

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT FIELD INSTRUCTION (WIFI) No. 06-12

DATE: November 19, 2012

TO: Maryland Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Grant Recipients and Subrecipients

SUBJECT: Assessment Tools for Determining Educational Functioning Levels for Youth

REFERENCES: Federal Register Vol. 77, No. 151, August 6, 2012 Tests Determined To Be Suitable for Use in the National Reporting System for Adult Education; Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) No. 18-11 Improving Literacy and Numeracy Gains of Workforce Investment Act Youth Program Participants; TEGL No. 17-05 Change 2 Common Measures Policy for the Employment and Training Administration's Performance Accountability System and Related Performance Issues

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The U.S. Office of Education (ED) annually announces assessments that are approved for use in the National Reporting System (NRS) for Adult Education and are published in the Federal Register. The current list of approved tests posted in the Federal Register can be accessed at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-08-06/pdf/2012-19143.pdf>. The current Educational Functioning Level table for the tests is available in ED's NRS Implementation Guidelines at <http://www.nrsweb.org>. WIA providers must use only tests approved in the NRS and identified in its Implementation Guidelines to assess literacy and numeracy levels and to measure learning gains. Please note that the WIA, Title II (Adult Education) providers in Maryland are required to use CASAS and/or BEST PLUS assessments to report learner outcomes

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Local Workforce Investment Areas should periodically review the NRS guidelines for the list of approved tests and continually refer to the latest Federal Register announcement and NRS Implementation Guidelines (<http://www.nrsweb.org>) for the most current list of approved assessments and educational functioning levels.

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EFFECTIVE: Immediately


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