

Measurable Skill Gains (MSG) are the method by which Title II Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) programs establish learning gains along the Educational Functioning Level (EFL) continuum by students enrolled in Adult Education programming.

Gaining an MSG occurs in one of the following ways:

- Comparing the participant's pretest with the participant's post-test, using a National Reporting Service (NRS) approved assessment tool to measure learning through State approved procedures.
- Participant enrollment in postsecondary education and training after exiting Adult Education programming.
- Participant obtaining a secondary credential (Diploma) or its recognized equivalent (GED, etc.).

For the purpose of Title II AEL, the following terms and acronyms are frequently used:

Adult Basic Education (ABE) curriculum consists of approved courses designed to bring a student from grade zero through the eighth-grade competency level, as determined by standardized testing.

Adult Secondary Education (ASE) curriculum consists of approved courses designed to bring a student from grade nine through the twelfth-grade competency level, as determined by standardized testing. This should lead to the attainment of a secondary school diploma or high school equivalency (HSE); and transition to post-secondary education and training; or employment.

English Language Acquisition (ELA)/English as a Second Language (ESL) curriculum consists of approved courses designed to include instruction in English for those whose native language is not English. The curriculum and instruction is designed to help eligible individuals who are English Language Learners achieve competence in reading, speaking, comprehension and mathematics skills. Other courses using the English language may include instruction in life skills, citizenship education, career exploration, employability skills (e.g., the OCTAE's Employability Skills Framework), workplace literacy, family literacy, bridge instruction and Integrated English Literacy/Civics (IEL/Civics). Student levels are based on proficiency as measured by ICCB-approved standardized tests.

Pictured in the table below are the Fiscal Year 2019 MSG targets established through negotiation with the Federal Department of Education's Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education (OCTAE):

Fiscal Year 2019 MSG Targets	
ABE Beginning Literacy (ABE 1)	61%
ABE Beginning (ABE 2)	50%
ABE Intermediate Low (ABE 3)	44%
ABE Intermediate (ABE 4)	37%
ASE Low (ABE 5)	40%
ASE High (ABE 6)	20%*
ESL Beginning Literacy (ESL 1)	55%
ESL Low Beginning (ESL 2)	55%
ESL High Beginning (ESL 3)	59%
ESL Intermediate Low (ESL 4)	49%
ESL Intermediate High (ESL 5)	45%
ESL Advanced (ESL 6)	25%
* ASE High (ABE 6) Students Achieving HSE	