

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

CASAS Life and Work Listening Assessment

What about the past few years of data that involve so many Iowa colleges submitting Life and Work listening scores and more importantly, what about this current year we are about to finish? Why is it suddenly not approved?

The Life and Work Listening tests were under development before the NRS test submission regulations were finalized.

In April 2008, all test publishers were required to submit tests to OVAE for NRS approval. The tests that were approved for NRS were listed in the February 2010 Federal Register.

In July 2008, the Life and Work Listening tests were completed. Because CASAS tests in general had been approved for use with NRS, more than 30 states adopted the new listening tests at this time.

In October 2009, CASAS submitted Life and Work Listening to OVAE, the next scheduled test submission date.

In late 2010, CASAS received notice regarding the Life and Work Listening series explaining that OVAE is now requiring all assessments to have strict alignment with the NRS classification levels. As a result, the use and interpretation of Life and Work Listening scores has expanded beyond the original purpose of the series requiring the collection of additional validity evidence.

On October 1, 2011, CASAS submitted a revised version of the CASAS Life and Work Listening series with the additional studies requested. CASAS requested that OVAE conduct the review process as expediently as possible, preferably with a result by March 2012 in order to allow states and local programs to make necessary adjustments. To date, CASAS has received no formal communication from OVAE as to the status of the October 2011 submission.