

PLACEMENT CRITERIA FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-2026

APPENDIX G:

Adult Education CASAS Post-testing Chart

Each Campus Testing and Assessment Director will provide their campus Continuing Education and Professional Development Department administrator with the testing security protocols maintained by their department and the required administration procedures for testing. This process must be done before any testing materials are transferred from the campus Testing and Assessment Department to the Continuing Education and Professional Development Department. All testing materials must be stored in a secured area. Effective March 18, 2024, new students enrolling in Summer 2024 and beyond test with CASAS STEPS and the Locator. Continuing students enrolled in Spring 2024 or previously enrolled in Fall or Summer 2023 begin testing with CASAS STEPS on April 1, 2024. These students will not be charged the fee for the initial CASAS STEPS. Continuing students will not be required to take the CASAS STEPS Locator.

ESOL Placement and Promotion to the next level is based on the lower of the two scores (Listening and Reading).

Relationship between CASAS STEPS Scale Scores and NRS Levels

Content Range					
Test Level	A	B	C	D	E
Difficulty	Beginning ELL	Intermediate ELL	Advanced ELL	Adult Secondary	Proficient Skills

Listening							
Level and Form	NRS Level 1 EDU057	NRS Level 2 EDU059	NRS Level 3 EDU060	NRS Level 4 EDU061	NRS Level 5 EDU062	NRS Level 6 EDU058	NRS Level >6
A 621L-622L	158-181	182-191	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
B 623L-624L	n/a	182-191	192-201	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
C 625L-626L	n/a	n/a	192-201	202-211	n/a	n/a	n/a
D 627L-628L	n/a	n/a	n/a	202-211	212-221	n/a	n/a
E 629L-630L	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	212-221	222-231	232-235
Reading							
Level and Form	NRS Level 1 EDU057	NRS Level 2 EDU059	NRS Level 3 EDU060	NRS Level 4 EDU061	NRS Level 5 EDU062	NRS Level 6 EDU058	NRS Level >6
A 621R-622R	160-183	184-196	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
B 623R-624R	n/a	184-196	197-206	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
C 625R-626R	n/a	n/a	197-206	207-216	n/a	n/a	n/a
D 627R-628R	n/a	n/a	n/a	207-216	217-227	n/a	n/a
E 629R-630R	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	217-227	228-238	239-251

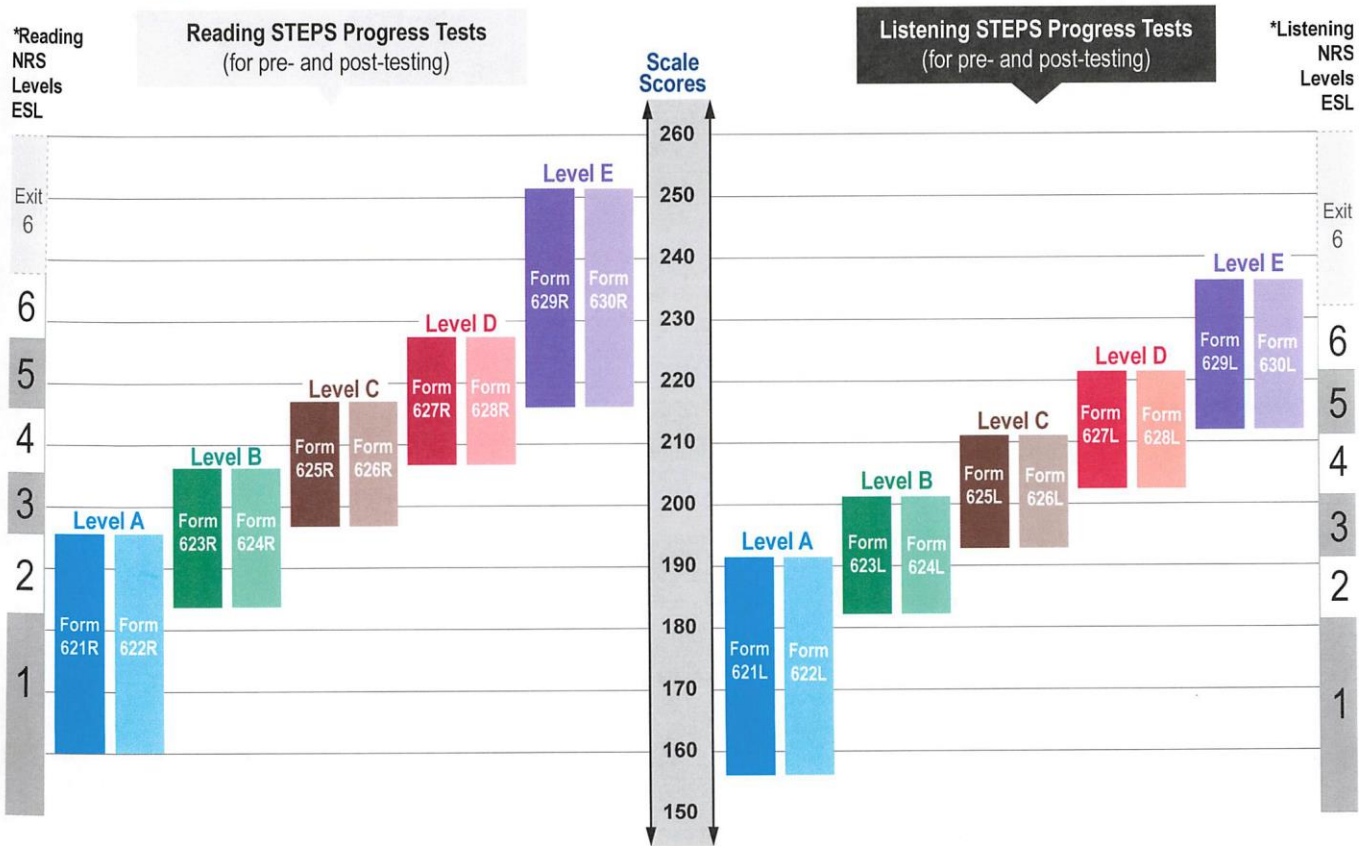
For more detail regarding the Reading and Listening STEPS forms as they relate to NRS ESOL Levels please refer to Overview – CASAS Reading STEPS and Listening STEPS for ESL (Page 40).

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APPENDIX G (Continued):



Overview – CASAS Reading STEPS and Listening STEPS for ESL



*This chart presents an overview of the relationship between NRS levels and scale score ranges for the Reading STEPS and Listening STEPS series.

For more information on placement using locators or appraisals, score interpretation and precise ranges, please refer to the CASAS test administration manual for each series.



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https://www.casas.org/docs/default-source/training-materials/overview-casas-reading-steps-and-listening-steps-for-esl.pdf?sfvrsn=810c355a_12?Status=Master

Note: CASAS STEPS will be used to place ESOL students enrolling Summer 2024 and beyond.

Revised: 09/03/2024

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APPENDIX G (Continued):

CASAS Out-of-Range Scores (Low and High) Reported and Retesting Guide

Out-of-Range Retesting Policy

New students must be retested if test results are out-of-range low or out-of-range high. Only in-range scores can be used for establishing a student's initial EFL. There is no limit on retesting when establishing a student's first EFL. There is no fee for retesting. Post-test scores below the scale score range: If a student scores too low to receive a scale score on a Level B, C or D post-test, CASAS recommends retesting immediately on the next lower-level test. Any additional attempts to post-test a student after one retest must occur within the test publisher's recommended hours of instruction between post-tests. Post-test OOR high scores below the exit score for the program: In these cases, the agency may retest the student immediately on a test form at the next higher level. If the student re-enrolls in the next period of instruction, agencies may use the conservative estimate score as a basis for placement of the student. OOR High post-test scores: This indicates the student has completed the program. For OOR low, retest the student with a test from the next-lower level for accurate placement. For OOR high, retest the student with the next higher level test for accurate placement. The test administrator should monitor the progress of the student to determine the appropriate test to use when post-testing. As of Summer, 2023, there is no longer a difference between paper and online OOR scores. NRS Levels associated with CASAS OOR low and high scores and sample scenarios are available via the [College's CASAS webpage](#).

Students without valid scores need to retest no sooner than the next day and prior to enrollment or by the 100% refund date for the adult education term

Students who are required to retest must be referred to testing by an authorized employee in Adult Education.

CASAS Out of Range Low and High Score Reported

Content Range					
Test Level	A	B	C	D	E
Difficulty	Beginning ELL	Intermediate ELL	Advanced ELL	Adult Secondary	Proficient Skills

CASAS STEPS OOR SCORES - Listening									
Level	Form and Subject	Written and Online Version Raw Score (OOR) or N/A*	Written and Online Version Lowest Scale Score or N/A*	Score Reported for OOR LOW	NRS Level for OOR LOW	Written and Online Version Raw Score (OOR)	Written and Online Version Highest Scale Score	Score Reported for OOR HIGH	NRS Level for OOR HIGH
B	623L	1-12	182	1182	ESL 2	32-36	201	9201	ESL 3
B	624L	1-12	182	1182	ESL 2	32-36	201	9201	ESL 3
C	625L	1-13	192	1192	ESL 3	34-39	211	9211	ESL 4
C	626L	1-13	192	1192	ESL 3	34-39	211	9211	ESL 4
D	627L	1-13	202	1202	ESL 4	34-39	221	9221	ESL 5
D	628L	1-13	202	1202	ESL 4	34-39	221	9221	ESL 5
E	629L	1-13	212	1212	ESL 5	35-39	235	9235	ESL >6
E	630L	1-13	212	1212	ESL 5	35-39	235	9235	ESL >6

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APPENDIX G (Continued):

2024-25 CASAS STEPS OOR SCORES - Reading									
Level	Form and Subject	Written and Online Version Raw Score (OOR) or N/A*	Written and Online Version Lowest Scale Score or N/A*	Score Reported for OOR LOW	NRS Level for OOR LOW	Written and Online Version Raw Score (OOR)	Written and Online Version Highest Scale Score	Score Reported for OOR HIGH	NRS Level for OOR HIGH
B	623R	0-9	184	1184	ESL 2	31-36	206	9206	ESL 3
B	624R	0-9	184	1184	ESL 2	31-36	206	9206	ESL 3
C	625R	0-9	197	1197	ESL 3	31-36	216	9216	ESL 4
C	626R	0-9	197	1197	ESL 3	31-36	216	9216	ESL 4
D	627R	0-9	207	1207	ESL 4	31-36	227	9227	ESL 5
D	628R	0-9	207	1207	ESL 4	31-36	227	9227	ESL 5
E	629R	0-9	217	1217	ESL 5	33-36	251	9251	ESL >6
E	630R	0-9	217	1217	ESL 5	33-36	251	9251	ESL >6

Notes:

CASAS STEPS is used to place ESOL students enrolling Summer 2024 and beyond.

A scale score with an "*" is equivalent to a blank scale score in the CASAS export file. These students must retest with a lower level form.

Forms 621R, 621L, 622R, and 622L are not associated with OOR scores effective Summer 2024.

Revised 8/4/2025