

**Florida Department of Education
Assessment Policies
Initial Training of Test
Administrators
CASAS 101**

Tests Approved by FLDOE for ESOL

Adult ESOL and ELCATE

- *Life and Work Series*

- Pre-test and post-test in reading and listening for instructional purposes
- Report only reading score to the state

Tests Approved by FLDOE for ESOL

- **Citizenship**
 - *Life and Work Series*
 - Pre-test recommended in reading and listening
 - Score of 200 or more recommended for placement
 - No post-test required

Tests Approved by FLDOE for ESOL

- **Academic Skills Course**
 - *Life and Work Series*
 - Pre-test recommended in reading and listening
 - Score of 235 or more recommended for placement
 - No post-test required

Tests Approved by FLDOE for ESOL

- **Workplace Skills Course**
 - *Life and Work Series*
 - Develop a contract between school and employer to determine how to administer Pre- tests and Post-tests and how to use scores for placement.

CASAS Tests Approved for ABE

ABE Reading

Life and Work Series

- Pre- and post-test in reading

ABE Mathematics

Life Skills Series Math

- Pre- and post-test in mathematics

ABE Language Arts

Functional Writing Assessment

- Pre- and post-test in writing

GLOSSARY

- **EFL Educational Functioning Level**
 - Classification used by NRS. Adult ESOL has six EFLs.
- **LCP Literacy Completion Point**
 - Progress made by a student in EFLs. One LCP is earned when a student makes one EFL gain.
 - Agencies receiving State of Florida Workforce Education funds report LCPs to FLDOE.
- **INITIAL EFL**
 - Establishes a baseline for measuring future federal EFL gains and state Literacy Completion Points.
- **NRS National Reporting System**
 - A federal report of student outcomes in agencies supported by federal adult education funds.

CASAS Tests Approved for ABE

- **ABE Comprehensive:**
 - ***Life and Work Series Reading Pre- and Post-test***
 - ***Life Skills Series Math Pre- and Post-test***
 - ***Functional Writing Assessment Pre- and Posttest***

CASAS Tests Approved for ABE

- **GED Preparatory:**
 - *Life and Work Series Reading Pre- and Post-test*
 - *Life Skills Series Math Pre- and Post-test*
 - *Functional Writing Assessment Pre- and Post-test*

FLDOE Policy on Pre- and Post-test times

- Agencies are required to administer **PRE-TEST** to all students before they complete **12 hours** of instruction
- Agencies must administer **POST-TEST** to all students after completing **70-100 hours** of instruction, per CASAS.

FLDOE Policy on Exceptions

- Exceptions to post-testing at less than 70 hours should be limited and rare.
- Leaving the agency before 70 hours is not sufficient reason by itself to post-test before 70 hours. If a student indicates he or she will leave before 70 hours:
 - Review student's work to determine if the student has made sufficient progress to indicate it is likely the student will show progress on a post-test
 - Examples of student's work: informal tests on reading and listening, portfolio of reading

FLDOE Policy on Exceptions

- **EXCEPTIONS MUST:**

- Be approved by agency director or designee
- Be recorded in the data reporting system
- Be retained in the student's record
- Be made available for review upon request by FLDOE monitors

- **DOCUMENTATION**

- **Must show the student has made sufficient progress**
- **Examples:**
 - Portfolio of reading completed by student
 - Informal assessments on listening and reading

LEVELS OF ESOL SHOWING FEDERAL NRS EFLS AND STATE OF FLORIDA LCPS.

1 EFLS for ESOL	2 Scale Score Range*	3 <u>INITIAL</u> EFL	4 Lower Skill **	5 <u>NEXT</u> EFL	6 Completion Code for LCPS
Foundations	170 -180	1	180-189	2	A
Low Beg.	181-190	2	190-199	3	B
High Beg.	191-200	3	200-209	4	C
Low Int.	201-210	4	210-219	5	D
High Int.	211-220	5	220-229	6	E
Advanced	221-235	6	≥235	7	F

This table shows the levels of the ESOL Course, with the federal NRS EFLs, and the State of Florida LCPS.

EFL = Educational Functioning Levels mark the progress of adult education students for NRS reports.

LCP = Literacy Completion Points indicate student progress in agencies that are funded by state workforce education funds. School districts report the LCPS earned by adult education students to FLDOE.

NRS = The National Reporting System reports on the outcomes of students in adult education agencies that are supported by federal adult education funds.

* The range of valid scale scores for each EFL. Top score = completion and placement into the next level

** These scale scores are used to know if a student has completed a level and can be placed into next level

INITIAL EFL Placement

- To establish the INITIAL EFL for NRS reports, use the pre-test reading score.

NRS EFLs for ESOL	Score Ranges	<u>INITIAL</u> EFL	LOWER SCORE R or L	<u>NEXT</u> EFL	Code for State LCP
Foundations	170-180	1	180-189	2	A
Low Beginning	181-190	2	190-199	3	B
High Beginning	191-200	3	200-209	4	C
Low Intermediate	201-210	4	210-219	5	D
High Intermediate	211-220	5	220-229	6	E
Advanced	221-235	6	235 and above	7	F

NEXT EFL Placement

To determine the NEXT EFL, compare the pre-test and post-test reading scores

NRS EFLs for ESOL	Score Ranges	<u>INITIAL</u> EFL	LOWER SCORE R or L	<u>NEXT</u> EFL	Code for State LCP
Foundations	170-180	1	180-189	2	A
Low Beginning	181-190	2	190-199	3	B
High Beginning	191-200	3	200-209	4	C
Low Intermediate	201-210	4	210-219	5	D
High Intermediate	211-220	5	220-229	6	E
Advanced	221-235	6	235 and above	7	F

FEDERAL EFLs

- Step 1: Use Reading Pre-test score to determine Initial EFL.
- Step 2: After **70-100** hours of instruction, administer post-test.
- Step 3: Determine next EFL by comparing Reading pre-test and post-test. If post-test score falls on the top score or higher, report one EFL gain to FLDOE.

STATE LCPs

Step 1: Use Reading Pre-test score to determine Initial EFL.

Step 2: After **70-100** hours of instruction, administer post-test.

Step 3: Determine next EFL by comparing Reading pre-test and post-test. If post-test score falls on the top score or higher, report one LCP to FLDOE.

- If the score falls into the next higher level, the student has earned 2 LCPs, and so forth.
- If the Reading post-test score falls on the top score of the next level, the student has earned 2 LCPs.
- Remember: Students earn one LCP each time their scores reach or pass the top score of the level they are in.

FLDOE Policy on Completion of Levels

- “Level completion” occurs when the student’s reading score is at the top of the level
- A Reading score at the top of a level indicates that the student has:
 - Completed an EFL for NRS reporting purposes
 - Earned a state LCP
- A Reading pre-test or post-test score at the top of a level indicates the student is to be placed in the next higher level

FLDOE Policy on Completion of Levels

- **ESOL:** When the lower of the reading and listening pre-test scores falls on the top score of a level, the agency is required to report that the placement EFL for that student is in the next higher EFL

FLDOE Policy on Completion of Levels

- **Comprehensive ABE:** When the lower of the reading and math post-test scores falls on the top score of the level, the agency is required to report that the student has placed into the next higher NRS EFL

PRE-TEST: 180 in Reading and 174 in Listening
INITIAL EFL: Low Beginning for NRS Report

NRS EFLs for ESOL	CASAS Scores	INITIAL EFL	REPORTING SCORES	NEXT EFL	LCP Code
Foundations	171 - 180	1	180 -189	2	A
Low Beginning	181-190	2	190-199	3	B
High Beginning	191-200	3	200-209	4	C
Low Intermediate	201-210	4	210-219	5	D
High Intermediate	211-220	5	220-229	6	E
Advanced	221-235	6	≥235	7	F

POST-TEST: 190 in Reading - 194 in Listening
NEXT EFL : In High Beginning for NRS Report
LCP: Earned LCP A for State Workforce Report

NRS EFLs for ESOL	Score Ranges	<u>INITIAL</u> EFL	REPORTING SCORES	<u>NEXT</u> EFL	Code for State LCP
Foundations	170-180	1	180-189	2	A
Low Beginning	181- 190	2	190 -199	3	B
High Beginning	191-200	3	200-209	4	C
Low Intermediate	201-210	4	210-219	5	D
High Intermediate	211-220	5	220-229	6	E
Advanced	221-235	6	≥235	7	F

PRE-TEST: 211 in Reading and 205 in Listening
INITIAL EFL: High Intermediate for NRS Report

NRS EFLs for ESOL	Score Ranges	<u>INITIAL</u> EFL	REPORTING SCORES	<u>NEXT</u> EFL	Code for State LCP
Foundations	170-180	1	180-189	2	A
Low Beginning	181-190	2	190-199	3	B
High Beginning	191-200	3	200-209	4	C
Low Intermediate	201-210	4	210-219	5	D
High Intermediate	211-220	5	220-229	6	E
Advanced	221-235	6	≥235	7	F

POST-TEST: 218 in Reading and 223 in Listening

NEXT EFL: Advanced NRS level

LCP: Earned LCP A for State Workforce Report

NRS EFLs for ESOL	Score Ranges	<u>INITIAL</u> EFL	REPORTING SCORES	<u>NEXT</u> EFL	Code for State LCP
Foundations	170-180	1	180-189	2	A
Low Beginning	181-190	2	190-199	3	B
High Beginning	191-200	3	200-209	4	C
Low Intermediate	201-210	4	210-219	5	D
High Intermediate	211- 220	5	220 -229	6	E
Advanced ←	221-235	6	≥235	7	F

FLDOE Policy on assigning students to ESOL levels:

- Schools with classes separated into levels may assign students to the class based on instructional needs.
- However, the students' EFL based on reading, as reported for state LCPs and federal EFLs, does not change.

FLDOE Policy on enrolling students who do not obtain a valid Pre-test score

- Administer CASAS Oral Screening to determine if students are able to pre-test in reading.
- If not, administer CASAS Form 27 Practice Items and Native Language Literacy Screening (NLLS).
- Students with low NLLS scores should be enrolled in Literacy for ESOL if offered at the school.

Procedures for Enrolling Students Unable to Obtain a Valid Pre-test Score

- Students unable to obtain a valid score on reading pre-test will be placed in Foundations Level if the school does not offer Literacy for ESOL.
- The school should have students attempt the pre-test again as soon as their work in class indicates they are likely to obtain a valid score in reading.

Procedures for Enrolling Students Unable to Obtain a Valid Pre-test Score

- The student may be enrolled in the Foundations level of ESOL, but the school cannot report an Initial EFL on the student until the student has obtained a valid test score in reading.
- Students placed into Foundations without a valid score cannot complete Foundations without a reading pre-test and post-test.

CASAS Policy on “Stop-Out” Students

Post-test scores obtained at the end of a semester or other reporting period may serve as a pre-test for the next semester or reporting period, provided that the interim does not exceed more than four months.

Contact Information

For questions regarding this Florida-specific policy, contact:

Phil Anderson

Florida Department of Education

Division of Career and Adult Education

Adult ESOL Program Specialist

850-245-9450

Philip.Anderson@fldoe.org