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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Tests Determined To Be Suitable for Use in the National Reporting System for Adult Education

AGENCY: Office of Vocational and Adult Education, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Secretary annually announces tests, test forms, and delivery formats that the Secretary determines to be suitable for use in the National Reporting System for Adult Education (NRS).

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If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) or a text telephone (TTY), call the Federal Relay Service (FRS), toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 14, 2008, we published in the Federal Register final regulations for 34 CFR part 462, Measuring Educational Gain in the National Reporting System for Adult Education (NRS regulations) (73

FR 2306). The NRS regulations established the process the Secretary uses to determine the suitability of tests for use in the NRS by States and local eligible providers. We annually publish in the Federal Register and post on the Internet at <http://www.nrsweb.org> a list of the names of tests and the educational functioning levels the tests are suitable to measure in the NRS as required by §462.12(c)(2) of the NRS regulations.

On April 16, 2008, we published in the Federal Register a notice inviting test publishers to submit tests for review under the NRS regulations (73 FR 20616).

On February 2, 2010, we published in the Federal Register a notice (February 2010 notice) listing the tests and test forms the Secretary determined to be suitable for use in the NRS (75 FR 5303).

The Secretary determined tests and test forms to be suitable for a period of either seven or three years from the date of the February 2010 notice. A seven-year approval required no additional action on the part of the publisher, unless the information the publisher submitted as a basis for the Secretary's review was inaccurate or unless the test is substantially revised. A three-year approval was issued with a set of conditions to be met by

the completion of the three-year period. If these conditions were met, the Secretary would approve a period of time for which the test may continue to be used in the NRS.

On September 12, 2011, we published in the Federal Register (76 FR 56188) a notice (September 2011 notice) to update the list published in the February 2010 notice, and include suitable test delivery formats. The update clarified that some, but not all, tests using computer-adaptive or computer-based delivery formats are suitable for use in the NRS.

On August 6, 2012, we published in the Federal Register (77 FR 46749) the same list of forms and computer delivery formats for the tests published in the September 2011 notice. We also announced a sunset period during which States and local providers may continue to use tests with three-year NRS approvals otherwise expiring on February 2, 2013, during a transition period ending on June 30, 2014.

On January 25, 2013, we announced in the Federal Register (78 FR 5430) an extension of the approval period for tests approved for a three-year period beginning on February 2, 2010. The approval period was extended from

February 2, 2013 to September 30, 2013, with the sunset period ending on June 30, 2014 still applicable.

The Secretary publishes here the list of tests and test forms determined to be suitable for use in the NRS. These include: (1) tests previously approved for a seven-year period from February 2, 2010; (2) three tests--previously approved for a three-year conditional period from February 2, 2010--for which the Secretary is extending the approval period through June 30, 2015; and (3) one test--a revised version of a test previously approved for a three-year conditional period from February 2, 2010--for which the Secretary is providing an approval period through June 30, 2015. The extended approval period through June 30, 2015 for these four tests is issued with a set of conditions for each test that a test publisher must meet by the completion of the extended period. If a test publisher meets these conditions, the Secretary approves a period of time for which the test may continue to be used in the NRS.

#### APPROVED TESTS, FORMS AND APPROVAL PERIODS

Adult education programs must use only the approved forms and computer delivery formats for the tests published in this notice. If a particular test form or computer

delivery format is not explicitly specified for a test in this notice, it is not approved for use in the NRS.

TESTS DETERMINED TO BE SUITABLE FOR USE IN THE NRS FOR SEVEN YEARS

(a) The Secretary has determined that the following test is suitable for use at all Adult Basic Education (ABE) and Adult Secondary Education (ASE) levels and at all English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) levels of the NRS for a period of seven years beginning on February 2, 2010:

Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems (CASAS) Reading Assessments (Life and Work, Life Skills, Reading for Citizenship, Reading for Language Arts--Secondary Level). Forms 27, 28, 81, 82, 81X, 82X, 83, 84, 85, 86, 185, 186, 187, 188, 310, 311, 513, 514, 951, 952, 951X, and 952X of this test are approved for use on paper and through the computer-based delivery format. Publisher: CASAS, 5151 Murphy Canyon Road, suite 220, San Diego, CA 92123-4339. Telephone: (800) 255-1036. Internet: [www.casas.org](http://www.casas.org).

(b) The Secretary has determined that the following tests are suitable for use at all ABE and ASE levels of the NRS for a period of seven years beginning on February 2, 2010:

(1) Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems (CASAS) Life Skills Math Assessments--Application of Mathematics (Secondary Level). Forms 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 505, and 506 of this test are approved for use on paper and through the computer-based delivery format. Publisher: CASAS, 5151 Murphy Canyon Road, suite 220, San Diego, CA 92123-4339. Telephone: (800) 255-1036. Internet: [www.casas.org](http://www.casas.org).

(2) Massachusetts Adult Proficiency Test (MAPT) for Math. This test is approved for use through a computer-adaptive delivery format. Publisher: Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and University of Massachusetts Amherst, School of Education, 156 Hills South, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003. Telephone: (413) 545-0564. Internet: [www.sabes.org/assessment/mapt.htm](http://www.sabes.org/assessment/mapt.htm).

(3) Massachusetts Adult Proficiency Test (MAPT) for Reading. This test is approved for use through the computer-adaptive delivery format. Publisher: Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and University of Massachusetts Amherst, School of Education, 156 Hills South, University of Massachusetts,

Amherst, MA 01003. Telephone: (413) 545-0564. Internet:  
[www.sabes.org/assessment/mapt.htm](http://www.sabes.org/assessment/mapt.htm).

(4) Tests of Adult Basic Education (TABE 9/10).

Forms 9 and 10 are approved for use on paper and through the computer-based delivery format. Publisher: CTB/McGraw Hill, 20 Ryan Ranch Road, Monterey, CA 93940. Telephone: (800) 538-9547. Internet: [www.ctb.com](http://www.ctb.com).

(5) Tests of Adult Basic Education Survey (TABE Survey). Forms 9 and 10 are approved for use on paper and through the computer-based delivery format. Publisher: CTB/McGraw Hill, 20 Ryan Ranch Road, Monterey, CA 93940. Telephone: (800) 538-9547. Internet: [www.ctb.com](http://www.ctb.com).

(c) The Secretary has determined that the following tests are suitable for use at all ESL levels of the NRS for a period of seven years beginning on February 2, 2010:

(1) Basic English Skills Test (BEST) Literacy. Forms B, C, and D are approved for use on paper. Publisher: Center for Applied Linguistics, 4646 40<sup>th</sup> Street, NW., Washington, DC 20016-1859. Telephone: (202) 362-0700. Internet: [www.cal.org](http://www.cal.org).

(2) Tests of Adult Basic Education Complete Language Assessment System-English (TABE/CLAS-E). Forms A and B are approved for use on paper. Publisher: CTB/McGraw Hill, 20

Ryan Ranch Road, Monterey, CA 93940. Telephone: (800)  
538-9547. Internet: [www.ctb.com](http://www.ctb.com).

TESTS DETERMINED TO BE SUITABLE FOR USE IN THE NRS UNTIL  
JUNE 30, 2015

(a) The Secretary has determined that the following tests are suitable for use at all ABE and ASE levels of the NRS until June 30, 2015:

(1) General Assessment of Instructional Needs (GAIN) - Test of English Skills. Forms A and B are approved for use on paper and through the computer-based delivery format. Publisher: Wonderlic Inc., 400 Lakeview Parkway, suite 200, Vernon Hills, IL 60061. Telephone: (877) 605-9496. Internet: [www.wonderlic.com](http://www.wonderlic.com).

(2) General Assessment of Instructional Needs (GAIN) - Test of Math Skills. Forms A and B are approved for use on paper and through the computer-based delivery format. Publisher: Wonderlic Inc., 400 Lakeview Parkway, suite 200, Vernon Hills, IL 60061. Telephone: (877) 605-9496. Internet: [www.wonderlic.com](http://www.wonderlic.com).

(b) The Secretary has determined that the following tests are suitable for use at all ESL levels of the NRS until June 30, 2015:

(1) Basic English Skills Test (BEST) Plus. Forms A, B, and C are approved for use on paper and through the computer-adaptive delivery format. Publisher: Center for Applied Linguistics, 4646 40<sup>th</sup> Street, NW., Washington, DC 20016-1859. Telephone: (202) 362-0700. Internet: [www.cal.org](http://www.cal.org).

(2) Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems (CASAS) Life and Work Listening Assessments (LW Listening). Forms 981L, 982L, 983L, 984L, 985L and 986L are approved for use on paper and through the computer-based delivery format. Publisher: CASAS, 5151 Murphy Canyon Road, suite 220, San Diego, CA 92123-4339. Telephone: (800) 255-1036. Internet: [www.casas.org](http://www.casas.org).

TESTS THAT MAY BE USED IN THE NRS DURING THE SUNSET PERIOD  
ENDING ON JUNE 30, 2014

(a) The Secretary has determined that the following tests may be used at the High Intermediate, Low Adult Secondary, and High Adult Secondary levels of the NRS during the sunset period ending on June 30, 2014:

(1) WorkKeys: Applied Mathematics. Forms 210 and 220 are approved for use on paper. Publisher: ACT, 500 ACT Drive, P.O. Box 168, Iowa City, Iowa 52243-0168. Telephone: (800) 967-5539. Internet: [www.act.org](http://www.act.org).

(2) WorkKeys: Reading for Information. Forms 110 and 120 are approved for use on paper. Publisher: ACT, 500 ACT Drive, P.O. Box 168, Iowa City, Iowa 52243-0168. Telephone: (800) 967-5539. Internet: [www.act.org](http://www.act.org).

(b) The Secretary has determined that the following tests may be used at all ABE and ASE levels and at all ESL levels of the NRS during the sunset period ending on June 30, 2014:

(1) Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems (CASAS) Employability Competency System (ECS) Reading Assessments–Workforce Learning Systems (WSL). Forms 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 114, 116, 213, 214, 215, and 216 may be used on paper and through the computer-based delivery format. Publisher: CASAS, 5151 Murphy Canyon Road, suite 220, San Diego, CA 92123-4339. Telephone: (800) 255-1036. Internet: [www.casas.org](http://www.casas.org).

(2) Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems (CASAS) Functional Writing Assessments. Forms 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, and 466 are approved for use on paper. Publisher: CASAS, 5151 Murphy Canyon Road, suite 220, San Diego, CA 92123-4339. Telephone: (800) 255-1036. Internet: [www.casas.org](http://www.casas.org).

(c) The Secretary has determined that the following test may be used at all ABE and ASE levels of the NRS during the sunset period ending on June 30, 2014:

(1) Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems (CASAS) Employability Competency System (ECS) Math Assessments—Workforce Learning Systems (WLS). Forms 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 213, 214, 215, and 216 are approved for use on paper and through the computer-based delivery format. Publisher: CASAS, 5151 Murphy Canyon Road, suite 220, San Diego, CA 92123-4339. Telephone: (800) 255-1036. Internet: [www.casas.org](http://www.casas.org).

(d) The Secretary has determined that the following test may be used at all ESL levels of the NRS during the sunset period ending on June 30, 2014:

(1) Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems (CASAS) Employability Competency System (ECS) Listening Assessments—Life Skills (LS). Forms 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 63, 64, 65, and 66 are approved for use on paper and through the computer-based delivery format. Publisher: CASAS, 5151 Murphy Canyon Road, suite 220, San Diego, CA 92123-4339. Telephone: (800) 255-1036. Internet: [www.casas.org](http://www.casas.org).

EXPIRING TESTS

The sunset period for an expiring test allows a State and local provider to transition to other tests suitable for use in the NRS. The State and local provider may use the transition period to select new tests, purchase appropriate inventories of assessment materials, and provide training to staff.

#### REVOCATION OF TESTS

Under certain circumstances the Secretary may revoke the determination that a test is suitable (see 34 CFR 462.12(e)). If the Secretary revokes the determination of suitability, the Secretary announces through the Federal Register and posts on the Internet at [www.nrsweb.org](http://www.nrsweb.org) a notice of that revocation, along with the date by which States and local eligible providers must stop using the revoked test.

Accessible Format: Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc) on request to the contact person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT in this notice.

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Dated: December 9, 2013.

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Johan Uvin,  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Policy and Strategic  
Initiatives  
Delegated Authority to Perform the  
Functions and Duties of the  
Assistant Secretary for Vocational  
and Adult Education.

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