

## BASIC SKILLS DEFICIENT

Federal WIOA Regulation §681.290 provides states with the authority to develop policy on Part B of the Basic Skills Deficient (BSD) definition. All assessments or determinations must be made within **60 days** of the initial application. Formal assessment results **within the last six months**, provided by the participant or a partner agency, are acceptable to use in place of formal Objective Assessments.

*(5) Basic Skills Deficient –The term “basic skills deficient” means, with respect to an individual*

- A. *Who is a youth, that the individual has English reading, writing, or computing skills at or below the 8<sup>th</sup> grade level on a generally accepted standardized test; or*
- B. *Who is a youth or adult, that the individual is unable to compute or solve problems, or read, write or speak English, at a level necessary to function on the job, in the individual’s family, or in society.*

*Exemptions may include:*

*\*Any individual who has obtained an Associate’s degree or higher*

*\* Any individual who has obtained the GOLD NCRC or above within the last five years*

*\*Individuals who have met with their IRT team and the recommendation is to waive the assessments based on the individual’s situation (Case notes must reflect who was in attendance of IRT and why the assessment is waived)*

## ASSESSMENTS

In South Dakota, an ACCUPLACER®, ACT® WorkKeys® Curriculum™ Placement Quiz, WorkKeys Assessments, TABE™, National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC), Best Plus™ and Best Literacy™ assessment can be utilized to determine BSD. Best Plus 2.0 and or Best Literacy assessments are used exclusively by English Language Learners, BSD should be selected regardless of score. For more information on assessments see [Assessments](#) Policy 4.9. For guidance interpreting test results and determining BSD please refer to the Assessment Guide ([WIOA Resource 13](#)).

### **Wagner-Peyser**

A formal basic skills assessment is not required for all Wagner-Peyser participants as part of the Initial Assessment process but is highly encouraged and should be based on the needs of the individual.

## COORDINATED REFERRAL

Individuals who are Basic Skills Deficient should be offered direct linkage to services through the AEL program as a Coordinated Referral service. It is the customer’s choice to take part in such services. If the participant takes part in AEL services, staff must be an active member of the Integrated Resource Team (IRT). Include IRT information in the Employment Plan as it relates to the barrier.

Participants who decline to work with AEL should be offered WorkKeys Curriculum remediation. Include information in the Employment Plan as it relates to the barrier.

**WIOA Law §3  
20 CFR §681.290**