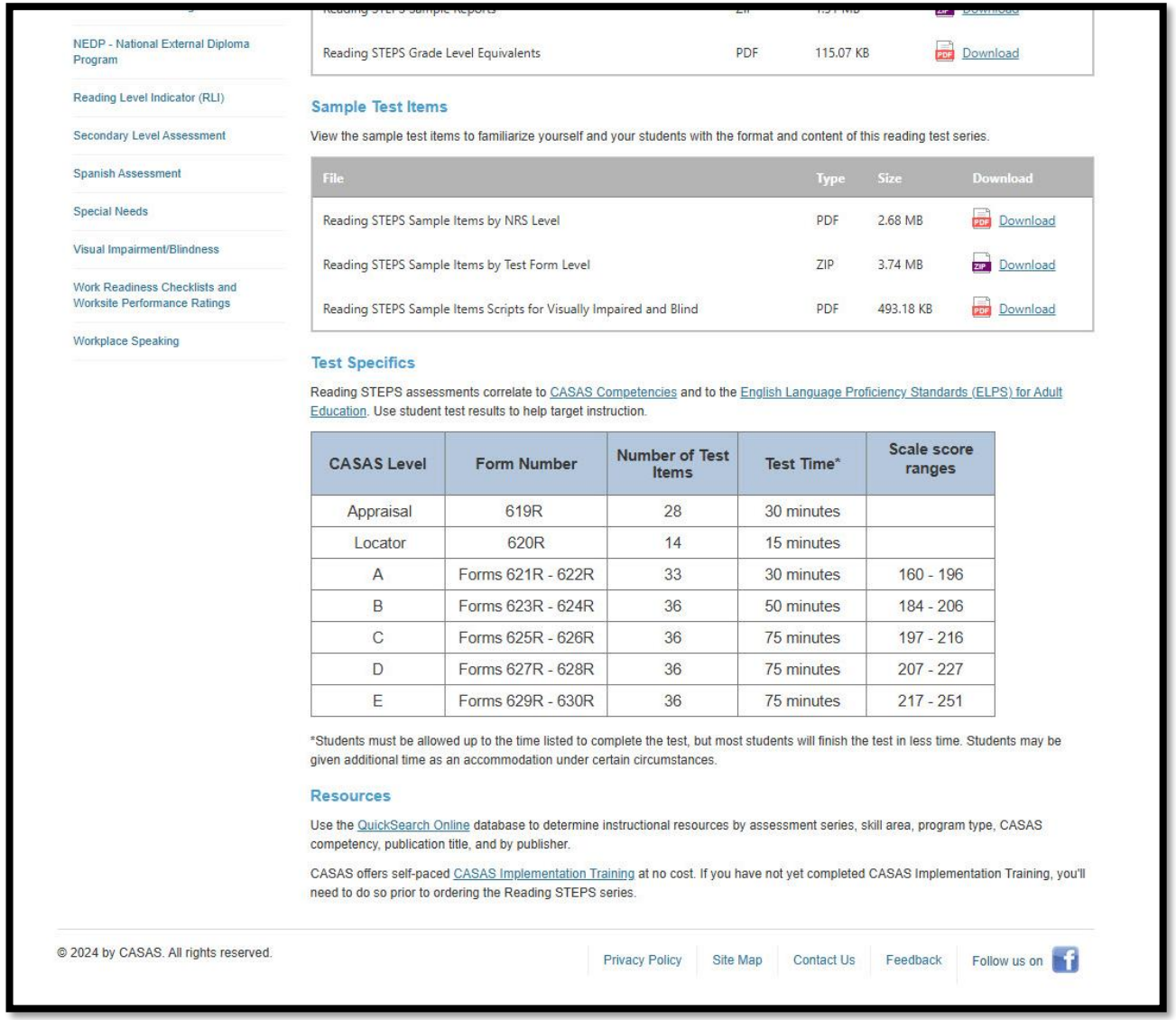
December 11, 2024

Proctor Resources: Testing Session Activity Page



Proctor Resources: Assessment Information Online





NEDP - National External Diploma Program

Reading Level Indicator (RLI)

Secondary Level Assessment

Spanish Assessment

Special Needs

Visual Impairment/Blindness

Work Readiness Checklists and Worksite Performance Ratings

Workplace Speaking

Reading STEPS Grade Level Equivalents	PDF	115.07 KB	Download

Sample Test Items

View the sample test items to familiarize yourself and your students with the format and content of this reading test series.

File	Type	Size	Download
Reading STEPS Sample Items by NRS Level	PDF	2.68 MB	Download
Reading STEPS Sample Items by Test Form Level	ZIP	3.74 MB	Download
Reading STEPS Sample Items Scripts for Visually Impaired and Blind	PDF	493.18 KB	Download

Test Specifics

Reading STEPS assessments correlate to CASAS Competencies and to the English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS) for Adult Education. Use student test results to help target instruction.

CASAS Level	Form Number	Number of Test Items	Test Time*	Scale score ranges
Appraisal	619R	28	30 minutes	
Locator	620R	14	15 minutes	
A	Forms 621R - 622R	33	30 minutes	160 - 196
B	Forms 623R - 624R	36	50 minutes	184 - 206
C	Forms 625R - 626R	36	75 minutes	197 - 216
D	Forms 627R - 628R	36	75 minutes	207 - 227
E	Forms 629R - 630R	36	75 minutes	217 - 251

*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.

Resources

Use the QuickSearch Online database to determine instructional resources by assessment series, skill area, program type, CASAS competency, publication title, and by publisher.

CASAS offers self-paced CASAS Implementation Training at no cost. If you have not yet completed CASAS Implementation Training, you'll need to do so prior to ordering the Reading STEPS series.

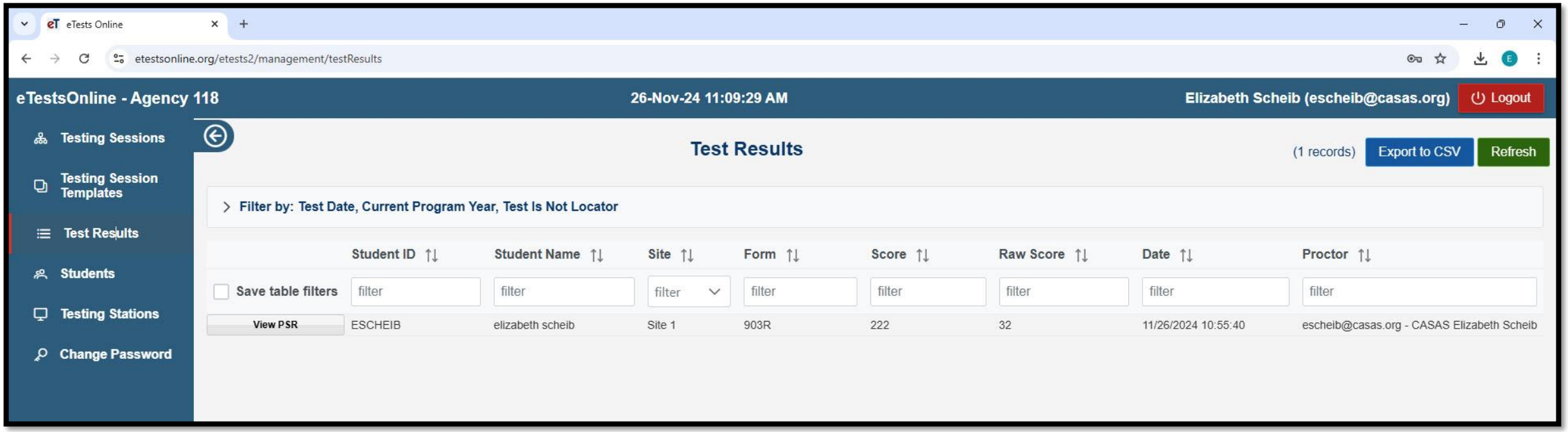
© 2024 by CASAS. All rights reserved.

Privacy Policy | Site Map | Contact Us | Feedback | Follow us on

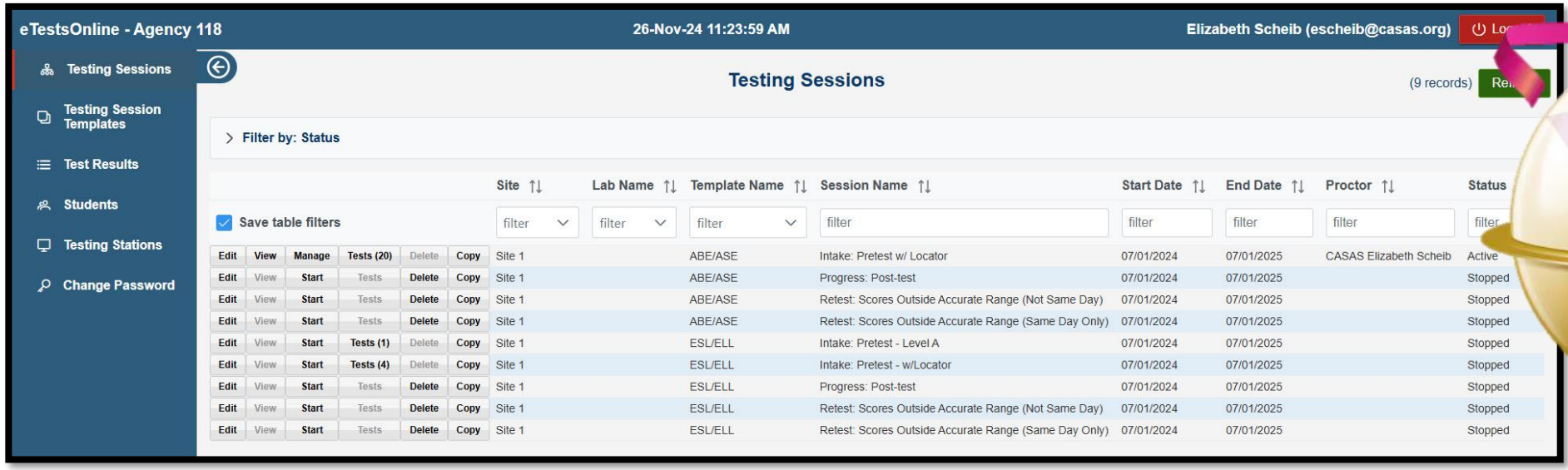
Proctor Resources: Assessment Information Online

Proctor Resources: Test Results in eTests

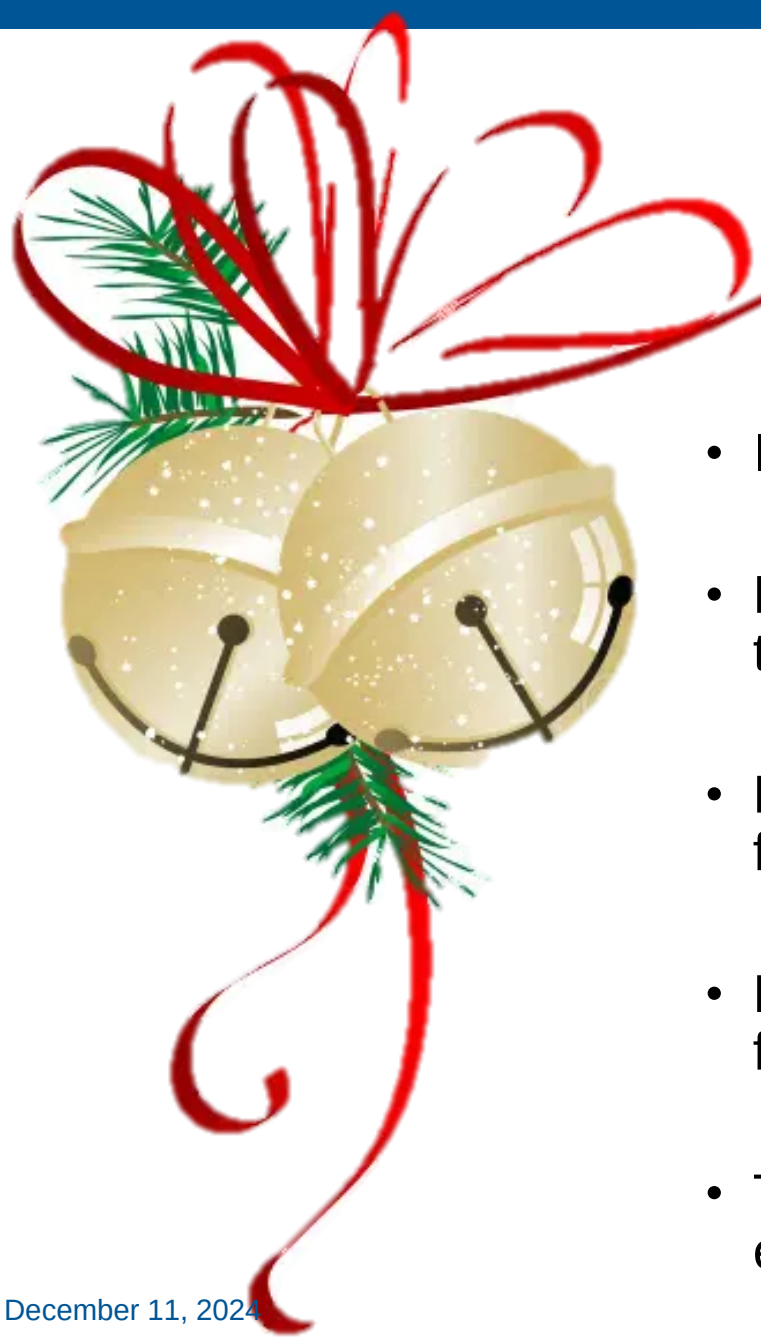
* = Inaccurate Score
◆= Conservative Estimate
Retesting may be needed!



Proctor Resources: eTests Testing Sessions



When using the retesting session, be aware that students could complete more than one test if the proctor isn't carefully monitoring!



Proctor the Right Way

- Inform your proctors of these resources to help build best practices!
- Monitor the testing session activity screen at all times during student testing!
- Know how many questions are on a test form to assist students as they finish and escort them out of the testing area.
- Retest students without valid test scores as soon as possible. Retesting for students at Level A without a valid score is no longer necessary.
- Track student test records in eTests and TOPSpro Enterprise to effectively collect accurate, paired test scores

Training Update

O Training Site, O Training Site, How Lovely are Thy Modules

Astrid Robitaille

National Program and Online Training Specialist

Celebrating classic holiday combinations:

Latkes and sour cream

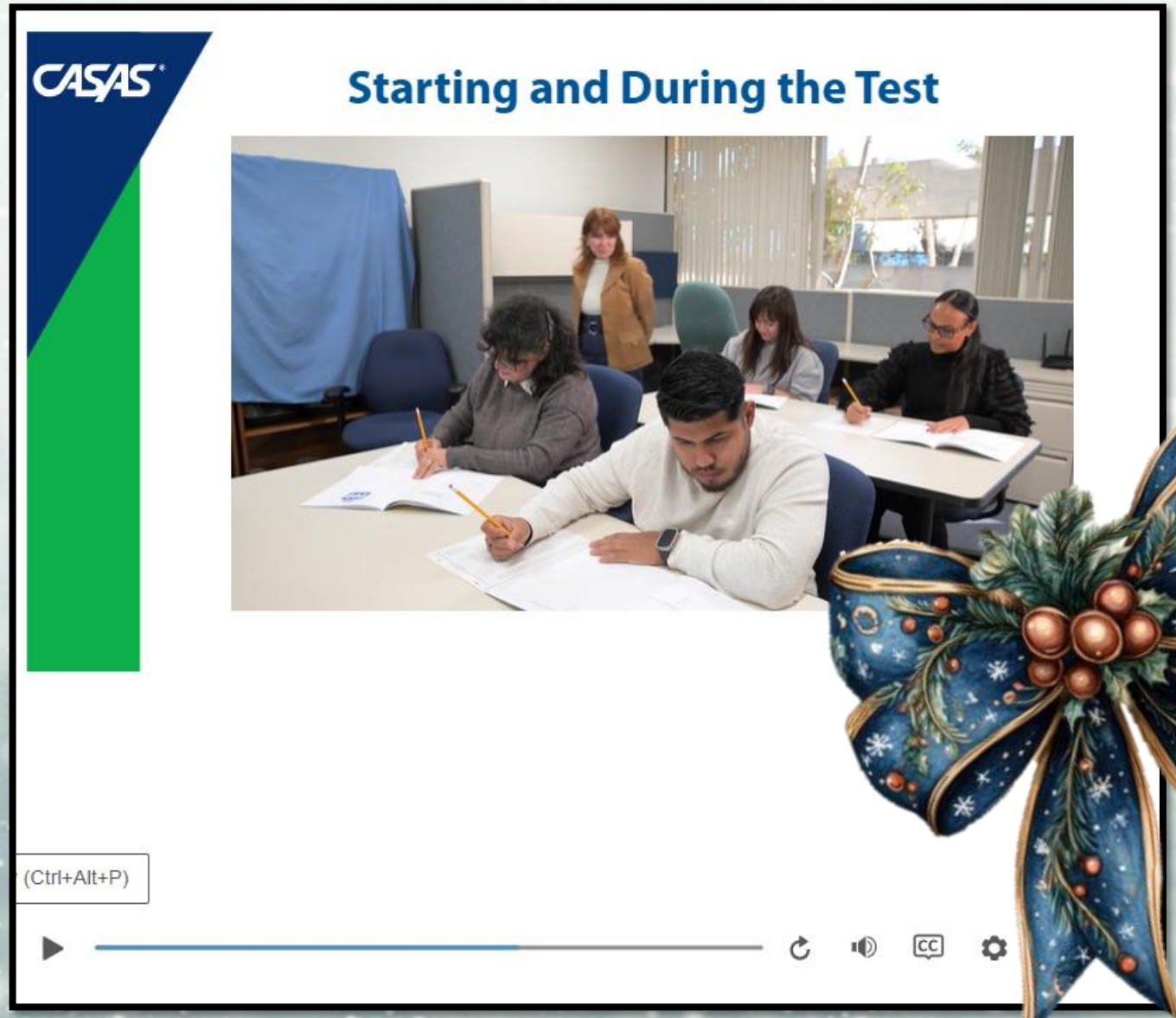
Black-eyed peas and collard greens

Cocoa and cookies

Introducing another great combination…..

Module 3: Launching Paper Tests with Proctor Certification

Module 3: Launching Paper Tests with Proctor Certification



We've combined two classics:
Module 3: Paper Test Implementation
+
Paper Test Proctor Certification

into one interactive, multimedia training.

Preview of coming attractions:

“It’s the gift that keeps on giving, Clark….” -Cousin Eddie

PRODUCTION CASAs

SCENE eTests Coordinator Certification

DATE Winter 2025

Wrap it Up!

Should Auld Assessments Be Forgot and Never Used Again

Kristine Kruczek Mains

National Program and Training Specialist

New Student Video

- Overview of the CASAS testing process
- Includes key words with images

This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-NC

Spice it up!

Teacher Portal

- **Live Teacher Portal Training**
- February 13, 2025 - 11 am Pacific

Reserve a seat

This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY

eWORKs Wonderland

- **Live eWORKs Training**
- December 12 - 9 am *or* 1 p.m.

Reserve a seat

December 11, 2024

Cozy Up at CASAS Office Hours

Reserve a seat.

Save the Dates!

December 13
January 10
January 24
February 7
February 21

- **Fridays, 11a.m. Pacific / 2p.m. Eastern**
- Attendees *drive these virtual sessions with their questions*

“Gift of Time”

We hope to see you at the next CASAS News and Updates Webinar!

Wednesday, February 5, 2024

11 am Pacific/2 pm Eastern

Reserve a Seat