

Ryan Petty, *Chair*
MaryLynn Magar, *Vice Chair*
Members
Grazie P. Christie
Layla Collins
Daniel P. Foganholi, Sr.
Erika Fritz-Ochs
Luis Fuste

MEMORANDUM

TO: School District Adult Education Directors
Florida College System Adult Education Directors
Community-Based Organization Adult Education Directors

FROM: Ashley Meros, Ph.D.

DATE: September 10, 2026

SUBJECT: 2026-2027 Adult Education Assessment Technical Assistance Paper and Policy Update for CASAS

The Division of Career and Adult Education (DCAE) is announcing a revision to Adult Education assessment policy due to an update by CASAS. On July 1, 2026, CASAS implemented a lower-end estimate range on forms B-E on the GOALS 2 and STEPS test series. CASAS assessments may now return a lower-end estimate score, marked with an open diamond (◇), when a student scores at the lower end of the level. A lower-end estimate score is indicated with a scale score followed by the open diamond (◇) and will have an associated NRS level therefore making it allowable for placement into an associated adult education program.

While a lower-end estimate score (◇) is allowable for placement, DCAE recommends administering an alternate test form immediately to obtain an in-range score whenever possible. If an alternate test form is not administered immediately, the student may instead be tested after instruction using the associated Next Test Assigned chart published by CASAS and included as an appendix in the 2026-27 Adult Education Assessment Technical Assistance Paper.

The 2026-27 Adult Education Assessment Technical Assistance Paper has been updated to reflect these changes and can be found online at <https://www.fldoe.org/academics/career-adult-edu/career-adult-edu-technical-assistance-.stml>.

If you have any questions regarding this update, please contact Ashley Olevitch, Director of Adult Education Program Implementation, at Ashley.Olevitch1@fldoe.org, or Kasey Marante, Assessment Program Specialist, at Kasey.Marante@fldoe.org.

AM/ao/km

Ashley Meros, Ph.D.
Chancellor of Career and Adult Education