

Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board

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OPERATIONAL DIRECTIVE

FRWDB OD # 16-18, Revision E

Date Released: July 30, 2020

To: All Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board Providers of Services

From: Blake Konczal, Executive Director

Effective Date: July 30, 2020

Subject: Youth Assessments

Applicable Program: Youth

Revision History: Initial Release – 5/29/18; Rev B – 12/6/18; Rev C – 6/28/19; Rev C1 – 7/2/19;
Rev D – 8/22/19

This Revision E updates terminology and process clarification, removes School Verification process and obsoletes Form# ASM-010, CASAS[®] Verification Letter template.

This OD references OD 22-07, Approved Assessment Tools; OD 27-09, Waiver Request Process; OD 13-15, WIOA Youth Program Flow (In-School Youth 14-21 and Out-of-School Youth 16-18); OD 11-17, WIOA Youth Program Flow (Out-of-School ages 18-24); OD 18-09, Serving Limited English Proficient Population; and WIOA Act, Section 3(5)(b).

Providers of Services are to implement this OD effective immediately.

The Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board (FRWDB) requires all registered Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) participants to take specialized academic and occupational assessments that assist in providing appropriate career guidance. Reasonable accommodations for particular physical or limited English barriers will be made, as requested by the Assessment Facilitator, for each assessment site, prior to taking the assessment test.

Participants Basic Skills Assessment

Basic Skills Deficient - An individual that is unable to compute or solve problems, or read, write, or speak English, at a level necessary to function on the job, in the individual's family or in society. The FRWDB locally defines basic skills deficient as 8.9 or below in reading or math or is Limited English Proficient (LEP).

In order to assess basic skill levels, FRWDB requires all WIOA participants to be assessed, prior to enrollment, with the CASAS[®] initial assessment.

English Proficient Participants

- CASAS[®] Goals default locator 104

English Language Learners

- ESL/ELL - Life and Work (life emphasis at Level C) - Default locator 102R
- ESL/ELL - LS Math 30 series - Default locator 102M

The following guidelines are to be followed for this process:

- A. Staff who proctor the CASAS[®] must become certified as a CASAS[®] Test Administrator and follow all of their assessment policies. Contact the FRWDB Deputy Director of I.S. to initiate this process.
- B. All WIOA participants must pre-test and post-test using the CASAS[®] Goals assessment. A copy of the CASAS[®] assessment results must be kept in the participant case file.
- C. All CASAS[®] Goals assessment results must be entered into the CalJOBS[®] Educational Functioning Level for Measurable Skills Gain tab and documented in the Objective Assessment, as they occur.
- D. If a participant needs to retake a CASAS[®] Goals assessment (pre-test or post-test), a waiver must be submitted to FRWDB staff prior to the retake. See OD 27- 09.
- E. When a participant is scheduled for their initial CASAS[®] Goals assessment on any subsequent day, they must be provided with a CASAS[®] Participant Letter (Form # ASM-008) showing the date, time and location of their assessment.
- F. This initial assessment (Pre-test) must take place no more than six (6) months prior to WIOA application and establishes the baseline for further improvement.
 1. Providers are to accept an assessment from a referring partner as long as it was performed within the six (6) months prior to the WIOA application date. The assessment and application dates are no longer required to be the same.
 2. The first activities/services enrollments must be Objective Assessment (412), ISS (413) **AND** one of the fourteen program elements to enroll a participant in WIOA Youth Services.
- G. Staff conducting CASAS[®] Goals assessments must read the Proctor Script (Form # ASM-009) prior to the start of the CASAS[®] assessment.
- H. All In-School participants must be basic skills deficient (8.9 or below in reading or math) to be eligible for WIOA youth services.

Participants Career Assessments

The FRWDB requires all registered WIOA participants to take specialized career/occupational assessments that assist in providing appropriate career guidance.

The following guidelines must be followed to ensure that all participants meet the requirements:

Career Assessments

- A. All participants must complete the computerized Career Assessments (See appropriate youth flow for process sequence). Participants who do the optional work experience during the academic path are required to complete the Career Assessments before the work experience begins.

English Proficient Participants

1. Must complete the computerized O*NET version 3 Interest Profiler and Work Importance Profiler career assessments. If the computerized version 3 is not available, the paper version may be used.

- a O*NET Interest Profiler (180 Questions)
 - i Measures work related interests
- b O*NET Work Importance Profiler
 - i Measures work values

English Language Learners

1. Spanish speaking Participants
 - a Mi Proximo Paso: <https://www.miproximopaso.org/explore/ip>
 - i Measures work related interests
 - b O*NET Work Importance Profiler - accompanied with a translator
 - i Measures work values
2. Non-Spanish speaking Participants - accompanied with a translator
 - a O*NET Interest Profiler (180 Questions)
 - i Measures work related interests
 - b O*NET Work Importance Profiler
 - i Measures work values

B. All participants must complete the WorkKeys® assessments: Mathematics, Workplace Documents and Graphic Literacy. The results must be documented in the Objective Assessment. The following provides the timeline for taking the WorkKeys® assessments:

1. Younger Youth
 - a. When a participant, 17 years or older, starts the job readiness preparation, they must complete WorkKeys® within 45 calendar days of starting the process.
 - i. A waiver request must be submitted if there is a need to extend this time limit. The waiver must include justification and supporting documentation (i.e. school verification of extracurricular activities, etc.)
 - b. If a participant turns 17 **while** participating in the job readiness preparation,
 - i. They must complete WorkKeys® within 45 calendar days of the participant's 17th birthday.
 - A waiver request must be submitted if there is a need to extend this time limit. The waiver must include justification and supporting documentation.
2. Older Youth
 - a. WorkKeys® must be completed within 15 calendar days after the completion of the Job Readiness Workshop.

- C. Should a participant not meet the required WorkKeys® scores for the chosen occupation, ACT WorkKeys® Curriculum must be used to remediate them to the appropriate scores, as demonstrated by a post-test of WorkKeys®.
1. English Language Learners may, if determined appropriate, use the Spanish Language version of the ACT WorkKeys® Curriculum. Non-Spanish speaking English Language Learners must be accompanied by a translator.
 2. The participant is assigned a user ID and must take a placement test in each of the subjects for which an increase is desired.
 3. The participant works through the starting assigned level, in order, until a successful post-test has been completed for the desired goal level.
 4. Successful completion in the WorkKeys® Curriculum must be demonstrated by a score of 80% or greater on the specific level post-test (quiz).
 5. Once a participant has completed remediation, they are required to post-test on WorkKeys®.

D. A participant cannot take more than two (2) WorkKeys® post-tests within a six (6) month period.

Retaking Career Assessments

For a participant to retake a career assessment, the Academic & Career Advisor (ACA) must take the following steps:

- Participant who completed their vocational interest assessments, as listed above, in the Academic Path due to work experience preparation have the option to retake it, if deemed necessary by the ACA.
- WorkKeys® - Submit a waiver request per OD 27-09, if more than two (2) times within a six (6) month period.

When contacting FRWDB Data Services or submitting a waiver request, the ACA must include the participant's ID, the participant's name, the test to be retaken, and the reason for retaking the assessment.

All tests and retests must be maintained in the case file and results documented in CalJOBSsm. The reason for all retests must be documented in the case notes.

If you have any questions, please contact the FRWDB Program Manager.

Forms: ASM-008 CASAS® Participant Letter
ASM-009 Proctor Script

Attachment: CASAS® Crosswalk