

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

List of Approved "Ability-to-Benefit" Tests and Passing Scores

AGENCY: The Department of Education.
ACTION: Notice: Correction.

SUMMARY: This document corrects the passing scores for the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE)—Forms 5 and 6, Level A for both the Survey and Complete Battery Versions; and Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE)—Forms 7 and 8, Level A, for both Survey and Complete Battery Versions. Only the paper and pencil formats for these tests were approved. These tests and their incorrect passing scores were included in the Update Notice of the List of Approved "Ability-to-Benefit" Tests and Passing Scores that was published in the **Federal Register** on October 27, 1998 (63 FR 57540).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lorraine Kennedy, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, SW, Regional Office Building 3, Room 3045, Washington, DC 20202-5451. Telephone: (202) 708-8242. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternate format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiocassette, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person listed in the preceding paragraph.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On October 27, 1998, the Secretary published a notice that provided a list of "ability-to-benefit" tests and passing scores that the Secretary has approved under section 484(d) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA), and the regulations that the Secretary promulgated to implement that section in 34 CFR Part 668, Subpart J. The notice also included approved passing scores for the approved tests. These passing scores for the listed TABE tests were incorrect. This notice corrects those scores. Users are referred to the test publisher's technical manual for computing these scores.

If an institution used the scores for the TABE tests listed in the October 27, 1998 notice for an ability-to-benefit determination under section 484(d) of the HEA, and received a notice from the test publisher or an assessment center that a student achieved at least a passing score on that test, the institution may rely on that notice. The student does not have to retake that test.

However, if the institution was notified by the test publisher or an assessment center between October 27, 1998 and December 1, 1998, that the student failed to qualify for the ATB program, the institution may have the student's TABE test rescored by the test publisher or the assessment center with the composite scores listed in this notice.

For the convenience of institutions participating in the title IV, HEA programs and other parties, the following is a listing of the nine approved ATB tests and their passing scores.

List of Approved "Ability-to-Benefit" Tests and Passing Scores

1. *American College Testing (ACT): (English and Math) Passing Scores:* The approved passing scores on this test are as follows: English (14) and Math (15).

Publisher: The test publisher and the address, contact person, telephone, and fax number of the test publisher are: American College Testing (ACT), Placement Assessment Programs, 2201 North Dodge Street, P.O. Box 168, Iowa City, Iowa 52243, Contact: Dr. James Maxey, Telephone: (319) 337-1100, Fax: (319) 337-1790.

2. *ASSET Program: Basic Skills Tests (Reading, Writing, and Numerical)—Forms B2 and C2.*

Passing Scores: The approved passing scores on this test are as follows: Reading (34), Writing (34), and Numerical (33).

Publisher: The test publisher and the address, contact person, telephone, and fax number of the test publisher are: American College Testing (ACT), Placement Assessment Programs, 2201 North Dodge Street, P.O. Box 168, Iowa City, Iowa 52243, Contact: Dr. John D. Roth, Telephone: (319) 337-1030, Fax: (319) 337-1790.

3. *Career Programs Assessment (CPAT) Basic Skills Subtests Language Usage, Reading and Numerical)—Forms A, B, and C.*

Passing Scores: The approved passing scores on this test are as follows: Language Usage (43), Reading (44), and Numerical (42).

Publisher: The test publisher and the address, contact person, telephone, and fax number of the test publisher are: American College Testing (ACT), Placement Assessment Programs, 2201 North Dodge Street, P.O. Box 168, Iowa City, Iowa 52243, Contact: Dr. John D. Roth, Telephone: (319) 337-1030, Fax: (319) 337-1790.

4. *COMPASS Subtests: Prealgebra/Numerical Skills Placement, Reading Placement, and Writing Placement.*

Passing Scores: The approved passing scores on this test are as follows: Prealgebra/Numerical (21), Reading (60), and Writing (31).

Publisher: The test publisher and the address, contact person, telephone, and fax number of the test publisher are: American College Testing (ACT), Placement Assessment Programs, 2201 North Dodge Street, P.O. Box 168, Iowa City, Iowa 52243, Contact: Dr. John D. Roth, Telephone: (319) 337-1030, Fax: (319) 337-1790.

5. *Computerized Placement Tests (CPTs)/Accuplacer (Reading Comprehension, Sentence Skills, and Arithmetic).*

Passing Scores: The approved passing scores on this test are as follows: Reading Comprehension (52), Sentence Skills (60), and Arithmetic (36).

Publisher: The test publisher and the address, contact person, telephone, and fax number of the test publisher are: The College Board, 45 Columbus Avenue, New York, New York 10023-6992, Contact: Ms. Loretta M. Church, Telephone: (212) 713-8000, Fax: (212) 713-8063.

6. *Descriptive Tests: Descriptive Tests of Language Skills (DTLS) (Reading Comprehension, Sentence Structure and Conventions of Written English)—Forms M-K-3KDT and M-K-3LDT; and Descriptive Tests of Mathematical Skills (DTMS) (Arithmetic)—Forms M-K-3KDT and M-K-3LDT.*

Passing Scores: The approved passing scores on this test are as follows: Reading Comprehension (108), Sentence Structure (9), Conventions of Written English (309), and Arithmetic (506).

Publisher: The test publisher and the address, contact person, telephone, and fax number of the test publisher are: The College Board, 45 Columbus Avenue, New York, New York 10023-6992, Contact: Ms. Loretta M. Church, Telephone: (212) 713-8000, Fax: (212) 713-8063.

7. *Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) (Reading Total, Total Mathematics, Total Language)—Forms 5 and 6, Level A, Complete Battery and Survey Versions.*

Passing Scores: The approved passing scores on this test are as follows: Reading Total (768), Total Mathematics (783), Total Language (714).

Publisher: The test publisher and the address, contact person, telephone, and fax number of the test publisher are: CTB/McGraw-Hill, 20 Ryan Ranch Road, Monterey, California 93940-5703, Contact: Ms. Tina Gwaltney, Telephone: (831) 393-7749, Fax: (831) 393-7142.

8. *Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) (Reading, Total Mathematics,*

Language)—Forms 7 and 8, Level A, Complete Battery and Survey Versions.

Passing Scores: The approved passing scores on this test are as follows: Reading (559), Total Mathematics (562), Language (545).

Publisher: The test publisher and the address, contact person, telephone, and fax number of the test publisher are: CTB/McGraw-Hill, 20 Ryan Ranch Road, Monterey, California 93940-5703, Contact: Ms. Tina Gwaltney, Telephone: (831) 393-7749, Fax: (831) 393-7142.

9. *Wonderlic Basic Skills Test (WBST)—Verbal Forms VS-1 & VS-2, Quantitative Forms QS-1 & QS-2.*

Passing scores: The approved passing scores on this test are as follows: Verbal (200) and Quantitative (210).

Publisher: The test publisher and the address, contact person, telephone, and

fax number of the test publisher are: Wonderlic Personnel Test, Inc., 1509 N. Milwaukee Ave., Libertyville, IL 60048-1380, Contact: Mr. Victor S. Artese, Telephone: (800) 323-374, Fax: (847) 680-9492.

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Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: November 24, 1998.

Diane E. Rogers,

Acting Chief Operating Officer, Student Financial Assistance Programs.

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