

From: McLendon, Lennox <lmclendon@naepdc.org>
Subject: NVC 100416 Colleague Question Answered
Date: Tue, Oct 4, 2016 3:02 pm

NAEPDC



News, Views, and Clues

October 4, 2016

Colleague's Question Answered – Assessment Selection

On September 21 our colleague Jessica Fuller on the Colorado state staff asked a Colleague Question for information about the assessments you use, how you determined which ones to select and how you trained those who administer the tests. Below are the results of her inquiry:

I'm so grateful for the responses from other states about this! I have compiled the responses and pasted them below. Thanks again! Jess

Responses from other states:

Approving multiple test vendors at the state level?

Delaware: Currently only use TABE and BEST Plus 2.0. Delaware's DOL uses CASAS only so discussing aligning to just one test in the future

Mississippi: TABE only for ABE and do not plan to change. Use BEST Plus/Literacy for ESL and recently added TABE CLAS-E. The post-testing requirement is lower for TABE CLAS-E.

Georgia: Uses TABE, TABE CLAS-E, BEST Plus and BEST Literacy

Pennsylvania: Uses TABE (ABE/ASE), GAIN, (ABE, ASE), CASAS, (ABE, ASE, ESL), Best Literacy (ESL – lower and intermediate levels), BEST Plus 2.0 (ESL – higher level)

WA: Only use CASAS and have no plans to add multiple vendors

KY: approved online TABE for ABE and ASE July 2016. Corrections uses paper-based. Move to online has taken place over the past 3 years. CTB has provided TA since the change. CASAS Reading and Listening approved for ELL and stopped utilizing BEST. Decided to move to one ELL vendor to focus on standards and competency based instruction using CASAS tools while waiting for the release of the ELL standards.

Process you went through to determine which tests you would approve at the state level

Delaware: TABE provides more diagnostic information on academic weakness –integrate this information into personalized learning plans. Also offer BEST Plus-most student coming in at a low level and this best demonstrates abilities

Georgia: Listen to providers, state assesses the impact i.e., training requirements/costs/database changes required before adding it. Example: Program felt TABE CLAS-E gave better diagnostics-after the state assessed the impact they approved the test for all grantees to use. Alternatively, the state noticed a lot of states were using CASAS so invited them to come present about the product and determined they didn't need to add it.

Pennsylvania: The original selection of tests was made in 1999. However, state staff get feedback from programs and reviews the assessment research manuals. The state also revisits this topic periodically and is considering limiting vendors to one ABE/ASE and one ESL for consistency sake. The state is concerned about the subjective nature of the BEST Plus 2.0 and TABE CLAS E.

Ohio: Uses multiple assessments and is considering having one ABE/ASE and one ESL test because it gives a much better standardized comparison across programs, aligns with a state goal of common assessments among

WIOA partners and would be easier for training purposes

WA: Has a state council made up of a representative from each funded program and they, in conjunction with the Governor appointed Adult Education Advisory Council (consisting of state directors of TANF, K-12, Workforce, DSHS, Commerce, Employment Securities, etc) approved the adoption of the assessment

Process for training and compensating state-certified trainers to conduct assessment trainings across the state

Delaware: The state provides one test administrator training per year. Programs must have certified test administrators. If a new test administrator on boards after the training, programs have to pay for that training. Most the time programs see if others have a need so they can share cost.

Georgia: state staff provide BEST Plus training. TABE training is provided by the publisher

Pennsylvania: Uses publisher trainings for GAIN and CASAS, state trainers for BEST Plus 2.0 (paid through a Professional Development System Grant) and created its own implementation and refresher course for BEST Literacy and TABE

WA: staff at the state office are certified and conduct cadre training. Each program is required to have 2 CASAS cadre members. Training is paid by the program's WIOA leadership funds

KY: Vendor conducts regional face-to-face trainings on the online version of the TABE, CASAS Implementation available on the CASAS website, one national CASAS trainer for BIT training paid through PD contract money and PD contractor developing you tube videos and providing site visits to support the assessments

Jessica Fuller

Program and Support Services Specialist
Adult Education Initiatives



P 303-866-6914

201 East Colfax Avenue, Room 300, Denver, CO 80203

Fuller_J@cde.state.co.us | www.cde.state.co.us

All NAEPDC News, Views, and Clues are archived at:
http://naepdc.org/news_views_clues/nvc_home.html

Keep up the good work. Let me know when we can help.

NAEPDC

A Natural Resource For Adult Education State Directors and their Staff Members

Dr. Lennox L. McLendon, Executive Director

lmclendon@naepdc.org

www.naepdc.org

202.624.5250

202.624.1497 FAX