Aspire Updates

November 27, 2018

Barriers to Employment

As was mentioned at the July Administrators Meeting, programs are under reporting students' Barriers to Employment. Effective January 1, 2019, all students must use the updated Student Registration Form where students self-identify their Barriers to Employment on p2. A good practice would be to have students update the barriers, along with their Individual Learning Plan, during the portfolio review.

TABE 11/12

DRC/TABE hosted two TABE 11/12 trainings last month. Attached are the field questions and our responses from those trainings. Please read the entire Q&A. Priority items include:

- The state office is purchasing paper assessments and answer sheets for the programs, expected delivery in January
- Training, in-person or online, is required before administering the test
- Early adopters may begin using TABE 11/12 in January. All programs will be required to use it July 1, 2019.

TABE 11/12 Q & A

The FY 2019 Assessment Policy will be updated by January 2019 to include TABE 11/12 information. Early adopters may begin using it January 2019 after completing the training. Effective July 1, 2019, all programs will be required to use TABE 11/12.

Will the state office be purchasing TABE 11/12 for the programs?

Yes. We are purchasing paper assessments and answer sheets, all levels, for the programs to help you get started with TABE 11/12. Those packets should arrive in January or February. Please keep in mind we have thousands of TABE Online tests, 9/10 and 11/12 (after January 1), available free to the programs and accessible through the PD System.

What kind of training is needed to be able to give the new assessment?

Before administering TABE 11/12, everyone administering the new test will have to complete a face-to-face training **or** the online DRC TABE 11/12 Certification training available through the PD System. The online training will be available in mid-December. More f2f trainings will be offered this spring.

Will students really have to be separated by book level in order to be assessed?

No. It will require that the test administrator, who is reading the scripted statements from the Test Administration Manual, adjust the instructions slightly in order to guide students to the proper pages in their

test books. This was a larger concern before DRC made adjustments to testing times based on level. All test levels (E, M, D, A) now have the same maximum testing times in each subject area.

How will the instructors pull student results from the assessment?

1. For paper/pencil tests, consider purchasing a scanner (price quoted was under $300) and the tests will be scored in the DRC "cloud" software. The results are generally available within 5 minutes including the most important piece, the diagnostic profile.
2. There is still the hand scoring option for paper tests. Programs would need to manually complete the paper diagnostic profile.
3. TABE 11/12 on Insight (TABE Online) automatically scores the assessment and generates the diagnostic report.

Will there still be a Grade Level Equivalence provided on the TABE 11/12 results?

There will **not** be a Grade Level Equivalence, only scale scores.

Will we be able to have the scores automatically imported into ABLELink to save data entry staff time?

DRC nor ABLELink have the capacity to import scores directly in to ABLELink. DRC is piloting this concept in other states and testing for areas that need improvement. Once procedures are worked out, this **may** be possible in Ohio.

When can we start using TABE 11/12?

Effective early January, ABLELink will be ready to accept TABE 9/10 and 11/12. Programs can begin using the TABE 11/12 test once this option is available. Programs may choose to begin piloting TABE 11/12 at one site or fully integrate it across the program. The important piece is to correctly mark the test type in ABLELink since the scale scores are different. Also, remember that when administering a post-test, a student needs to assess in the same version of the assessment as he/she did initially. (ex. Initial assessment in TABE 10, then the student would need to post test in TABE 9 after 40+ hours of instruction) A student who starts in 9/10 **cannot** show progress through a post-test in 11/12.

The TABE 11 & 12 Test Administration Manual was recently updated. If a program already purchased this manual, how can they access the updated version?
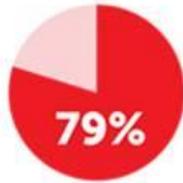
All updated TABE 11 & 12 manuals are available in pdf format and can be downloaded for **free** through the DRC INSIGHT Portal.

We know you are awesome and this Ohio HigherEd Infographic says it all. Thank you for all you do for Aspire students.

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Students enrolled in Aspire programs across Ohio

79%
Aspire students who took the High School Equivalence test and passed

88
Programs in all 88 counties

#3
U.S. ranking in student performance

Ohio's Aspire program provides FREE services for adults who need assistance preparing them for postsecondary education, training, and employment. In addition to helping with basic math, reading, and writing skills, the Aspire program provides corrections education, computer literacy, and English courses for speakers of other languages, and plays a crucial role in pushing Ohio toward its attainment goal. The state's goal is for 65% of Ohio's working population (ages 25 to 64) to have a degree, certificate, or other postsecondary workforce credential by 2025.