

# EWC Adult Basic Education Testing Guidelines-For Instructors

## Diagnostic Pre-testing

- All students must be given a locator test and a complete test battery upon initial intake.
  - **TABE Online form 10** is used for pre-testing and must include the locator / Math / Reading / Language
  - Paper-pencil TABE testing can only be used in correctional facilities or by approval of ABE director.
  - Scores rate students on NRS levels 1-6 in each area; 1=lowest & 6=highest
- Scores students earn on pre-tests determine required hours of instruction and post-testing requirements.

| NRS Level | Level Name                     | Required Instruction | Required post-testing                 | Scores   |
|-----------|--------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 6         | High Secondary Education (ASE) | 12 hour fast-track   | None                                  | 6,6,6 / 6,6,5  |
| 5         | Low Secondary Education (ASE)  | 30 hours             | TABE in all at least one subject area | 5,5,5 / 5,5,6  |
| 4         | High Intermediate Basic Eductn | 40 hours (w/waiver)  | TABE in identified goal areas         | 4,5,5/4,5,6/ 4, 6,6  |
| 4         | High Intermediate Basic Eductn | 50 hours             | TABE in identified subject goal areas | 4,4,5 / 4,4,4  |
| 3         | Low Intermediate Basic Eductn  | 50+ hours            | TABE in identified subject goal areas | 3,3,3 / 3,3,4/ 3,4,5 / 3, 4, 6<br>Or any combination resulting in at least ONE level 3 |
| 2         | Beginning Basic Eductn         | 50+ hours            | TABE in identified subject goal areas | 2,2,2 / 2,2,3 /2,3,4 / 2,3,5<br>Or any combination resulting in at least ONE level 2   |
| 1         | Beginning ABE Literacy         | 50+ hours            | TABE in identified subject goal areas | 1,1,1 / 1,1,2 /1,2,2 /1,3,3<br>Or any combination resulting in at least ONE level 1    |

## TABE Post-testing

- All students with NRS scores less than 6 must be post-tested after required hours of instruction.
  - **TABE Online form 9** is used for post-testing and must minimally include all goal areas identified in ISP.
  - Post-test difficulty level must be  $\geq$  level on pre-test. (i.e. 9.9+ on pre-test Level D = post-test Level A)
- The locator should not be used to determine post-test placements.**

## OPT Testing

- OPT tests can only be administered in areas where the students has improved TABE scores to **NRS level 5**. Exceptions may be approved after consultation between the ABE director and local instructor.
- To pass the OPT's as a battery, a minimum of **450** on each test and a **500** average is required.
- An individual subject OPT may be taken, and can be followed by GED testing in that subject only, with a minimum score of **500**. (provided the student is not an age waiver candidate. )
- Students who pre test at an NRS level 6 in a particular subject area may OPT test in that area once they've completed 12 hours of instruction.
- OPT's can be retaken until passed. Exceptions may be made for students who are unable to achieve the minimum score. Use only OPT forms PD-PG. Forms PA-PC are no longer valid and **MUST** not be used.

## General Guidelines

- All age waiver students must achieve the 450 minimum/500 average score before their waiver will be approved.
- TABE & OPT scores are only valid for one year. After 1 full year of instruction, they must be re-administered.
- Following re-intake in a new fiscal year, students need to be re-tested & hours of instruction will start over. Fiscal years run from July 1<sup>st</sup> - June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Students who have a TABE on record with a start date of April – June may have these test scores carried forward into the new fiscal year.
- For post-testing purposes, student hours logged from April-June may carry over to the new fiscal year, provided the student returns when the learning centers reopen.