Out of Range Scores on TABE 11&12

It is possible for students to score out-of-range on the TABE test. This means they score one or more NRS levels below the targeted level for that subject test. This is NOT a new policy for TABE – on Forms 7&8 and Forms 9&10, certain scores were designated as out-of-range. However, on TABE 11&12 there is one key difference. **When students score out-of-range, students will not receive a scale score or NRS level** – the Scoring Guide indicates N/A for Scale Score and O/R for NRS Level in these instances. If an out-of-range score is entered into DAISI, it will appear as N/A in the system as well. **This is new**. The out-of-range policy was always in place, but the scoring guide and DAISI now reinforce this policy. **For TABE 11&12, in cases such as this, students must take a lower TABE level test in order to earn a score that is in range**.

For example, Mario takes the Locator and it indicates he should take Reading Level D as his pre-test. Mario finishes the Form 11 Reading Level D pre-test with a score of 12 correct answers. According to the Scoring Guide page 38, a Raw Score of 12 is out-of-range on this test; therefore, Mario cannot earn a Scale Score or NRS Level on this test. (See Table 44 below.) The test administrator must give Mario the Reading Level M test. It would be a local program decision whether to administer the Level M test immediately or to schedule it for another test session.

Table 44. Reading Level D – TABE 11&12 Scoring Guides page 38

Raw Score	FORM 11			FORM 12		
	Scale Score	SEM	NRS Level	Scale Score	SEM	NRS Level
0	N/A	N/A	O/R	N/A	N/A	O/R
1	N/A	N/A	O/R	N/A	N/A	O/R
2	N/A	N/A	O/R	N/A	N/A	O/R
3	N/A	N/A	O/R	N/A	N/A	O/R
4	N/A	N/A	O/R	N/A	N/A	O/R
5	N/A	N/A	O/R	N/A	N/A	O/R
6	N/A	N/A	O/R	N/A	N/A	O/R
7	N/A	N/A	O/R	N/A	N/A	O/R
8	N/A	N/A	O/R	N/A	N/A	O/R
9	N/A	N/A	O/R	N/A	N/A	O/R
10	N/A	N/A	O/R	N/A	N/A	O/R
11	N/A	N/A	O/R	N/A	N/A	O/R
12	N/A	N/A	O/R	N/A	N/A	O/R
13	N/A	N/A	O/R	N/A	N/A	O/R
14	501-	16	3	501-	14	3
15	501-	16	3	501-	14	3
16	501-	16	3	501-	14	3
17	501-	16	3	501-	14	3
18	501-	16	3	501-	14	3
19	501-	16	3	501-	14	3
20	501-	16	3	501-	14	3
21	501	16	3	505	14	3
22	506	16	3	509	14	3
23	510	16	3	513	14	3
24	515	17	3	517	14	3
25	520	17	3	521	15	3
26	524	17	3	525	15	3
27	529	17	3	529	15	3
28	534	18	3	533	15	3
29	539	18	4	537	15	4
30	545	18	4	542	16	4

Is there an alternative to retesting the student with a lower test level?

Yes, but this determination must be made after the Locator but before a subject test is administered. The chart below contains the cut points for the TABE 11&12 Locator test. The Scoring Guide page 3 indicates that the cut points should be used "in conjunction with any knowledge of the examinee's previous performance to help determine placement in TABE levels." Therefore, **if a student scores at the bottom of a Locator test range, a test administrator may choose to administer the subject test at one level below the recommendation in the chart**.

Interpreting Locator Test Scores – Locator Score Ranges

Reading	Mathematics	Language	TABE Level to Administer
0-5	0-5	0-5	E
6-11	6-9	6-10	M
12-15	10-12	11-13	D
16-19	13-16	14-16	A

For example, Lynn takes the TABE 11&12 Locator Reading and scores 16 correct. The test administrator, knowing something of Lynn's abilities, fears that giving her an A Reading pre-test will result in an out-of-range score. The administrator thus chooses to administer Lynn the D Reading as her pre-test instead. This is acceptable practice. (Please note: this applies to the pre-test only. Students must post-test with the same level as the pre-test that was administered and entered into DAISI.)

Important Notes

For **Computer-Based Testing programs**, to intervene between the Locator and the subject level test, you must select Locator as a test session as opposed to Auto-Locator. Therefore, you will need to consider the administrative tasks that may be associated with this process.

Another strategy for avoiding out-of-range test scores is to **encourage students to do their best** on their Locator and pre-test. Emphasize to students that intentionally rushing or failing to show real effort on a TABE test will likely result in an invalid score and will require them to retest, which will take up to two additional hours of test time.

This out-of-range issue does not exist on the Level L or E tests. Scores as low as a Raw Score of zero still earn a scale score and NRS level on those forms. **The out-of-range issue does exist for Levels M, D, and A in Reading, Math, and Language.**