DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Tests Determined To Be Suitable for Use in the National Reporting System for Adult Education

AGENCY: Office of Vocational and Adult Education, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Secretary annually announces tests, test forms, and delivery formats that the Secretary determines to be suitable for use in the National Reporting System for Adult Education (NRS).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michelle Meier, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., Room 11161, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202–7240. Telephone: (202) 245–7890 or by email: Michelle.Meier@ed.gov.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) or a text telephone (TTY), call the Federal Relay Service (FRS), toll free, at 1–800–877–5283. Internet: www.sabes.org/545–0564.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 14, 2008, we published in the Federal Register final regulations for 34 CFR part 462, Measuring Educational Gain in the National Reporting System for Adult Education (NRS regulations) (73 FR 2306). The NRS regulations established the process the Secretary uses to determine the suitability of tests for use in the NRS by States and local eligible providers. We annually publish in the Federal Register and post on the Internet at http://www.nrsweb.org a list of the names of tests and the educational functioning levels the tests are suitable to measure in the NRS as required by § 462.12(c)(2) of the NRS regulations.

On April 16, 2008, we published in the Federal Register a notice inviting test publishers to submit tests for review under the NRS regulations (73 FR 20616).

On February 2, 2010, we published in the Federal Register a notice (February 2010 notice) listing the tests and test forms the Secretary determined to be suitable for use in the NRS (75 FR 5303).

The Secretary determined tests and test forms to be suitable for a period of either seven or three years from the date of the February 2010 notice. A seven-year approval required no additional action on the part of the publisher, unless the information the publisher submitted as a basis for the Secretary’s review was inaccurate or unless the test is substantially revised. A three-year approval was issued with a set of conditions to be met by the completion of the three-year period. If these conditions were met, the Secretary would approve a period of time for which the test may continue to be used in the NRS.

On September 12, 2011, we published in the Federal Register (76 FR 56188) a notice (September 2011 notice) to update the list published in the February 2010 notice, and include suitable test delivery formats. The update clarified that some, but not all, tests using computer-adaptive or computer-based delivery formats are suitable for use in the NRS.

On August 6, 2012, we published in the Federal Register (77 FR 46749) the same list of forms and computer delivery formats for the tests published in the September 2011 notice. We also announced a sunset period during which States and local providers may continue to use tests with three-year NRS approvals otherwise expiring on February 2, 2013, during a transition period ending on June 30, 2014.

On January 25, 2013, we announced in the Federal Register (78 FR 5430) an extension of the approval period for tests approved for a three-year period beginning on February 2, 2010. The approval period was extended from February 2, 2013 to September 30, 2013, with the sunset period ending on June 30, 2014 still applicable.

The Secretary publishes here the list of tests and test forms determined to be suitable for use in the NRS. These include: (1) Tests previously approved for a seven-year period from February 2, 2010; (2) three tests—previously approved for a three-year conditional period from February 2, 2010—for which the Secretary is extending the approval period through June 30, 2015; and (3) one test—a revised version of a test previously approved for a three-year conditional period from February 2, 2010—for which the Secretary is providing an approval period through June 30, 2015. The extended approval period through June 30, 2015 for these four tests is issued with a set of conditions for each test that a test publisher must meet by the completion of the extended period. If a test publisher meets these conditions, the Secretary approves a period of time for which the test may continue to be used in the NRS.

Approved Tests, Forms and Approval Periods

Adult education programs must use only the approved forms and computer delivery formats for the tests published in this notice. If a particular test form or computer delivery format is not explicitly specified for a test in this notice, it is not approved for use in the NRS.

Tests Determined To Be Suitable for Use in the NRS for Seven Years

(a) The Secretary has determined that the following test is suitable for use at all Adult Basic Education (ABE) and Adult Secondary Education (ASE) levels and at all English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) levels of the NRS for a period of seven years beginning on February 2, 2010:

Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems (CASAS) Reading Assessments (Life and Work, Life Skills, Reading for Citizenship, Reading for Language Arts—Secondary Level). Forms 27, 28, 81, 82, 81X, 82X, 83, 84, 85, 86, 185, 186, 187, 188, 310, 311, 513, 514, 951, 952, 951X, and 952X of this test are approved for use on paper and through the computer-based delivery format. Publisher: CASAS, 5151 Murphy Canyon Road, suite 220, San Diego, CA 92123–4339. Telephone: (800) 255–1036. Internet: www.casas.org.

(b) The Secretary has determined that the following tests are suitable for use at all ABE and ASE levels of the NRS for a period of seven years beginning on February 2, 2010:

(1) Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems (CASAS) Life Skills Math Assessments—Application of Mathematics (Secondary Level). Forms 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 505, and 506 of this test are approved for use on paper and through the computer-based delivery format. Publisher: CASAS, 5151 Murphy Canyon Road, suite 220, San Diego, CA 92123–4339. Telephone: (800) 255–1036. Internet: www.casas.org.

(2) Massachusetts Adult Proficiency Test (MAPT) for Math. This test is approved for use through a computer-adaptive delivery format. Publisher: Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and University of Massachusetts Amherst, School of Education, 156 Hills South, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003. Telephone: (413) 545–0564. Internet: www.sabes.org/assessment/mapt.htm.
(3) Massachusetts Adult Proficiency Test (MAPT) for Reading. This test is approved for use through the computer-adaptive delivery format. Publisher: Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and University of Massachusetts Amherst, School of Education, 156 Hills South, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003. Telephone: (413) 545–0564. Internet: www.sabes.org/assessment/mapt.htm.


(c) The Secretary has determined that the following tests are suitable for use at all ESL levels of the NRS for a period of seven years beginning on February 2, 2010:


Tests That May Be Used in the NRS During the Sunset Period Ending on June 30, 2014

(a) The Secretary has determined that the following tests may be used at the High Intermediate, Low Adult Secondary, and High Adult Secondary levels of the NRS during the sunset period ending on June 30, 2014:


(b) WorkKeys: Reading for Information. Forms 110 and 120 are approved for use on paper. Publisher: ACT, 500 ACT Drive, P.O. Box 168, Iowa City, Iowa 52243–0168. Telephone: (800) 967–5539. Internet: www.act.org.

(b) The Secretary has determined that the following tests may be used at all ESL levels of the NRS during the sunset period ending on June 30, 2014:


(d) The Secretary has determined that the following test may be used at all ABE and ASE levels of the NRS during the sunset period ending on June 30, 2014:


Expiring Tests

The sunset period for an expiring test allows a State and local provider to transition to other tests suitable for use in the NRS. The State and local provider may use the transition period to select new tests, purchase appropriate inventories of assessment materials, and provide training to staff.

Revocation of Tests

Under certain circumstances the Secretary may revoke the determination that a test is suitable (see 34 CFR 462.12(e)). If the Secretary revokes the determination of suitability, the Secretary announces through the Federal Register and posts on the Internet at www.nrsweb.org a notice of that revocation, along with the date by which States and local eligible providers must stop using the revoked test.

Accessible Format: Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document in
an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc) on request to the contact person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT in this notice.

Electronic Access to This Document: The official version of this document is the document published in the Federal Register. Free Internet access to the official edition of the Federal Register and the Code of Federal Regulations is available via the Federal Digital System at: www.gpo.gov/fdsys. At this site you can view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the Federal Register, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF). To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at the site.

You may also access documents of the Department published in the Federal Register by using the article search feature at: www.federalregister.gov. Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.


Dated: December 9, 2013.

Johan Uvin,
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Strategic Initiatives, Delegated Authority to Perform the Functions and Duties of the Assistant Secretary for Vocational and Adult Education.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Menice Santistevan, Northern New Mexico Citizens’ Advisory Board, 94 Cities of Gold Road, Santa Fe, NM 87506. Phone (505) 995–0393; Fax (505) 989–1752 or Email: menice.santistevan@nnnsa.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
Purpose of the Board: The purpose of the Board is to make recommendations to DOE–EM and site management in the areas of environmental restoration, waste management, and related activities.

Purpose of the Environmental Monitoring and Remediation Committee (EM&R): The EM&R Committee provides a citizens’ perspective to NNMCAB on current and future environmental remediation activities resulting from historical Los Alamos National Laboratory operations and, in particular, issues pertaining to groundwater, surface water and work required under the New Mexico Environment Department Order on Consent. The EM&R Committee will keep abreast of DOE–EM and site programs and plans. The committee will work with the NNMCAB to provide assistance in determining priorities and the best use of limited funds and time. Formal recommendations will be proposed when needed and, after consideration and approval by the full NNMCAB, may be sent to DOE–EM for action.

Purpose of the Waste Management (WM) Committee: The WM Committee reviews policies, practices and procedures, existing and proposed, so as to provide recommendations, advice, suggestions and opinions to the NNMCAB regarding waste management operations at the Los Alamos site.

Tentative Agenda
1. 2:00 p.m. Approval of Agenda
2. 2:05 p.m. Review of Minutes from September 10, 2013 (Approved November 20, 2013)
3. 2:07 p.m. Old Business
   • Update on Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Permit Modification (Hanford Mod)
   • Review of Mercury Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement NNMCAB Comment Responses
4. 2:25 p.m. New Business
   • NNMCAB 101
5. 2:40 p.m. Update from Executive Committee—Carlos Valdez, Chair
6. 2:50 p.m. Update from DOE—Lee Bishop, Deputy Designated Federal Officer
7. 3:00 p.m. Presentation by Tori George, Los Alamos National Security
   • General Information on Los Alamos National Laboratory
8. 3:45 p.m. Public Comment Period
9. 4:00 p.m. Adjourn

Public Participation: The NNMCAB’s Committees welcome the attendance of the public at their combined committee meeting and will make every effort to accommodate persons with physical disabilities or special needs. If you require special accommodations due to a disability, please contact Menice Santistevan at least seven days in advance of the meeting at the telephone number listed above. Written statements may be filed with the Committees either before or after the meeting. Individuals who wish to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should contact Menice Santistevan at the address or telephone number listed above. Requests must be received five days prior to the meeting and reasonable provision will be made to include the presentation in the agenda. The Deputy Designated Federal Officer is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Individuals wishing to make public comments will be provided a maximum of five minutes to present their comments.

Minutes: Minutes will be available by writing or calling Menice Santistevan at the address or phone number listed above. Minutes and other Board documents are on the Internet at: http://www.nnmcab.energy.gov/.

Issued at Washington, DC, on December 9, 2013.

LaTanya R. Butler,
Deputy Committee Management Officer.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Northern New Mexico

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of Open Meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a combined meeting of the Environmental Monitoring and Remediation Committee and Waste Management Committee of the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Northern New Mexico (known locally as the Northern New Mexico Citizens’ Advisory Board [NNMCAB]). The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92–463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of this meeting be announced in the Federal Register.

DATES: Wednesday, January 8, 2014, 2:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.
ADDRESSES: Cities of Gold Conference Center, NNMCAB Conference Room, 94 Cities of Gold Road, Pojoaque, NM 87506.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Oak Ridge Reservation

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Oak Ridge Reservation. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92–463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of this meeting be announced in the Federal Register.

DATES: Wednesday, January 8, 2014, 6:00 p.m.
ADDRESSES: Department of Energy Information Center, Office of Science and Technical Information, 1