
Adult Diploma Program Assessment Blueprint Comparison Guide

Purpose

The Adult Diploma Program (ADP) Assessment Blueprint Comparison Guide (ABCG) is meant to be used as a quick, high-level comparison of the assessments used for accountability in high schools, and the assessments used for accountability purposes in the Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) program in Vermont. The ADP-ABCG was developed out of a need for those involved in the newly re-envisioned ADP to have a quick reference document available when discussing qualifying proficiencies of students in the ADP who are working towards obtaining a high school diploma. The ADP-ABCG should provide assurances to school administration and school boards, that the assessments used in the AEL program contain, at minimum, a comparable level of rigor, validity, and reliability as the assessments used in for school accountability by our high school partners.

This document can be used to start or support conversations about assessments, standards-based instruction, proficiency-based credits, and competencies learned on the job in work-based learning experiences, pre-apprenticeships, Integrated Education and Training Programs (IETs), and AEL courses. Part one of the guide gives a high-level overview of basic differences between statewide, federally-mandated assessments used for accountability under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), and federally-mandated assessments used for AEL program accountability under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Included is information regarding English Language Proficiency (ELP) standards and alternate assessments based on academic achievement standards. The second part provides a blueprint comparison of the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) reading and math Form D tests, and the Vermont Comprehensive Assessment Program (VTCAP) ninth grade English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics assessments.

Considerations and Limitations when using this document

This document attempts to compare the blueprint used in the Vermont Comprehensive Assessment Program (VTCAP) 9th grade state summative assessment for ELA and mathematics and the TABE blueprints in the same content areas used for accountability in AEL programs, including the ADP. It is important to note that the ELA and



math VTCAP assessments are given to students at the start of their high school studies, in the spring of grade nine. The TABE assessments are given on a rolling basis throughout a student's participation in the AEL program. These assessments are meant to help teachers design curricula that results in Measurable Skill Gains (MSGs), which are part of WIOA Performance Accountability. Readers of this document should take into consideration that the TABE is administered at the start of a student's participation and can be given multiple times to assess a student's progress in meeting the College and Career Readiness Standards for Adult Education which are aligned to, and a subset of, the Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

This ABCG is not an exhaustive list of assessments that can be used in the ADP. Rather, this guide serves to point out comparisons between the VTCAP grade nine ELA and math summative assessments used in high schools for federal accountability in the K12 system, and the TABE reading and math tests used for federal accountability in AEL programs. Hyperlinks are embedded in this document that will take the reader to additional information or assessment blueprints not mentioned in this document. The TABE blueprint for Form D was used because the standards measured were the most comparable to the standards being measured in the grade nine VTCAP ELA and math assessments. To view the blueprint for the high school grades, one would need to click on "Level A" which can assess post-secondary College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS) for Adult Education, a subset of the CCSS used in Vermont schools.

ADP Assessment Blueprint Comparison Guide

Assessment Purpose

ESSA High School Summative Assessments

Measures School Programs/Curriculum

Given in Grade 9 to guide instruction for student to be college and career ready by 12th grade.

WIOA National Reporting System (NRS) Assessments

Identifies proficiencies and areas that require instruction – assessments used to design instruction and curriculum.

Measures a student's skill gains

Has NRS Educational Functioning Level Descriptors that measure elementary through high school and post-secondary skills

Standards Assessed

ESSA High School Summative Assessments

[The CCSS](#)

Alternate Academic Achievement Standards: [Multi-State Alternate Assessment \(MSAA\) Core Content Connectors](#)

WIDA: [English Language Development \(ELD\) Standards Framework](#) (K12)

WIOA NRS Assessments

[CCRS for Adult Education](#) (subset of Common Core)

[English Language Proficiency Standards for Adult Education](#) (based on English Language Proficiency Assessment for the 21st Century – ELP Standards came out of Council of Chief States of School Officers)

No alternate academic achievement standards for adults

Students Assessed

ESSA High School Summative Assessments

9th grade students

Alternate Assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities (Grade 9) available

English Learners (ELs) are assessed in all grades, including grades 9-12

WIOA NRS Assessments

[Adult ELs](#) assess using the BEST PLUS 3.0* (Speaking/Listening) and CASAS Reading STEPS*

GED awards college credit for obtaining a test score in any one of the four tests of 175 or more called GED College Ready + Credit Score

**BEST Plus 3.0 and CASAS Reading STEPS begin January 1, 2025, and measure current NRS EFL Descriptors for English as a Second Language*

Test Blueprints - Math

ESSA High School Summative Assessments

[VTCAP Test Specifications Spring 2025](#), Mathematics (page 5):

Grade 9

Mathematics		Grade 9	
		Target # Points	Target % Points
Concepts and Procedures	Number and Quantity/Algebra	8-12	18-27%
	Algebra/Functions	14-18	31-40%
	Geometry	9-13	20-29%
	Statistics and Probability	6-10	13-20%
Total		45	100%

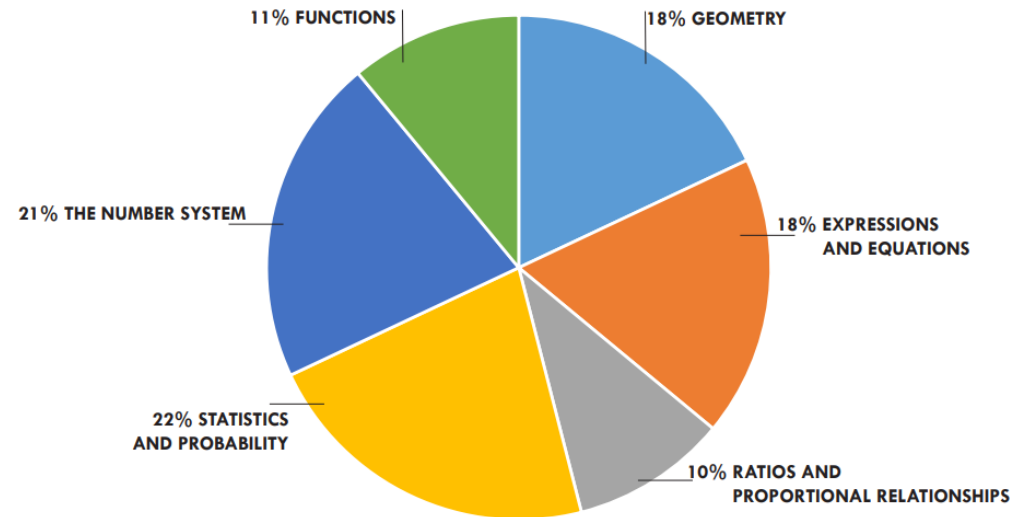
WIOA NRS Assessments

[TABE 11&12 Blueprints](#)

[TABE 11&12 Math Level D](#) (example) Represents middle school and early high school skills

[TABE 11&12 Math Level A](#) (example) Represents upper-level math skills & post-secondary

[TABE 11&12 Level D Mathematics Blueprint Overview:](#)



TABE 11&12 Level D Mathematics Blueprint Overview (continued):

GEOMETRY (18%)	STANDARD	STANDARD DESCRIPTION	AE-CCR LEVEL	TABE 11/12 EMPHASIS LEVEL
	7.G.1	Solve problems involving scale drawings of geometric figures, including computing actual lengths and areas from a scale drawing and reproducing a scale drawing at a different scale.	D	Low
	8.G.2	Understand that a two-dimensional figure is congruent to another if the second can be obtained from the first by a sequence of rotations, reflections, and translations; given two congruent figures, describe a sequence that exhibits the congruence between them.	D	Medium
	7.G.4	Know the formulas for the area and circumference of a circle and use them to solve problems; give an informal derivation of the relationship between the circumference and area of a circle.	D	Low
	8.G.4	Understand that a two-dimensional figure is similar to another if the second can be obtained from the first by a sequence of rotations, reflections, translations, and dilations; given two similar two-dimensional figures, describe a sequence that exhibits the similarity between them.	D	Low
	7.G.5	Use facts about supplementary, complementary, vertical, and adjacent angles in a multi-step problem to write and solve simple equations for an unknown angle in a figure.	D	Low
	7.G.6	Solve real-world and mathematical problems involving area, volume and surface area of two- and three-dimensional objects composed of triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, cubes, and right prisms.	D	Low
	8.G.7	Apply the Pythagorean Theorem to determine unknown side lengths in right triangles in real-world and mathematical problems in two and three dimensions.	D	Low
	8.G.8	Apply the Pythagorean Theorem to find the distance between two points in a coordinate system.	D	Low

RATIOS AND PROPORTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS (10%)	STANDARD	STANDARD DESCRIPTION	AE-CCR LEVEL	TABE 11/12 EMPHASIS LEVEL
	7.RP.1	Compute unit rates associated with ratios of fractions, including ratios of lengths, areas and other quantities measured in like or different units. For example, if a person walks $\frac{1}{2}$ mile in each $\frac{1}{4}$ hour, compute the unit rate as the complex fraction $\frac{1/2}{1/4}$ miles per hour, equivalently 2 miles per hour.	D	Low
	7.RP.2	Recognize and represent proportional relationships between quantities. (7.RP.2.a, 7.RP.2.b, 7.RP.2.c, 7.RP.2.d)	D	High
	6.RP.3	Use ratio and rate reasoning to solve real-world and mathematical problems, e.g., by reasoning about tables of equivalent ratios, tape diagrams, double number line diagrams, or equations. (6.RP.3a, 6.RP.3.b, 6.RP.3.c, 6.RP.3.d)	D	Medium
	7.RP.3	Use proportional relationships to solve multistep ratio and percent problems. Examples: simple interest, tax, markups and markdowns, gratuities and commissions, fees, percent increase and decrease, percent error.	D	Low

EXPRESSIONS AND EQUATIONS (18%)	STANDARD	STANDARD DESCRIPTION	AE-CCR LEVEL	TABE 11/12 EMPHASIS LEVEL
	8.EE.1	Know and apply the properties of integer exponents to generate equivalent numerical expressions. For example, $3^2 \times 3^{-5} = 3^{-3} = 1^*_{-}/3^3 = 1/27$.	D	Low
	7.EE.2	Understand that rewriting an expression in different forms in a problem context can shed light on the problem and how the quantities in it are related. For example, $a + 0.05a = 1.05a$ means that increase by 5% is the same as multiply by 1.05.	D	Low
	8.EE.2	Use square root and cube root symbols to represent solutions to equations of the form $x^2 = p$ and $x^3 = p$, where p is a positive rational number. Evaluate square roots of small perfect squares and cube roots of small perfect cubes. Know that $\sqrt{2}$ is irrational.	D	Medium
	7.EE.3	Solve multi-step real-life and mathematical problems posed with positive and negative rational numbers in any form (whole numbers, fractions, and decimals), using tools strategically. Apply properties of operations to calculate with numbers in any form; convert between forms as appropriate; and assess the reasonableness of answers using mental computation and estimation strategies. For example: If a woman making \$25 an hour gets a 10% raise, she will make an additional $1/10$ of her salary an hour, or \$2.50, for a new salary of \$250. If you want to place a towel bar $9 \frac{3}{4}$ inches long in the center of a door that is $27 \frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, you will need to place the bar about 9 inches from each edge; this estimate can be used as a check on the exact computation.	D	Low
	8.EE.3	Use numbers expressed in the form of a single digit times an integer power of 10 to estimate very large or very small quantities, and to express how many times as much one is than the other. For example, estimate the population of the United States as 3×10^8 and the population of the world as 7×10^9 , and determine that the world population is more than 20 times larger.	D	Low
	7.EE.4	Use variables to represent quantities in a real-world or mathematical problem, and construct simple equations and inequalities to solve problems by reasoning about the quantities. (7.EE.4a, 7.EE.4.b)	D	High
	8.EE.5	Graph proportional relationships, interpreting the unit rate as the slope of the graph. Compare two different proportional relationships represented in different ways. For example, compare a distance-time graph to a distance-time equation to determine which of two moving objects has greater speed.	D	Low
8.EE.8	Analyze and solve pairs of simultaneous linear equations. (8.EE.8.a, 8.EE.8.b, 8.EE.8.c)	D	Low	

STATISTICS AND PROBABILITY (22%)	STANDARD	STANDARD DESCRIPTION	AE-CCR LEVEL	TABE 11/12 EMPHASIS LEVEL
	8.SP.1	Construct and interpret scatter plots for bivariate measurement data to investigate patterns of association between two quantities. Describe patterns such as clustering, outliers, positive or negative association, linear association, and nonlinear association.	D	Low
	7.SP.2	Use data from a random sample to draw inferences about a population with an unknown characteristic of interest. Generate multiple samples (or simulated samples) of the same size to gauge the variation in estimates or predictions. For example, estimate the mean word length in a book by randomly sampling words from the book; predict the winner of a school election based on randomly sampled survey data. Gauge how far off the estimate or prediction might be.	D	Low
	8.SP.2	Know that straight lines are widely used to model relationships between two quantitative variables. For scatter plots that suggest a linear association, informally fit a straight line, and informally assess the model fit by judging the closeness of the data points to the line.	D	Low
	8.SP.3	Use the equation of a linear model to solve problems in the context of bivariate measurement data, interpreting the slope and intercept. For example, in a linear model for a biology experiment, interpret a slope of 1.5 cm/hr as meaning that an additional hour of sunlight each day is associated with an additional 1.5 cm in mature plant height.	D	Low
	7.SP.4	Use measures of center and measures of variability for numerical data from random samples to draw informal comparative inferences about two populations. For example, decide whether the words in a chapter of a seventh-grade science book are generally longer than the words in a chapter of a fourth-grade science book	D	Medium
	8.SP.4	Understand that patterns of association can also be seen in bivariate categorical data by displaying frequencies and relative frequencies in a two-way table. Construct and interpret a two-way table summarizing data on two categorical variables collected from the same subjects. Use relative frequencies calculated for rows or columns to describe possible association between the two variables. For example, collect data from students in your class on whether or not they have a curfew on school nights and whether or not they have assigned chores at home. Is there evidence that those who have a curfew also tend to have chores?	D	Low
	6.SP.5	Summarize numerical data sets in relation to their context, such as by: (6.RP.5.d)	D	Low
	7.SP.5	Understand that the probability of a chance event is a number between 0 and 1 that expresses the likelihood of the event occurring. Larger numbers indicate greater likelihood. A probability near 0 indicates an unlikely event, a probability around 1/2 indicates an event that is neither unlikely nor likely, and a probability near 1 indicates a likely event.	D	Medium
	7.SP.7	Develop a probability model and use it to find probabilities of events. Compare probabilities from a model to observed frequencies; if the agreement is not good, explain possible sources of the discrepancy. (7.SP.7.a, 7.SP.7.b)	D	Low
7.SP.8	Find probabilities of compound events using organized lists, tables, tree diagrams, and simulation. (7.SP.8.a, 7.SP.8.b)	D	Medium	

THE NUMBER SYSTEM (21%)	STANDARD	STANDARD DESCRIPTION	AE-CCR LEVEL	TABE 11/12 EMPHASIS LEVEL
	6.NS.5	Understand that positive and negative numbers are used together to describe quantities having opposite directions or values (e.g., temperature above/below zero, elevation above/below sea level, credits/debits, positive/negative electric charge); use positive and negative numbers to represent quantities in real-world contexts, explaining the meaning of 0 in each situation.	D	Medium
	6.NS.6	Understand a rational number as a point on the number line. Extend number line diagrams and coordinate axes familiar from previous grades to represent points on the line and in the plane with negative number coordinates. (6.NS.6.a, 6.NS.6.b, 6.NS.6.c)	D	Medium
	6.NS.7	Understand ordering and absolute value of rational numbers. (6.NS.7.a, 6.NS.7.b, 6.NS.7.c, 6.NS.7.d)	D	Medium
	6.NS.8	Solve real-world and mathematical problems by graphing points in all four quadrants of the coordinate plane. Include use of coordinates and absolute value to find distances between points with the same first coordinate or the same second coordinate.	D	Low
	7.NS.1	Apply and extend previous understandings of addition and subtraction to add and subtract rational numbers; represent addition and subtraction on a horizontal or vertical number line diagram. (7.NS.1.a, 7.NS.1.b, 7.NS.1.c, 7.NS.1.d)	D	High
	7.NS.2	Apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and division and of fractions to multiply and divide rational numbers. (7.NS.2.a, 7.NS.2.b, 7.NS.2.c, 7.NS.2.d)	D	Medium
	8.NS.2	Use rational approximations of irrational numbers to compare the size of irrational numbers, locate them approximately on a number line diagram, and estimate the value of expressions (e.g., π^2). For example, by truncating the decimal expansion of $\sqrt{2}$, show that $\sqrt{2}$ is between 1 and 2, then between 1.4 and 1.5, and explain how to continue on to get better approximations.	D	Low

FUNCTIONS (11%)	STANDARD	STANDARD DESCRIPTION	AE-CCR LEVEL	TABE 11/12 EMPHASIS LEVEL
	8.F.3	Interpret the equation $y = mx + b$ as defining a linear function, whose graph is a straight line; give examples of functions that are not linear. For example, the function $A = s^2$ giving the area of a square as a function of its side length is not linear because its graph contains the points (1,1), (2,4) and (3,9), which are not on a straight line.	D	Low
	8.F.4	Construct a function to model a linear relationship between two quantities. Determine the rate of change and initial value of the function from a description of a relationship or from two (x, y) values, including reading these from a table or from a graph. Interpret the rate of change and initial value of a linear function in terms of the situation it models, and in terms of its graph or a table of values.	D	Medium
	8.F.5	Describe qualitatively the functional relationship between two quantities by analyzing a graph (e.g., where the function is increasing or decreasing, linear or nonlinear). Sketch a graph that exhibits the qualitative features of a function that has been described verbally.	D	High

Test Blueprints – ELA

ESSA High School Summative Assessments

[VTCAP Test Specifications Spring 2025](#), ELA (page 2):

English Language Arts			Grade 9	
			Target # Points	Target % Points
Reading & Listening	Text Type	Literary Text	10	29%
		Informational Text	18	53%
	Reading Cluster	<i>Key Ideas and Details</i>	11-13	32-38%
		<i>Craft and Structure</i>	9-11	26-32%
		<i>Integration of Knowledge and Ideas</i>	4-7	12-21%
	Listening		6	18%
	Total		34	100%
Writing & Language	W&L Passage Sets	Writing Analysis	6-9	23-35%
		English Language Conventions	9-12	35-46%
	Writing Prompt	Written Expression	4	15%
		Conventions	4	15%
	Total		26	100%

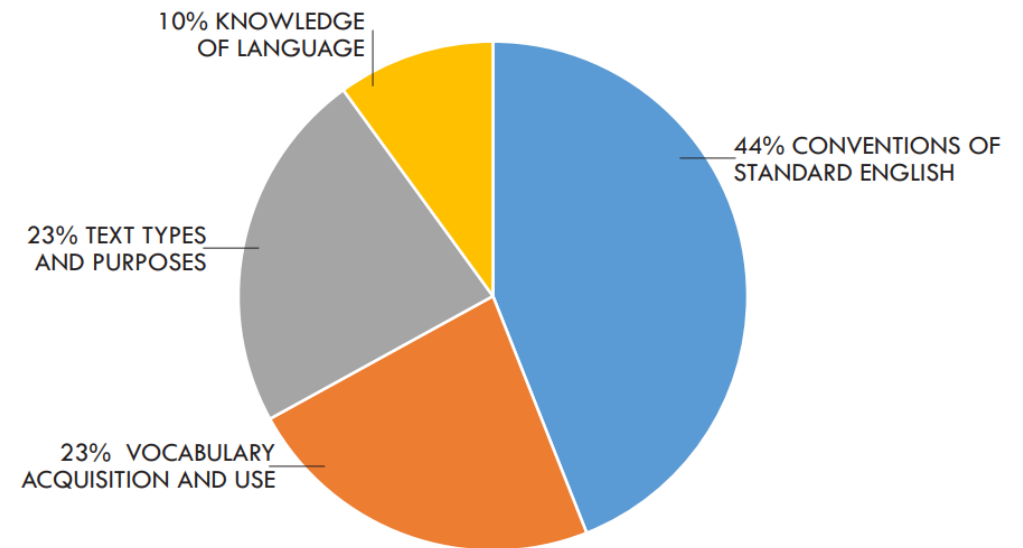
WIOA NRS Assessments

[TABE 11&12 Blueprints](#)

[TABE 11&12 Reading Level D](#) (example) Represents middle school and early high school skills

[TABE 11&12 Reading Level A](#) (example) Represents upper-level math skills & post-secondary

[TABE 11&12 Language Level D Blueprint Overview:](#)



TABE 11&12 Language Level D Blueprint Overview (continued):

CONVENTIONS OF STANDARD ENGLISH (44%)	STANDARD	STANDARD DESCRIPTION	AE-CCR LEVEL	TABE 11/12 EMPHASIS LEVEL
	6.L.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking. (6.L.1.a, 6.L.1.b, 6.L.1.c, 6.L.1.d, 6.L.1.e)	D	High
	7.L.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking. (7.L.1.a, 7.L.1.b, 7.L.1.c)	D	Low
	8.L.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking. (8.L.1.a, 8.L.1.b, 8.L.1.c, 8.L.1.d)	D	Medium
	6.L.2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing. (6.L.2.a, 6.L.2.b)	D	High
	7.L.2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing. (7.L.2.a, 7.L.2.b)	D	Low
	8.L.2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing. (8.L.2.a, 8.L.2.b, 8.L.2.c)	D	High

KNOWLEDGE OF LANGUAGE (10%)	STANDARD	STANDARD DESCRIPTION	AE-CCR LEVEL	TABE 11/12 EMPHASIS LEVEL
	6.L.3	Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening. (6.L.3.a, 6.L.3.b)	D	Low
7.L.3	Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening. (7.L.3.a)	D	Low	

VOCABULARY ACQUISITION AND USE (23%)	STANDARD	STANDARD DESCRIPTION	AE-CCR LEVEL	TABE 11/12 EMPHASIS LEVEL
	6.L.4	Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 6 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies. (6.L.4.a, 6.L.4.b, 6.L.4.c, 6.L.4.d)	D	High
	8.L.6	Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.	D	Medium

TEXT TYPES AND PURPOSES (23%)	STANDARD	STANDARD DESCRIPTION	AE-CCR LEVEL	TABE 11/12 EMPHASIS LEVEL
	7.W.1	Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence. (7.W.1.a, 7.W.1.b, 7.W.1.c, 7.W.1.d, 7.W.1.e)	D	High
	6-8.WHST.2	Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/ experiments, or technical processes. (6-8.WHST.2.a, 6-8.WHST.2.b, 6-8.WHST.2.c, 6-8.WHST.2.d, 6-8.WHST.2.e, 6-8.WHST.2.f)	D	Medium