TABE 11&12 FAQ

Transitioning to TABE 11&12

Q: What is your recommendation for which method of testing with TABE 11&12 is best - computer-based or paper-based? And if paper-based, do you recommend we hand-score or use a scanner?

A: Administering TABE 11&12 as a computer-based test would be our strong recommendation, if this is possible for programs. The benefits of administering the computer-based test include cost savings, increased security and validity, and limited need for storage of materials. If a program administers the TABE as paper-based testing, we strongly recommend using a scanner for grading. The benefits of scanning include increased reliability and validity, and the availability of online reporting, which offers programs useful data.

Q: If we plan to use the scanning method, should we still purchase an answer key in case there is an issue?

A: It would probably be a good idea to have a print copy of the answer key just in case. The answer key is free but does need to be requested from DRC.

Q: If a student does not post-test with form 9/10 before the January 1, 2019 deadline are we penalized? Do we start over with the 11/12 when they return?

A: If a student pre-tested with TABE 9&10 does not achieve 40 hours before December 31, 2018, then they cannot be post-tested. That student would count against you in the same way as any student who is not post-tested, for whatever reason.

If that student returned in spring semester (after January 1, 2019), then they would need to be pre-tested with 11&12 and they would have to earn 40 hours in that semester before being post-tested with 11&12.

Test Content

Q: Can teachers cover practice test items in class?

A: Yes! Teachers can cover sample test items available on the DRC website or by participating in the Online Tools Training. Teachers can also use the TABE blueprints to drive their standards based instruction.

Q: What is the difference between Part 1 and Part 2 of the subject tests on TABE 11&12?

A: Our understanding is there is no difference between Part 1 and Part 2 of the Reading subject test on TABE 11&12. They are technically one test, broken into 2 sections, to make it easier for programs to administer the test in sections (for time purposes) and to allow for breaks.

Both the Reading and Math subject tests are broken into Part 1 and Part 2, but students earn only one scale score for Reading and one scale score for Math. The test parts do NOT produce separate scores.

Part 1 of the TABE Math is the non-calculator portion. Part 2 of the TABE Math is the calculator use portion for Forms M, D, and A.

Test Administration

Q: Is the word list optional?

A: Yes, it is suggested that you use the word list if you are unsure if a student could successfully complete the Locator test. The Word list helps a test administrator determine whether to give the student the Locator test or the TABE Form L (Literacy).

Q: Can we hand grade the locator and scan the TABE subtests?

A: Yes. Be sure to order the materials necessary if you plan to administer the test this way.

Q: What is considered a "conflict of interest" to administering the TABE test?

A: There are specific guidelines onTesting staff requirements on page 44 of the Test Administration Manual.

Q: Can student workers administer the TABE 11&12 if they are trained, or are there other qualifications needed?

A: Please refer to the following information from the Test Administration Manual page 44 for the qualifications of a test administrator.

"Examiners must have the following qualifications:

- ***Prior experience in proctoring/administering tests is highly desirable.***
- ***High school diploma or equivalent is required, with Bachelor's degree or***
- ***equivalent strongly preferred and required in some states.***
- ***Teaching, counseling, and/or assessment background is strongly preferred.***

- ***Strong communication and customer service skills are strongly preferred.***
- ***Ability to lift up to 20 lbs on occasion is preferred.***
- ***Examiners must not be involved in any related preparatory course.***
- ***Examiners must not have a conflict of interest.***

Once hired, all Examiners must successfully complete TABE certification training and other training as required by each state. Trained Test Coordinators should additionally provide refresher training sessions to Examiners at least annually."

Q: Where can I find the conversion chart for scale score to grade levels?

A: On TABEtest.com http://tabetest.com/PDFs/TABE_GradeRange.pdf

Q: How long does the Reading TABE test take to complete?

A: If a student used the entire allowable time for the TABE 11&12 Reading test it would take 2 hours (60 minutes for each portion).However, not all students will use the entire allowable time.

Q: If we are scanning TABE answer forms, are students required to fill out ALL the information on the first page of the answer book, such as race, public assistance status, etc.? I am trying to determine which data are required to enter for the scanned grading feature.

A: It is only necessary to provide the student name and ID number. The additional information asked for on the form is extraneous to the reporting you will access.

Q: What ID number will students need to put on the form?

A: Either their SS# (the last 4 digits of it) OR the generated ID that DAISI created for them if a SS# was not provided on the registration form. Either ID number is acceptable.

Q: If computer-based testing, do students need a physical calculator or is there one present on the computer screen?

A: If computer-based testing the calculator will be available for students to use on the computer screen for questions where a calculator is allowed.

Q: How do you test students with different levels of the test that have different allowable times?

A: One suggestion to help with the logistics of this would be to ask students to sit in a certain area of the room based on the level of test they have. This would allow you to monitor each section of the room more easily.

Materials and Ordering

Q: How do we order TABE testing materials, including the ScorEze answer sheets and Test Administration Manual?

A: Order forms for all TABE testing material can be found at here: https://www.iccb.org/adult_ed/?page_id=127

The ScorEze answer sheets appear on the order forms immediately after the scannable materials. Please see the second page of the Curriculum Publications Clearinghouse order form for paper-based materials, found on the ICCB website: https://www.iccb.org/iccb/wp-content/pdfs/adulted/professionaldevelopment/tabe_11-12/TABE_11-12_Order_Form_Revised2_FILLABLE.pdf

Q: Is a calculator allowed on the TABE 11&12 Locator test and if so, what kind?

A: The Test Directions Booklet indicates that a scientific calculator is allowed on Part 2 of the Locator Math test.

Q: Is there a formula sheet for the Math portion of the TABE?

A: No. If a formula or conversion is required for the problem it will appear as part of the question.

Q: What kind of ruler is required for the TABE Math E test?

A: Inches and centimeter

Q: How should we dispose of our TABE 9&10 materials, once we have made the complete transition to TABE 11&12?

A: DRC has indicated that programs may dispose of TABE 9&10 materials in the manner which seems appropriate to them. Please note that since Illinois is allowing use of TABE 9&10 until December 31, 2018, the TABE 9&10 items will be considered secure materials until that time. Therefore, we recommend items be shredded or that you wait to dispose of them until January 2019.

Q: How do we get the Individual Diagnostic Profile report that we can use when we hand-score?

A: On the TABE 11&12 paper-based test order form under the General Accessories section, you will find an Individual Diagnostic Profile report for each test level that you can order.

Misc.

Q: Will there be a Spanish-language version of TABE 11&12?

A: Data Recognition Corporation, the TABE publisher, does NOT have a Spanish-language version of TABE 11&12, nor is this in development. The company has done some research into whether or not there is a demand for this test, but they have not published these results nor have they indicated they will ever move forward with such a test.