

**Outcome Measures Definitions**

**EDUCATIONAL FUNCTIONING LEVEL DESCRIPTORS-ADULT BASIC EDUCATION LEVELS**

Literacy Level	Basic Reading and Writing	Numeracy Skills	Functional and Workplace Skills
<p><b>Beginning ABE Literacy</b></p> <p><i>Test Benchmark:</i></p> <p><i>TABE 9-10 scale scores:</i>                      Reading: 367 and below                      Total Math: 313 and below                      Language: 389 and below</p> <p><i>Grade level 0-1.9</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual has no or minimal reading or writing skills</li> <li>• May have little or no comprehension of how print corresponds to spoken language and may have difficulty using a writing instrument</li> <li>• At the upper range of this level, individual can recognize, read, and write letters and numbers but has a limited understanding of connected prose and may need frequent re-reading</li> <li>• Can write a limited number of basic sight words and familiar words and phrases; may also be able to write simple sentences or phrases, including very simple messages.</li> <li>• Can write basic personal information</li> <li>• Narrative writing is disorganized and unclear, inconsistently uses simple punctuation (e.g. periods, commas, question marks), and contains frequent errors in spelling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual has little or no recognition of numbers or simple counting skills or may have only minimal skills, such as the ability to add or subtract single digit numbers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual has little or no ability to read basic signs or maps and can provide limited personal information on simple forms.</li> <li>• The individual can handle routine entry level jobs that require little or no basic written communication or computational skills and no knowledge of computers or other technology</li> </ul>

Notes: The descriptors are entry-level descriptors and are illustrative of what a typical student functioning at that level should be able to do. They are not a full description of skills for that level.

TABE = Test of Adult Basic Education, NYSED required assessment instrument, BLL

**Outcome Measures Definitions**

**EDUCATIONAL FUNCTIONING LEVEL DESCRIPTORS-ADULT BASIC EDUCATION LEVELS**

Literacy Level	Basic Reading and Writing	Numeracy Skills	Functional and Workplace Skills
<p><b>Beginning Basic Education</b></p> <p><i>Test Benchmark:</i></p> <p><i>TABE 9-10 scale scores:</i>                      Reading: 368-460                      Total Math: 314-441</p> <p><i>Grade Level 2-3.9</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual can read simple material on familiar subjects and comprehend simple and compound sentences in single or linked paragraphs containing a familiar vocabulary</li> <li>• Can write simple notes and messages on familiar situations but lacks clarity and focus</li> <li>• Sentence structure lacks variety, but individual shows some control of basic grammar (e.g. present and past tense) and consistent use of punctuation (e.g. periods, capitalization)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual can count, add, and subtract three digital numbers</li> <li>• Individual can perform multiplication through 12, can identify simple fractions, and perform other simple arithmetic operations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual is able to read simple directions, signs, and maps, fill out simple forms requiring basic personal information, write phone messages, and make simple changes. There is a minimal knowledge of and experience with using computers and related technology</li> <li>• The individual can handle basic entry level jobs that require minimal literacy skills; can recognize very short, explicit, pictorial texts and can read want ads and complete simple job applications</li> </ul>

Notes: The descriptors are entry-level descriptors and are illustrative of what a typical student functioning at that level should be able to do. They are not a full description of skills for that level.

TABE = Test of Adult Basic Education, NYSED required assessment instrument, BLL

### Outcome Measures Definitions

#### EDUCATIONAL FUNCTIONING LEVEL DESCRIPTORS-ADULT BASIC EDUCATION LEVELS

Literacy Level	Basic Reading and Writing	Numeracy Skills	Functional and Workplace Skills
<p><b>Low Intermediate Basic Education</b></p> <p><b>Test Benchmark:</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">TABE 9-10 scale scores: Reading: 461-517 Total Math: 442-505</p> <p>Grade Level: 4-5.9</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual can read text on familiar subjects that have a simple and clear underlying structure (e.g. clear main idea, chronological order)</li> <li>• Can use context to interpret meaning</li> <li>• Can interpret actions required in a specific written directions</li> <li>• Can write simple paragraphs with a main idea and supporting details on familiar topics (e.g. daily activities, personal issues) by recombining learned vocabulary and structures</li> <li>• Can self and peer edit for spelling and punctuation errors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual can perform with high accuracy all four basic math operations using whole numbers up to three digits and can identify and use all basic mathematical symbols.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual has is able to handle basic reading, writing, and computational tasks related to life roles, such as completing medical forms, order forms, or job applications.</li> <li>• Can read simple charts, graphs, labels, and payroll stubs and simple authentic material if familiar with the topic.</li> <li>• The individual can use simple computer programs and perform a sequence of routine tasks given direction using technology (e.g. fax machine, computer operation)</li> <li>• The individual can qualify for entry level jobs that require following basic written instructions and diagrams with assistance, such as oral clarification</li> <li>• Can write a short report or message to fellow workers and can read simple dials and scales and take routine measurements</li> </ul>

Notes: The descriptors are entry-level descriptors and are illustrative of what a typical student functioning at that level should be able to do. They are not a full description of skills for that level.

TABE = Test of Adult Basic Education, NYSED required assessment instrument, BLL

## Outcome Measures Definitions

### EDUCATIONAL FUNCTIONING LEVEL DESCRIPTORS-ADULT BASIC EDUCATION LEVELS

Literacy Level	Basic Reading and Writing	Numeracy Skills	Functional and Workplace Skills
<p><b>High Intermediate Basic Education</b></p> <p><i>Test Benchmark:</i></p> <p><i>TABE 9-10 scale scores:</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Reading: 518-566 Total Math: 506-565</p> <p>Grade Level: 6-8.9</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual is able to read simple descriptions and narratives on familiar subjects or from which new vocabulary can be determined by context and can make some minimal inferences about familiar texts and compare and contrast information from such texts but not consistently</li> <li>• Individual can write simple narrative descriptions and short essays on familiar topics</li> <li>• Individual has consistent use of basic punctuation but makes grammatical errors with complex structures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual can perform all four basic math operations with whole numbers and fractions</li> <li>• Can determine correct math operations for solving narrative math problems and can convert fractions to decimals and decimals to fractions</li> <li>• Can perform basic operations on fractions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual is able to handle basic life skills tasks such as graphs, charts, and labels and can follow multistep diagrams</li> <li>• Can read authentic materials on familiar topics such as simple employee handbooks and payroll stubs</li> <li>• Can complete forms such as a job application and reconcile a bank statement</li> <li>• Can handle jobs that involve following simple written instructions and diagrams</li> <li>• Can read procedural texts, where the information is supported by diagrams, to remedy a problem, such as locating a problem with a machine or carrying out repairs using a repair manual</li> <li>• The individual can learn or work with most basic computer software, such as using a word processor to produce own texts, can follow simple instructions for using technology.</li> </ul>

Notes: The descriptors are entry-level descriptors and are illustrative of what a typical student functioning at that level should be able to do. They are not a full description of skills for that level.

TABE = Test of Adult Basic Education, NYSED required assessment instrument, BLL

## Outcome Measures Definitions

### EDUCATIONAL FUNCTIONING LEVEL DESCRIPTORS-ADULT BASIC EDUCATION LEVELS

Literacy Level	Basic Reading and Writing	Numeracy Skills	Functional and Workplace Skills
<p><b>Low Adult Secondary Education</b></p> <p><i>Test Benchmark:</i></p> <p><i>TABE 9-10 scale scores:</i>                      Reading: 567-595                      Total Math: 566-594</p> <p>Grade Level: 9-10.9</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual can comprehend expository writing and identify spelling, punctuation and grammatical errors</li> <li>• Can comprehend a variety of materials such as periodicals and nontechnical journals in common topics</li> <li>• Can comprehend library reference materials and compose multiparagraph essays</li> <li>• Can listen to oral instructions and write an accurate synthesis of them</li> <li>• Can identify the main idea in reading selections and use a wide variety of context issues to determine meaning</li> <li>• Writing is organized and cohesive with few mechanical errors</li> <li>• Can write using a complex sentence structure</li> <li>• Can write personal notes and letters that accurately reflect thoughts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual can perform all basic math functions with whole numbers, decimals, and fractions</li> <li>• Can interpret and solve simple algebraic equations, tables, and graphs and can develop own tables and graphs</li> <li>• Can use math in business transactions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual is able or can learn to follow simple multistep directions and read common legal forms and manuals</li> <li>• Can integrate information from texts, charts, and graphs</li> <li>• Can create and use tables and graphs</li> <li>• Can complete forms and applications and complete resumes</li> <li>• Can perform jobs that require interpreting information from various sources and writing or explaining tasks to other workers</li> <li>• Is proficient using computers and can use most common computer applications</li> <li>• Can understand the impact of using different technologies</li> <li>• Can interpret the appropriate use of new software and technology</li> </ul>

Notes: The descriptors are entry-level descriptors and are illustrative of what a typical student functioning at that level should be able to do. They are not a full description of skills for that level.

TABE = Test of Adult Basic Education, NYSED required assessment instrument, BLL

**Outcome Measures Definitions**

**EDUCATIONAL FUNCTIONING LEVEL DESCRIPTORS-ADULT BASIC EDUCATION LEVELS**

Literacy Level	Basic Reading and Writing	Numeracy Skills	Functional and Workplace Skills
<p><b>High Adult Secondary Education</b></p> <p><i>Test Benchmark:</i></p> <p><i>TABE 9-10 scale scores :</i>                      Reading: 596 and above                      Total Math: 595 and above</p> <p>Grade Level 11-12</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual can comprehend , explain, and analyze information from a variety of literacy works, including primary source materials and professional journals</li> <li>• Can use context cues and higher order processes to interpret meaning of written material</li> <li>• Writing is cohesive with clearly expressed ideas supported by relevant detail</li> <li>• Individual can use varied and complex sentence structures with few mechanical errors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual can make mathematical estimates of time and space and can apply principles of geometry to measure angles, lines, and surfaces and can also apply trigonometric functions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual is able to read technical information and complex manuals</li> <li>• Can comprehend some college level books and apprenticeship manuals</li> <li>• Can function in most job situations involving higher order thinking</li> <li>• Can read text and explain a procedure about a complex and unfamiliar work procedure, such as operating a complex piece of machinery</li> <li>• Can evaluate new work situations and processes</li> <li>• Can work productively and collaboratively in groups and serve as facilitator and reporter of group work</li> <li>• Able to use common software and learn new software applications</li> <li>• Can define the purpose of a new technology and software and select the appropriate technology to new situations</li> <li>• Can instruct others, in written or oral form, on software and technology use</li> </ul>

Notes: The descriptors are entry-level descriptors and are illustrative of what a typical student functioning at that level should be able to do. They are not a full description of skills for that level. TABE = Test of Adult Basic Education, NYSED required assessment instrument, BLL

**Outcome Measures Definitions**

**EDUCATIONAL FUNCTIONING LEVEL DESCRIPTORS-ADULT BASIC EDUCATION LEVELS**

Literacy Level	Listening and Speaking	Basic Reading and Writing	Functional and Workplace Skills
<p><b>Beginning ESL Literacy</b></p> <p><i>Test Benchmark:</i>  <i>BEST Plus: 400 and below</i>  <i>BEST Literacy: 0-20</i></p> <p>Student Performance Level: 0-1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individual cannot speak or understand English, or understands only isolated words or phrases</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individual has no or minimal reading or writing skills in any language.</li> <li>May have little or no comprehension of how print corresponds to spoken language and may have difficulty using a writing instrument</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individual functions minimally or not at all in English and can communicate only through gestures or few isolated words, such as name or other personal information</li> <li>May recognize only common signs or symbols (e.g. stop sign, product logos)</li> <li>Can handle only very routine entry-level jobs that do not require oral or written communication in English</li> <li>There is no knowledge or use of computers or technology</li> </ul>

Notes: The descriptors are entry-level descriptors and are illustrative of what a typical student functioning at that level should be able to do. They are not a full description of skills for that level.

BEST Plus and BEST Literacy: Basic English Skills Test, NYSED required assessment instrument(s), ELL

Outcome Measures Definitions			
EDUCATIONAL FUNCTIONING LEVEL DESCRIPTORS-ADULT BASIC EDUCATION LEVELS			
Literacy Level	Listening and Speaking	Basic Reading and Writing	Functional and Workplace Skills
<p><b>Low Beginning ESL</b></p> <p><i>Test Benchmark:</i>  <i>BEST Plus: 401-417</i>  <i>BEST Literacy: 21-52</i></p> <p>Student Performance Level: 2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual can understand basic greetings, simple phrases and commands</li> <li>• Can understand simple questions related to personal information, spoken slowly and with repetition</li> <li>• Understands a limited number of words related to immediate needs and can respond with simple learned phrases to some common questions related to routine survival situations</li> <li>• Speak slowly and with difficulty</li> <li>• Demonstrates little or no control over grammar</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual can read numbers and letters and some common sight words</li> <li>• May be able to sound out simple words</li> <li>• Can read and write some familiar words and phrases, but has limited understanding of connected prose in English</li> <li>• Can write basic personal information (e.g. name, address, telephone number) and can complete simple forms that elicit this information</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual functions with difficulty in social situations and in situations related to immediate needs</li> <li>• Can provide limited personal information on simple forms, and can read very simple common forms of print found in the home and environment, such as product names</li> <li>• Can handle routine entry-level jobs that require very simple written or oral English communication and in which jobs tasks can be demonstrated</li> <li>• May have limited knowledge and experience with computers</li> </ul>

Notes: The descriptors are entry-level descriptors and are illustrative of what a typical student functioning at that level should be able to do. They are not a full description of skills for that level.

BEST Plus and BEST Literacy: Basic English Skills Test, NYSED required assessment instrument(s), ELL



## Outcome Measures Definitions

### EDUCATIONAL FUNCTIONING LEVEL DESCRIPTORS-ADULT BASIC EDUCATION LEVELS

Literacy Level	Listening and Speaking	Basic Reading and Writing	Functional and Workplace Skills
<p><b>High Beginning ESL</b></p> <p><i>Test Benchmark:</i> BEST Plus: 418-438 BEST Literacy: 53-63</p> <p>Student Performance Level: 3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual can understand common words, simple phrases, and sentences containing familiar vocabulary, spoken slowly with some repetition</li> <li>• Individual can respond to simple questions about personal everyday activities, and can express immediate needs, using simple learned phrases or short sentences</li> <li>• Shows limited control of grammar</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual can read most sight words, and many other common words</li> <li>• Can read familiar phrases and simple sentences but has a limited understanding of connected prose and may need frequent re-reading</li> <li>• Individual can write some simple sentences with limited vocabulary; meaning may be unclear</li> <li>• Writing shows very little control of basic grammar, capitalization and punctuation and has many spelling errors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual can function in some situations related to immediate needs and in familiar social situations</li> <li>• Can provide simple forms and recognizes simple common forms of print found in the home, workplace and community</li> <li>• Can handle routine entry-level jobs requiring basic written or oral English communication and in which job tasks can be demonstrated</li> <li>• May have limited knowledge or experience using computers</li> </ul>

Notes: The descriptors are entry-level descriptors and are illustrative of what a typical student functioning at that level should be able to do. They are not a full description of skills for that level.

BEST Plus and BEST Literacy: Basic English Skills Test, NYSED required assessment instrument(s), ELL

Outcome Measures Definitions

**EDUCATIONAL FUNCTIONING LEVEL DESCRIPTORS-ADULT BASIC EDUCATION LEVELS**

Literacy Level	Listening and Speaking	Basic Reading and Writing	Functional and Workplace Skills
<p><b>Low Intermediate ESL</b></p> <p><i>Test Benchmark:</i>  <i>BEST Plus: 439-472</i>  <i>BEST Literacy: 64-67</i></p> <p>Student Performance Level: 4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual can understand simple learned phrases and limited new phrases containing familiar vocabulary spoken slowly with frequent repetition</li> <li>• Individual can ask and respond to questions using such phrases</li> <li>• Individual can express basic survival needs and participate in some routine social conversations, although with some difficulty</li> <li>• Has some control of basic grammar</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual can read simple material on familiar subjects and comprehend simple and compound sentences in single or linked paragraphs containing familiar vocabulary</li> <li>• Can write simple notes and messages on familiar situations but lacks clarity and focus</li> <li>• Sentence structure lacks variety but shows some control of basic grammar (e.g. present and past tense) and consistent use of punctuation (e.g. periods, capitalization)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual can function in some situations related to immediate needs and in familiar social situations</li> <li>• Can provide simple forms and recognizes simple common forms of print found in the home, workplace and community</li> <li>• Can handle routine entry-level jobs requiring basic written or oral English communication and in which jobs tasks can be demonstrated</li> <li>• May have limited knowledge or experience using computers</li> </ul>

Notes: The descriptors are entry-level descriptors and are illustrative of what a typical student functioning at that level should be able to do. They are not a full description of skills for that level.

BEST Plus and BEST Literacy: Basic English Skills Test, NYSED required assessment instrument(s), ELL

## Outcome Measures Definitions

### EDUCATIONAL FUNCTIONING LEVEL DESCRIPTORS-ADULT BASIC EDUCATION LEVELS

Literacy Level	Listening and Speaking	Basic Reading and Writing	Functional and Workplace Skills
<p><b>High Intermediate ESL</b></p> <p><i>Test Benchmark:</i>  <i>BEST Plus: 473-506</i>  <i>BEST Literacy: 68-75</i></p> <p>Student Performance Level: 5                      (BEST Lit 5-6)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual can understand learned phrases and short new phrases containing familiar vocabulary spoken slowly and with some repetition</li> <li>• Can communicate basic survival needs with some help</li> <li>• Can participate in conversation in limited social situations and use new phrases with hesitation</li> <li>• Relies on description and concrete terms</li> <li>• There is inconsistent control of more complex grammar</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual can read text on familiar subjects that have a simple and clear underlying structure (e.g. clear main idea, chronological order)</li> <li>• Can use context to determine meaning</li> <li>• Can interpret actions required in a specific written directions</li> <li>• Can write simple paragraphs with main idea supporting details on familiar topics (e.g. daily activities, personal issues) by re-combining learned vocabulary and structures</li> <li>• Can self and peer edit for spelling and punctuation errors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual can meet basic survival and social needs</li> <li>• Can follow some simple oral and written instruction</li> <li>• Has some ability to communicate on the telephone on familiar subjects</li> <li>• Can write messages and notes related to basic needs</li> <li>• Can complete basic medical forms and job applications</li> <li>• Can handle jobs that involve basic oral instructions and written communication in tasks that can be clarified orally</li> <li>• Can work with or learn basic computer software, such as word processing</li> <li>• Can follow simple instructions for using technology</li> </ul>

Notes: The descriptors are entry-level descriptors and are illustrative of what a typical student functioning at that level should be able to do. They are not a full description of skills for that level.

BEST Plus and BEST Literacy: Basic English Skills Test, NYSED required assessment instrument(s), ELL

## Outcome Measures Definitions

### EDUCATIONAL FUNCTIONING LEVEL DESCRIPTORS-ADULT BASIC EDUCATION LEVELS

Literacy Level	Listening and Speaking	Basic Reading and Writing	Functional and Workplace Skills
<p><b>Advanced ESL</b></p> <p><i>Test Benchmark:</i> BEST Plus: 507-540 BEST Literacy: 76-78</p> <p>Student Performance Level: 6 (BEST Lit SPL 7)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual can understand and communicate in a variety of contexts related to daily life and work</li> <li>• Can understand and participate in conversation on a variety of everyday subjects, including some unfamiliar vocabulary, but may need repetition or rewording</li> <li>• Can clarify own or others' meaning by rewording</li> <li>• Can understand the main points of simple discussions and informational communication of familiar contexts</li> <li>• Shows some ability to go beyond learned patterns and construct new sentences</li> <li>• Shows control of basic grammar but has difficulty using more complex structures</li> <li>• Has some basic fluency of speech</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual can read moderately complex text related to life roles and descriptions and narratives from authentic materials on familiar subjects</li> <li>• Uses context and word analysis skills to understand vocabulary, and uses multiple strategies to understand unfamiliar texts</li> <li>• Can make inferences, predictions, and compare and contrast information in familiar texts (e.g. organizes and develops ideas with clear instruction, body, and conclusion) using some complex grammar and a variety of sentence structures</li> <li>• Makes some grammar and spelling errors and uses a range of vocabulary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual can function independently to meet most survival needs</li> <li>• Can use English in routine social and work situations</li> <li>• Can communicate on the telephone and understands radio and tv on familiar subjects</li> <li>• Can interpret routine charts, tables, and graphs</li> <li>• Can complete forms and handle work demands that require non-technical oral and written instructions and routine interaction with the public</li> <li>• Can use common software, learn new basic applications, and select the correct basic technology in familiar situations</li> </ul>

Notes: The descriptors are entry-level descriptors and are illustrative of what a typical student functioning at that level should be able to do. They are not a full description of skills for that level.

BEST Plus and BEST Literacy: Basic English Skills Test, NYSED required assessment instrument(s), ELL