



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY  
12234

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January 31, 2020

TO: All NYSED funded adult education programs

FROM: Robert Purga, Director, ACCES Adult Education Programs *Robert F. Purga*

SUBJECT: Bridge TABE 11/12 Reading and Math Guidelines for EPE-funded adult education programs

This field memo is intended to set bridge eligibility guidelines for distance education and Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs funded solely by Employment Preparation Education (EPE) State aid administered by the NYS Education Department's ACCES-Adult Education Program and Policy (ACCES-AEPP). The intent is to open opportunities for adult education students to participate in EPE-funded CTE (when operated by the adult education program and funded exclusively by EPE) and distance education instruction. The guidelines set forth in this memo replace current EPE State Aid guidelines for CTE and distance education instruction. The guidelines *do not apply* to programming supported by other funding sources including CTE programming provided by P-12 where adult students may be included in existing P-12 programming.

The bridge guidelines are intended as a starting point. Over the next six months, ACCES-AEPP will conduct a comprehensive review and refinement of the guidelines informed by program input and a statistical study underway. Reflecting this, ACCES-AEPP is open to receiving program input as well as providing a waiver to programs in instances where a teacher believes that a student will benefit from participating in an EPE-funded distance education or CTE program. Input on the bridge guidelines as well as waiver requests should be submitted through the EPE mailbox at: [EPE@nysed.gov](mailto:EPE@nysed.gov)

### **Background**

New York has fully transitioned to the newest version of TABE, the TABE 11&12. This new version is aligned with College and Career Readiness Standards for Adult Education and was approved by the U.S. Education Department's Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education (OCTAE) for National Reporting System (NRS). As such, the new version complies with federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity (WIOA) Title 2 regulations. The TABE 11 & 12 assessment was designed to cover a broader range of content across multiple grade levels. The publisher of the TABE 11 & 12, Data Recognition Corporation (DRC), no longer assigns grade equivalents to each of the scale scores. Instead, DRC created a linear interpolation of the NRS cut score ranges. As a result, they are able to offer grade range guidelines to assist adult education programs. The grade range guidelines were determined by reviewing the NRS implementation guidelines, TABE performance level descriptors, College and Career Readiness Standards, adult basic education levels, and TABE cut scores. The grade range guidelines published by DRC are included in this memo for your review:

## READING

NRS Level	Grade Range Guideline	Grade	Scale Score Range
1	K-1	K	300-371
		1	372-441
2	2-3	2	442-471
		3	472-500
3	4-5	4	501-518
		5	519-535
4	6-8	6	536-549
		7	550-562
		8	563-575
5	9-10	9	576-596
		10	597-616
6	11-12	11	617-709
		12	710-800

## MATHEMATICS

NRS Level	Grade Range Guideline	Grade	Scale Score Range
1	K-1	K	300-374
		1	375-448
2	2-3	2	449-472
		3	473-495
3	4-5	4	496-516
		5	517-536
4	6-8	6	537-556
		7	557-576
		8	577-595
5	9-10	9	596-626
		10	627-656
6	11-12	11	657-729
		12	730-800

NYSED has been in the process of analyzing the relationship between the TABE 9 & 10 scores and their related grade equivalents and the TABE 11 & 12 scores. New York took advantage of the gradual implementation conducted during fiscal year 2018/2019 where programs assessed students with both the TABE 9 & 10 series and within a very short time frame, they also assessed those same students with the TABE 11 & 12. As a result, ACCES-AEPP has access to more than 9,500 test applications. A statistical analysis of the data is underway to help inform revised guidelines that will be set for July 1, 2020.

### Bridge Guidelines for EPE-funded distance education and CTE programs

Distance Education programs funded under NYSED were impacted significantly by the absence of grade equivalents in the TABE 11 & 12 series. As a result, the previous determination of eligible students for inclusion in NYSED funded Distance Education has been amended in consideration of the bridge scores determined by the initial analysis of New York’s data. Below is a chart that indicates the shift in eligible TABE 11 & 12 scores that will allow for these students to be eligible for the two Distance Education programs supported for adult basic education (ABE) students and adult secondary education (ASE) students. These changes are retroactive to July 1, 2019. The chart below will show the expansive modification to eligibility criteria for GRASP and SMART distance education programming.

<b>GRASP</b>			
<b>Giving Ready Adults a Study Program</b>			
<b>Either Reading or Math Score Eligibility</b>			
<b>Previous Eligibility Criteria</b>	Reading	<b>NRS Level 5 Reading</b>	<b>NRS Level 6 Reading</b>
		TABE 11/12 Reading Scale Score Range 576 - 616	TABE 11/12 Reading Scale Score Range 617 - 800
		TABE 11/12 Reading Grade Level Range 9 - 10	TABE 11/12 Reading Grade Level Range 11 - 12
<b>Newly Adopted NYSED Policy Change for Eligibility</b>	<b>NRS Level 4* Reading</b>	<b>NRS Level 5 Reading</b>	<b>NRS Level 6 Reading</b>
	TABE 11/12 Reading Scale Score Range 536 - 575	TABE 11/12 Reading Scale Score Range 576 - 616	TABE 11/12 Reading Scale Score Range 617 - 800
	TABE 11/12 Reading Grade Level Range 6 - 8	TABE 11/12 Reading Grade Level Range 9 - 10	TABE 11/12 Reading Grade Level Range 11 - 12
<b>Previous Eligibility Criteria</b>	Math	<b>NRS Level 5 Math</b>	<b>NRS Level 6 Math</b>
		TABE 11/12 Math Scale Score Range 596 - 656	TABE 11/12 Math Scale Score Range 657 - 800
		TABE 11/12 Math Grade Level Range 9 - 10	TABE 11/12 Math Grade Level Range 11 - 12
<b>Newly Adopted NYSED Policy Change for Eligibility</b>	<b>NRS Level 4* Math</b>	<b>NRS Level 5 Math</b>	<b>NRS Level 6 Math</b>
	TABE 11/12 Math Scale Score Range 537 - 595	TABE 11/12 Math Scale Score Range 596 - 656	TABE 11/12 Math Scale Score Range 657 - 800
	TABE 11/12 Math Grade Level Range 6 - 8	TABE 11/12 Math Grade Level Range 9 - 10	TABE 11/12 Math Grade Level Range 11 - 12

<b>SMART Skills to Make Adults Ready to Succeed Either Reading or Math Score Eligibility</b>			
<b>Previous Eligibility Criteria</b>	Reading	<b>NRS Level 3 Reading</b>	<b>NRS Level 4* Reading</b>
		TABE 11/12 Reading Scale Score Range 501 - 535	TABE 11/12 Reading Scale Score Range 536 - 575
		TABE 11/12 Reading Grade Level Range 4 - 5	TABE 11/12 Reading Grade Level Range 6 - 8
<b>Newly Adopted NYSED Policy Change for Eligibility</b>	<b>NRS Level 2 Reading</b>	<b>NRS Level 3 Reading</b>	<b>NRS Level 4* Reading</b>
	TABE 11/12 Reading Scale Score Range 442 - 500	TABE 11/12 Reading Scale Score Range 501 - 535	TABE 11/12 Reading Scale Score Range 536 - 575
	TABE 11/12 Reading Grade Level Range 2 - 3	TABE 11/12 Reading Grade Level Range 4 - 5	TABE 11/12 Reading Grade Level Range 6 - 8
<b>Previous Eligibility Criteria</b>	Math	<b>NRS Level 3 Math</b>	<b>NRS Level 4* Math</b>
		TABE 11/12 Math Scale Score Range 496 - 536	TABE 11/12 Math Scale Score Range 537 - 595
		TABE 11/12 Math Grade Level Range 4 - 5	TABE 11/12 Math Grade Level Range 6 - 8
<b>Newly Adopted NYSED Policy Change for Eligibility</b>	<b>NRS Level 2 Math</b>	<b>NRS Level 3 Math</b>	<b>NRS Level 4* Math</b>
	TABE 11/12 Math Scale Score Range 449 - 495	TABE 11/12 Math Scale Score Range 496 - 536	TABE 11/12 Math Scale Score Range 537 - 595
	TABE 11/12 Math Grade Level Range 2 - 3	TABE 11/12 Math Grade Level Range 4 - 5	TABE 11/12 Math Grade Level Range 6 - 8

\*NRS Level 4 students may be enrolled in either SMART or GRASP based on the discretion of the funded adult education program but may not be enrolled in both.

The next area of consideration are students interested in enrolling in Career & Technical Education (CTE) programming. The following chart should be used to guide Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs funded solely by Employment Preparation Education (EPE) State aid administered by the NYS Education Department's ACCES-Adult Education Program and Policy (ACCES-AEPP). In these instances, the NRS Levels noted in the chart will serve as eligibility criteria for adult students. The chart *does not apply* to programming supported by other funding sources including CTE programming provided by P-12 where adult students may be included in existing P-12 programming.

<b>Career &amp; Technical Education Programs Funded Solely by Employment Preparation Education (EPE) State Aid</b>			
<b>Previous CTE Eligibility Criteria</b>	Reading	<b>NRS Level 5 Reading</b>	<b>NRS Level 6 Reading</b>
		TABE 11/12 Reading Scale Score Range 576 - 616	TABE 11/12 Reading Scale Score Range 617 - 800
		TABE 11/12 Reading Grade Level Range	TABE 11/12 Reading Grade Level Range

		9 - 10	11 - 12
<b>Newly Adopted NYSED Policy Change for CTE Eligibility</b>	<b>NRS Level 4 Reading</b>	<b>NRS Level 5 Reading</b>	<b>NRS Level 6 Reading</b>
	TABE 11/12 Reading Scale Score Range 536 - 575	TABE 11/12 Reading Scale Score Range 576 - 616	TABE 11/12 Reading Scale Score Range 617 - 800
	TABE 11/12 Reading Grade Level Range 6 - 8	TABE 11/12 Reading Grade Level Range 9 - 10	TABE 11/12 Reading Grade Level Range 11 - 12
<b>Previous CTE Eligibility Criteria</b>	Math	<b>NRS Level 5 Math</b>	<b>NRS Level 6 Math</b>
		TABE 11/12 Math Scale Score Range 596 - 656	TABE 11/12 Math Scale Score Range 657 - 800
		TABE 11/12 Math Grade Level Range 9 - 10	TABE 11/12 Math Grade Level Range 11 - 12
<b>Newly Adopted NYSED Policy Change for CTE Eligibility</b>	<b>NRS Level 4 Math</b>	<b>NRS Level 5 Math</b>	<b>NRS Level 6 Math</b>
	TABE 11/12 Math Scale Score Range 537 - 595	TABE 11/12 Math Scale Score Range 596 - 656	TABE 11/12 Math Scale Score Range 657 - 800
	TABE 11/12 Math Grade Level Range 6 - 8	TABE 11/12 Math Grade Level Range 9 - 10	TABE 11/12 Math Grade Level Range 11 - 12

cc: Kevin Smith, Deputy Commissioner  
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