

TABE® 11&12 FAQs

Transitioning to TABE 11&12

Q1: What is your recommendation for which method of testing with TABE 11&12 is best – computer-based or paper-based? And if paper-based, do you recommend we hand-score or use a scanner?

A1: The benefits of administering TABE 11&12 as a computer-based test include increased security and validity, and limited need for storage of materials. If paper-based testing is preferred, programs may consider using a scanner for scoring. The benefits of scanning include increased reliability and validity, and the availability of online reporting, which offers programs useful data.

Q2: If we plan to use the scanning method, should we still purchase an answer key in case there is an issue?

A2: It would probably be a good idea to have a print copy of the answer key just in case. The answer key needs to be requested from DRC Customer Service, and costs \$25.00 plus \$3.00 shipping for each Form 11 and Form 12.

Q3: If a student has a 9&10 pre-test, and now has 40 hours of attendance, should they be given a 9&10 post-test, or can they be transitioned to 11&12?

A3: Not yet. They must first be post-tested in 9&10. However, at any point after the 9&10 post-test, the student can be given an 11&12 pre-test. Because it is a different test series, there is no need to wait 40 hours for the next test.

Test Content

Q4: Can teachers cover practice test items in class?

A4: Yes! Teachers can cover sample test items available on the DRC website. Teachers can also use the TABE blueprints to drive their standards-based instruction.

Q5: What is the difference between Part 1 and Part 2 of the subject tests on TABE 11&12?

A5: Both the Reading and Math subject tests are broken into Part 1 and Part 2, but students earn only one scale score for Reading and one scale score for Math. The test parts do NOT produce separate scores.

DRC has stated that there is no difference between Part 1 and Part 2 of the Reading test. Each part is half of the whole test that has been broken into 2 sections to make it easier for programs to administer the test in shorter time frames and to allow the students a break between parts.

Part 1 of the TABE Math is the non-calculator portion. Part of the TABE Math is the calculator use portion for Forms M, D, and A.

Test Administration

Q6: Does the out-of-range score issue exist at the upper end? Can a student score too high on a subject test?

A6: The TABE 11&12 Scoring Guide shows a + next to the scores that are considered above the targeted level for that subject test. However, these scores are assigned a scale score and are therefore valid and can be entered into SiD.

Q7: Can computer-based testing programs intervene between the Locator test and a subject test in order to analyze the Locator score and determine which level subject test is appropriate to administer?

A7: Yes. Test administrators must select Locator instead of Auto-Locator in the Insight Platform when establishing a test session. This determination allows administrators to look at a student's Locator score and designate a subject level test, as opposed to the Auto-Locator selection, which automatically puts the into a subject test.

Q8: I understand there are field test questions on the TABE 11&12. Do we have to do anything special with these questions.

A8: When administering the TABE 11&12 to students, you do not draw attention to the field test questions or alter the allowable times. The field test questions are there because DRC, the TABE publisher, will use the data generated from those questions as they shape future versions of the TABE.

You test administrators need to be aware of these field test questions IF you are hand-scoring the test. Field test questions do not count toward the total number of points possible. The Answer Keys and the ScorEze sheets (on the inside when the pages are separated) contain instructions for which questions are field test questions and how to subtract those from the total number of points possible.

Q9: Our program traditionally has administered both the Reading and Math subject tests at intake, but we are concerned that the extended allowable times will overtax our students. Do you have recommendation to keep from burdening students with too much testing?

A9: Programs will need to decide the best way to do intake and assessment so that it fits the needs of their schedule. When time is limited, one suggestion is to administer the Reading Locator and then perhaps the first half of the Reading test. The second half of the test can be given on another day. Another suggestion would be to give the Language test first, as this is the shortest test.

Q10: Is the word list optional?

A10: Yes, it is suggested that you use the word list if you are unsure if a student could successfully complete the Locator test. The Word list helps a test administrator determine whether to give the student the Locator test or the TABE Form L (Literacy).

Q11: Can we hand grade the locator and scan the TABE subtests?

A11: Yes. Be sure to order the materials necessary if you plan to administer the tests this way. You will need the official TABE Answer Booklets, plus the correct scanner and Portal Permissions (Local Scanning Permission and On Demand Reports permission).

Q12: Where can I find the conversion chart for scale score to grade levels?

A12: On tabetest.com – http://tabetest.com/PDFs/TABE_GradeRange.pdf

Q13: How long does the TABE 11&12 Reading test take to complete?

A13: If a student used the entire allowable time for the TABE 11&12 Reading test, it would take 2 hours (60 minutes for each portion). However, not all students will use the entire allowable time.

Q14: If we are scanning TABE answer forms, are students required to fill out ALL the information on the first page of the answer book, such as race, public assistance status, etc.? I am trying to determine which data are required to enter for the scanned grading feature.

A14: Programs using the scanning option have reported that certain items on page 1 of the answer document must be entered before tests are scanned. These required items include: first and last name, date of birth, and gender. If any of these items is left blank, you will be prompted to edit or add information before scoring can occur.

Q15: If computer-based testing, do students need a physical calculator, or is there one present on the computer screen?

A15: If computer-based testing the calculator will be available for students to use on the computer screen for questions where a calculator is allowed.

Q16: Can we administer different levels of the test in the same room at the same time?

A16: This is difficult, due to the fact that the practice items for each level are different, and need to be administered prior to the start of the test.

Materials and Ordering

Q17: *How do we order TABE testing materials?*

A17: Order forms for all TABE testing material can be found at <https://tabetest.com/resources-2/tabe-1112-order-forms/>

Q18: *Is a calculator allowed on the TABE 11&12 Locator test, and if so, what kind?*

A18: The Test Directions Booklet indicates that a scientific calculator is allowed on Part 2 of the Locator Math test.

Q19: *Is there a formula sheet for the Math portion of TABE 11&12?*

A19: No. If a formula or conversion is required for the problem, it will appear as part of the question.

Q20: *How should we dispose of our TABE 9&10 materials, once we have made the complete transition to TABE 11&12?*

A20: DRC has indicated that programs may dispose of TABE 9&10 materials in the manner which seems appropriate to them. Since Minnesota is allowing the use of TABE 9&10 until June 30, 2019, the TABE 9&10 items will be considered secure materials until that time. Therefore, it is recommended that items be shredded or that you wait to dispose of them until July 2019.

Q21: *How do we get the Individual Diagnostic Profile report that we can use when we hand-score?*

A21: On the TABE 11&12 paper-based test order form under the General Accessories section, you will find an Individual Diagnostic Profile report for each test level that you can order.

Miscellaneous

Q22: *Will there be a shorter, "survey" version of TABE 11&12, as there was on 9&10?*

A22: No. DRC has indicated that the current version of the TABE 11&12 is the only version that will be published.