



Adult Career & Continuing Education Services (ACCES)  
Adult Education Programs & Policy (AEPP)  
89 Washington Avenue, EBA 460  
Albany, NY 12234  
Tel. 518 474-8940  
<http://www.acces.nysed.gov/aepp/>

**AEPP ASSESSMENT NOTICE**  
**Fiormelissa Johnson, NYS Director**

The purpose of this notice is to provide AEPP funded programs with additional guidance on the OCTAE approved assessments: TABE CLAS-E, BEST Plus (2.0/3.0) and BEST Literacy. Please note that NYSED/AEPP does not favor one assessment over another, our role is to provide the options approved. This notice outlines the policies for how to use the tests for accountability and reporting purposes in New York State. Programs may continue to use the BEST Plus 2.0 tests for ESL assessments in the current fiscal year and plan to use the BEST Plus 3.0 starting July 1, 2025. TABE CLAS-E is merely an additional option for programs that requested an alternative for ESL testing.

**NYSED/AEPP Approved Assessments**

**Adult Basic Education Students:**

[Test for Adult Basic Education \(TABE\)](#)

Data Recognition Corporation (DRC)

- TABE 11 & 12 Reading all levels Literacy (L), Easy (E), Moderate (M), Difficult (D), Advanced (A)
- TABE 11 & 12 Math all levels Literacy (L), Easy (E), Moderate (M), Difficult (D), Advanced (A)

*AEPP has been informed by the Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) that the start date for the new forms of the TABE 13/14 will not begin until July 1, 2025.*

**English as a Second Language Students:**

Complete Language Assessments System (TABE CLAS-E)

Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) – Forms C/D

- TABE Levels (1, 2, 3, 4)
- TABE Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing

1. *Pilot for at no cost TABE CLAS-E will run November 1st to April 1, 2025.*
2. *Programs that are not currently testing Online with TABE can request an account to be created for a \$250 system set up fee during the same Nov 1st - April 1st, 2025, timeframe.*

**English as a Second Language Students:**

Basic English Skills Test (BEST)

Center for Applied Linguistics (CAL)

- BEST Plus 2.0
- BEST Literacy 1.0 (for students who score 565 or higher on the BEST Plus 2.0 as a pre-test)

[From CAL:](#)

*The current versions of the BEST assessments BEST Plus 2.0 and BEST Literacy will be sunset on June 30, 2025. All sales are final. Please monitor your remaining tests and order only what you need during this time. For more information, visit [Frequently Asked Questions](#).*

## Assessment Guidelines and Additional Information

Please note that TABE CLAS-E and BEST Plus 2.0 cannot be used in combination; students pre-tested on TABE CLAS-E or BEST Plus 2.0 must be post-tested on the same test. Students within the same class/levels must be tested using the same assessment.

### ***Key facts about the TABE CLAS-E test***

1. TABE CLAS-E includes four assessments: listening, speaking, reading and writing. The ***listening and speaking*** tests are the ones that are the most comparable to the BEST Plus 2.0 and will be used for pretesting. The TABE CLAS-E is conducted in a group setting.
2. There are four levels for each test: 1, 2, 3 and 4. Each level is appropriate only for certain NRS levels as shown in the TABE CLAS-E NRS Table at the end of the document. The TABE CLAS-E – TESTING TIMETABLE for each test are also listed at the end of this document.
3. There are four forms of the test: A, B, C and D. Forms A and B will be sunset at the end of June 2025. Therefore, programs will have to use forms C and D for assessments, for FY25. The forms C and D are available for use on the TABE online testing platform now; paper versions will become available in April 2025.
4. NYSED is working with the test publisher to determine intermediate levels (for example, ESL 1.5, ESL 2.5) for NYRS (used by state funded programs). *Additional information will be provided once received.*

### ***Implementation of TABE CLAS-E in New York***

The TABE CLAS-E is another approved ESL assessment optional to programs interested:

Only forms C and D of the tests will be allowed for use in New York State. Programs can start using these tests on the online TABE testing platform immediately, paper-based versions of the tests will not be available until April.

Programs using TABE CLAS-E will use the ***speaking and listening*** tests during intake to place students into the appropriate classes. The test score with the lowest NRS level will be the pretest of record for NRS calculation purposes.

A student cannot be pre and post tested on the same form of the same test, they will have to be post tested on a different form at the same level or using a test at a different level.

***For example, if a student is pretested with form C level 1, they can be post tested with form D level 1, but they must not repeat form C level 1 as the post test.***

Students who ‘test out’ (score higher than an NRS level 6 on the pre or posttest) on both the ***speaking and listening*** tests will need to be tested on the ***reading and writing*** tests if they continue to be enrolled in ESL classes for the fiscal year. Please review the TABE CLAS-E – EXIT SCORES from Level 6 listed below.

### ***Programs interested in TABE CLAS-E for their ESL students must contact DRC***

#### For general TABE or CLAS-E questions

Mike Johnson [mjohnson@datarecognitioncorp.com](mailto:mjohnson@datarecognitioncorp.com) 630-995-6712

Chelsea Rivera [criveria@datarecognitioncorp.com](mailto:criveria@datarecognitioncorp.com) 612-867-3242

#### For Technical Support for Online testing or Scanning it is best to call our Support team directly

TABE Support 866-282-2250

#### For Ordering Support or Invoicing it is best to call Customer Service

TABE Customer Service 800-538-9547

### ***Timeline for Implementation of TABE CLAS-E***

1. Programs that are currently using TABE can pilot TABE CLAS-E *November 1, 2024, through April 1, 2025*, at no cost. To participate, programs must contact DRC to have their accounts activated. The assessment will be used in the calculation of NRS, EPE and NYRS reports for FY25.
2. Programs that are not using TABE can request an account to be created for a \$250 system set up fee during the same *November 1, 2024, through April 1, 2025*, timeframe.
3. Data entry screens that allow entry of TABE CLAS-E scores will be implemented in ASISTS mid-December 2024.
4. Funding and management reports will be updated to include TABE CLAS-E scores in ASISTS releases scheduled for February 2025 and April 2025.

### ***TABE CLAS-E Training***

Additional TABE CLAS-E training will be coordinated through RAENs. All staff who plan to use the TABE CLAS-E and could not participate in the training that DRC conducted on November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, can view the links to the videos below:

TABE CLAS-E Introduction and Training for Existing TABE Online programs-20241107

<https://www.brainshark.com/drc/vu?pi=zHYzaOeufzJECIz0>

TABE CLAS-E Training for programs NOT currently using TABE Online-20241107

<https://www.brainshark.com/drc/vu?pi=zFezb4o3DzJECIz0>

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### ***Implementation of BEST Plus in New York***

***From CAL:*** *The current versions of the BEST assessments BEST Plus 2.0 and BEST Literacy will be sunset on June 30, 2025. All sales are final. Please monitor your remaining tests and order only what you need during this time. For more information, visit [Frequently Asked Questions](#).*

*BEST Plus 2.0 is an individually administered, face-to-face oral interview designed to assess the English language proficiency of adult English language learners in the United States. BEST Plus 2.0 is a combined test of listening and speaking skills. As an oral assessment, BEST Plus 2.0 provides a short, practical test that meets the accountability needs of programs that report to the National Reporting System (NRS).*

***AEPP programs interested in offering the upcoming BEST Plus 3.0 assessment, must be trained, which will only be [offered online through CAL](#). The online training is at no cost to programs and available until April 14, 2025. After April 14<sup>th</sup>, the registration fee will be \$125.***

***After the completion of the online assessment AEPP programs must provide RAENs with the Administration Certificate to receive 6 hours of Professional Development (PD) credit towards the 14 hours of required PD. A RAEN sponsored Assessment Training (NRS/NYRS) will be provided at a later time, if necessary.***

## [BEST Plus 3.0 Training Information – from CAL](#)

### **What is the cost?**

*The course is free of charge for a limited time – until April 14, 2025.*

*Please note that the course progress will not carry over after this date; all participants purchasing the course on or after April 14, 2025, will need to start it fresh.*

*After April 14, 2025, the registration fee is \$125 per participant.*

### **Who is this for?**

*Those looking to obtain the official certification to administer and score BEST Plus 3.0.*

### **What will you learn?**

*The online course includes the following modules:*

*Module 1: Introduction to BEST Plus 3.0*

*Module 2: Using the CAL Test Platform*

*Module 3: Administering and Scoring Part A & Calibration Quiz*

*Module 4: Administering and Scoring Part B & Calibration Quiz*

*Module 5: Final Steps for BEST Plus 3.0 Test Administrator Certification*

### **What do you need?**

*This is a self-access self-paced training course on administering and scoring BEST Plus 3.0. It takes an estimated 6 – 10 hours to complete.*

*After registering for the course, you will receive an email with instructions on how to access the training course platform, Moodle. Please allow up to 5 business days to receive your login credentials. You can complete the training in one sitting or complete different modules at different times.*

*Prior to accessing this training, you will need to first obtain and read through the BEST Plus 3.0 Test Administrator Guide. You can purchase the BEST Plus 3.0 Test Administrator Guide in the CAL Store.*

*Prior to accessing this training, you are also encouraged to install the CAL Test Platform application on your device. The CAL Test Platform application is available for free download on CAL's Adult English Assessments website. You can explore the practice feature to familiarize yourself with the testing environment. You do not need login credentials to access the practice feature.*

*Upon completion of the course, you will receive a digital BEST Plus 3.0 Test Administrator Certificate which authorizes you to administer and score BEST Plus 3.0.*

## TABE CLAS-E - NRS TABLE

TABE CLAS-E C/D READING						
	NRS Level 1	NRS Level 2	NRS Level 3	NRS Level 4	NRS Level 5	NRS Level 6
CLAS-E Level 1	200-354	355-388	389-427	n/a	n/a	n/a
CLAS-E Level 2	200-354	355-388	389-427	428-448	n/a	n/a
CLAS-E Level 3	n/a	355-388	389-427	428-448	449-487	n/a
CLAS-E Level 4	n/a	n/a	n/a	428-448	449-487	488-580
TABE CLAS-E C/D LISTENING						
	NRS Level 1	NRS Level 2	NRS Level 3	NRS Level 4	NRS Level 5	NRS Level 6
CLAS-E Level 1	200-348	349-389	390-427	n/a	n/a	n/a
CLAS-E Level 2	200-348	349-389	390-427	428-457	n/a	n/a
CLAS-E Level 3	n/a	349-389	390-427	428-457	458-488	n/a
CLAS-E Level 4	n/a	n/a	n/a	428-457	458-488	489-620
TABE CLAS-E C/D WRITING						
CLAS-E Level 1	210-384	385-414	415-437	n/a	n/a	n/a
CLAS-E Level 2	210-384	385-414	415-437	438-461	n/a	n/a
CLAS-E Level 3	n/a	385-414	415-437	438-461	462-500	n/a
CLAS-E Level 4	n/a	n/a	n/a	438-461	462-500	501-670
TABE CLAS-E C/D SPEAKING						
CLAS-E Level 1	170-388	339-402	403-436	n/a	n/a	n/a
CLAS-E Level 2	170-388	339-402	403-436	437-475	n/a	n/a
CLAS-E Level 3	n/a	339-402	403-436	437-475	476-542	n/a
CLAS-E Level 4	n/a	n/a	n/a	437-475	476-542	543-670

## TABE CLAS-E – EXIT SCORES – Level 6

Exit Score from Level 6	
Reading	527
Listening	533
Writing	536
Speaking	568

**TABE CLAS-E – TESTING TIMETABLE**

<b>TABE CLAS-E C/D Locator</b>	
	<b>Allowable Time</b>
Reading/Writing	20 min
Listening/Speaking	25 min
<b>TABE CLAS-E C/D READING</b>	
	<b>Allowable Time</b>
CLAS-E Level 1	30 min
CLAS-E Level 2	30 min
CLAS-E Level 3	30 min
CLAS-E Level 4	30 min
<b>TABE CLAS-E C/D LISTENING</b>	
	<b>Allowable Time</b>
CLAS-E Level 1	30 min
CLAS-E Level 2	30 min
CLAS-E Level 3	30 min
CLAS-E Level 4	30 min
<b>TABE CLAS-E C/D WRITING</b>	
	<b>Allowable Time</b>
CLAS-E Level 1	55 min
CLAS-E Level 2	55 min
CLAS-E Level 3	55 min
CLAS-E Level 4	55 min
<b>TABE CLAS-E C/D SPEAKING</b>	
	<b>Allowable Time</b>
CLAS-E Level 1	25 Min
CLAS-E Level 2	25 Min
CLAS-E Level 3	25 Min
CLAS-E Level 4	25 Min

cc: AEPP Regional Managers  
 RAENs  
 STACs  
 ASISTS