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TO: Directors of Adult Education

FROM: Tom Orsini

SUBJECT: Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) accommodations for students with diagnosed learning disabilities

The New York State Education Department will allow educational agencies receiving State and federal funding to provide Adult Basic Education, to provide learning disabled students taking the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) with accommodations. As with the GED® test, to be eligible for accommodations, students must have a formal diagnosis from a qualified professional.

As defined by CTB McGraw Hill, the test publisher, two categories of accommodations can be given without affecting the validity of the test are:

1. Category: Students may take the test alone or in a study carrel.
2. Category: Students may use extra time when taking the test or may take sections of the test at different times or on different dates.

Please note that calculators can not be used when taking the mathematics computation component of the test. Calculators may be used by any test taker on the Applied Mathematics component. This should not affect identifying the student as having a learning disability for NRS purposes which can be done using a screening tool, or other informal methods. For more information on testing accommodations for the TABE go to:

[http://www.ctb.com/media/articles/pdfs/general/guidelines\\_inclusive.pdf](http://www.ctb.com/media/articles/pdfs/general/guidelines_inclusive.pdf) (  153 KB)