

CASAS TESTING

Pars Equality Center, LA

Mehrnaz Saadat

ESL and Citizenship Education Program Manager

WHO WE ARE



<https://parsequalitycenter.org/>

Pars Equality Center's mission is to catalyze social, civic and economic integration of immigrants from Persian-speaking and other countries into American society.

Legal Services

Social Services

Scholarship

Vocational English as a Second Language
and Citizenship Instruction

WIOA & FUNDING

- July 2020 : 20-21 Program year
- **Community-Based Organization:**
 - Persian Speaking Immigrants
 - Afghan Refugees
- **ESL program Funding:**
 - 32%
 - Grants from foundations
 - Pars' Annual Gala

HOW WE STARTED

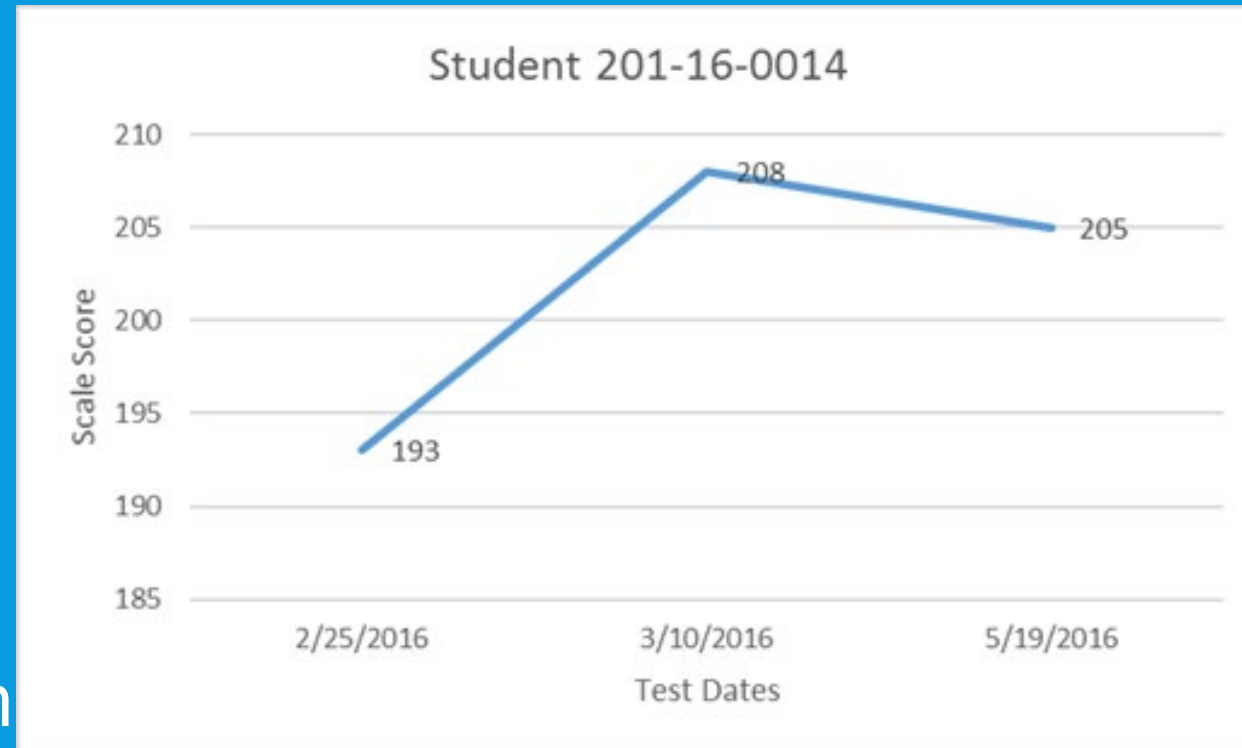
- Complete the Implementation Trainings
- Order the material (Manual, booklets, CDs, answer sheets)
- Give the test
- Score and interpret the test results

**February 2016: Main intake-placement system
(paper-based tests)**

- Individual oral interviews
- Those eligible take the listening/reading test on the same day

STUDENTS' PROGRESS

- Requirement: CASAS pre-test and post-test on a regular basis
- ESL Textbooks: In compliance with the pre- and post-tests
- Test results: Required to report individual progress and skill level
- EX. Student's progress based on the skill level descriptors for ESL.



REMOTE TESTING – MAY 2020

- Confirm system requirements
- Complete trainings and agency agreements

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Thank you, CASAS Tech Support Team!

- Register testing stations
- Conduct a trial run
- Retrieve results and generate reports

NUMBER OF STUDENTS AND LEARNING GAINS

- **Los Angeles Site:** Approximately 145 students / quarter
- **Class Setting:** Remote and In-person
- **Learning Gain:** Paired pre- and post-test



Learning Gains Summary

11/11/2022
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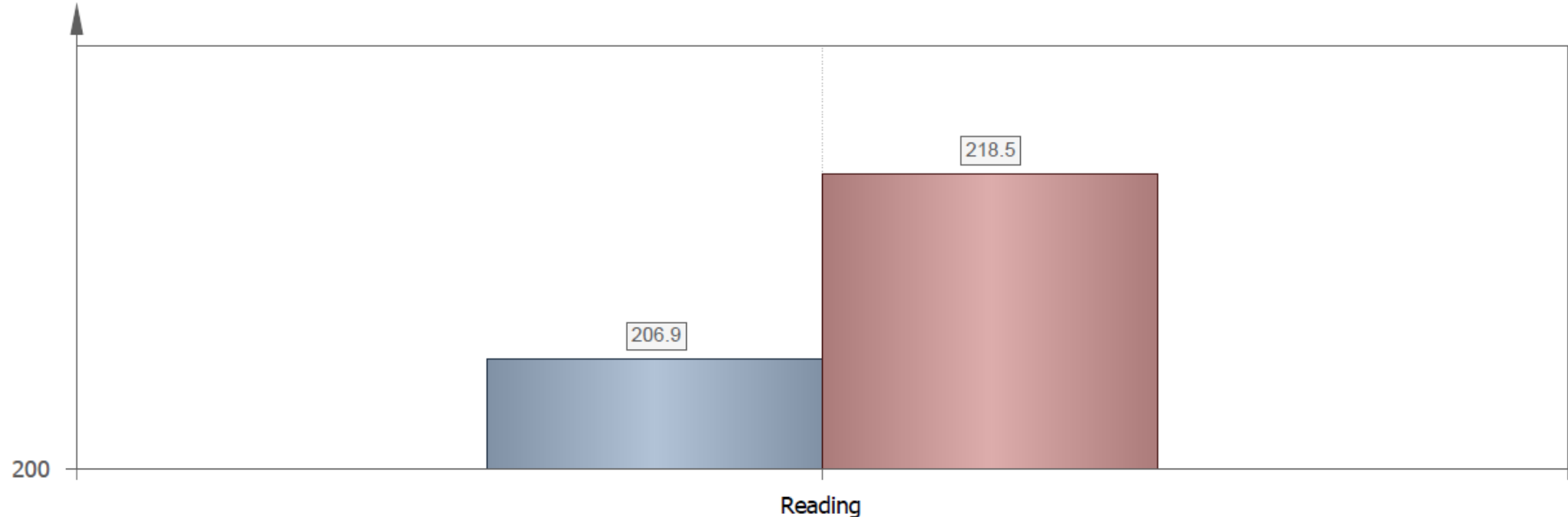
First to High by Agency

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LGSFH2

Agency: 11988 - Pars Equality Center

Program: ESL/ELL

| No of Students: | 266 | CASAS Reading | | | | | Gain | Hours |
|-------------------------|-----|---------------|------------|-----|-----------|------|------|-------|
| | | N | First Test | N | High Test | | | |
| All test scores: | 266 | 266 | 207.2 | 140 | 218.4 | ~ | 0.0 | |
| Paired accurate scores: | 139 | 139 | 206.9 | 139 | 218.5 | 11.6 | 0.0 | |



STUDENTS' PERSISTENCE

- Close interaction with students
- Understanding cultural differences
- Integrated services
- Financial assistance
- Placement and evaluation of students' progress
- Offering both remote and in-person classes (commute issues)
- Quarterly based ESL program offered in different levels

ENROLLMENT SYSTEM AND PLACEMENT

Generating Online Intake Forms: Google Forms /
Online Registration Website



Gather all required information

Scheduling for placement tests



Online appointment system for placement

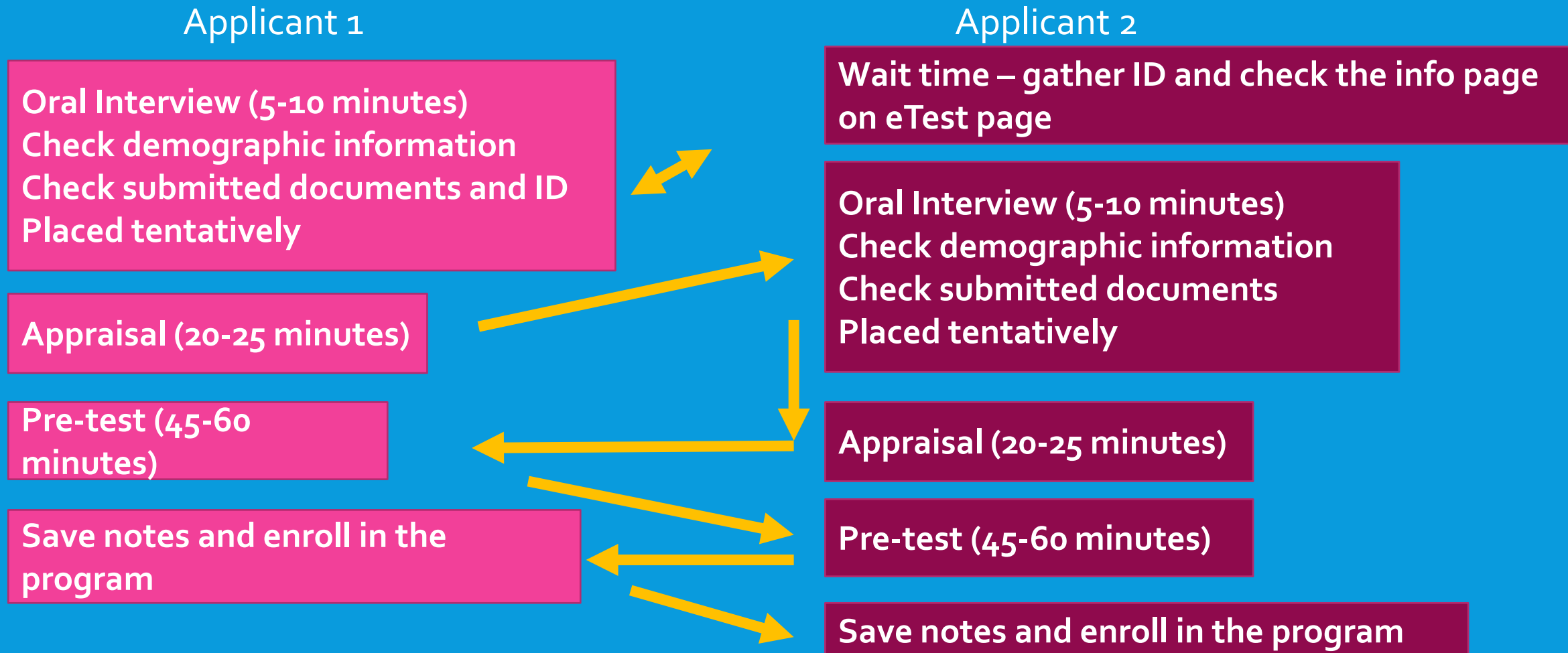
CONDUCTING REMOTE TEST

- One-on-one Zoom meetings
- Using multiple Zoom accounts
- Adding more testing stations
- Giving tests to two individuals at the same time

MANAGING REMOTE TESTING

- Greet the applicants on Zoom
- Interview
- Appraisal – Form 80 (Reading)
- Pre-Test (Life and Work Reading Series)
- Enroll

REMOTE TESTING SIMULTANEOUSLY



POST-TEST AND RETENTION STRATEGIES

Post-test:

- Given at the end of the quarter- Appointment based
- Part of the curriculum

Retention Strategies:

- Quarterly Orientation Sessions
- A requirement for continuing the program
- Part of the grading system
- Letter of English proficiency skills (for job seekers)

FINAL NOTES

Challenges:

- Technical Issues
- Digital literacy
- Providing tech support as needed by all our staff
- Timing and limited budget/staff

**Women,
Life,
Freedom**



Q & A



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tKPORYN5mCQ>