



TEST
ASSESSING
SECONDARY
COMPLETION™

DATA RECOGNITION
D R C
CORPORATION

Special Testing Accommodations Descriptions

TASC – Test Assessing Secondary Completion™

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Special Testing Accommodations Descriptions

Data Recognition Corporation supports the intent of the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 and is committed to supporting access to the TASC Test for individuals with disabilities. To this end, the TASC Test design includes accessible formats and allowable resources that are available to all examinees. In addition, examinees with a documented need may apply for special testing accommodations. The document *Overview of TASC Test Accommodations*, available on the TASC Test website, describes the distinction between special testing accommodations, alternate test formats, and allowable resources.

This *Special Testing Accommodations Descriptions* document describes TASC special testing accommodations that may be requested by examinees via the TASC Test *Special Testing Accommodations Request Form*, which is available for download from the TASC Test website at <http://www.tasctest.com>.

TASC Special Testing Accommodations Descriptions

The TASC Test can be taken as a paper-based test (PBT) or a computer-based test (CBT) in English or Spanish. The tests in both languages are also available in alternate formats including large print (magnification for CBT) and Braille. These alternate formats are available to any TASC Test examinee without formal approval from DRC—they are not considered special testing accommodations. In addition, a DVD of test directions is available in American Sign Language on request and a list of other allowable resources, such as magnifying or noise-reduction devices, that are not considered special testing accommodations and do not require formal approval, is included on the TASC Test website at www.TASCTest.com.

Special testing accommodations require formal approval by DRC based on evidence of an examinee’s documented need. An examinee is only permitted the use of special testing accommodations if he or she has submitted a TASC Test *Special Testing Accommodations Request Form* and received formal approval for their use by DRC. Test Coordinators and examinees are notified of approved special testing accommodations in a decision letter from DRC; once approved, it is the examinee’s responsibility to verify with the test center that requested accommodations are in place prior to the scheduled testing date, especially as some state policies may vary.

Following is a list of special testing accommodations that may be authorized. Regarding the Calculator category, calculators are not needed for the Reading, Writing, and Social Studies subtests and scientific calculators are allowable tools for all examinees on the Science and Part 1 of the Math subtests. Examinees with appropriate justification may be approved to use calculator memory functionality, a talking calculator, or an abacus as described below, but examinees requesting use of a calculator for Part 2 of the Math test (where calculators are not permitted) should use the “Other” category when applying and must provide a description of the particular calculator need as well as appropriate justification for consideration.

Category	Details	PBT	CBT	Description
Alternate Presentation	Audio CDs of Subtests*	YES		<p>Audio CD presentations of the TASC Test Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Reading, and Writing subtests are available in English and Spanish. Scripts are available that describe graphics if required. A CD player is required and should be provided by the test center.</p> <p>Examinees using the audio CD may pause and/or replay sections as needed. Audio CD presentations have been designed to be used in conjunction with large-print test booklets.</p> <p>Extra time should also be requested when requesting use of audio CDs.</p> <p>The audio CDs for the Reading subtest provide a read-aloud of the entire assessment including the reading passages; this is an accommodation for examinees that have a print or reading disability.</p> <p>Examinees who do not qualify for the reading of passages but who need the directions and questions read should apply for the CBT text-to-speech audio accommodation described below.</p>

*Test centers obtain audio CDs, accompanying scripts that describe graphics, and the DVD of signed instructions from the TASC Test Help Desk.

Category	Details	PBT	CBT	Description
Alternate Presentation (continued)	Test-to-Speech (CBT version of Audio CDs)		YES	The English version of the computer-based TASC Test has text-to-speech (TTS) functionality. (Examinees who require an audio version of the test in Spanish should request the paper-based audio CD version listed above as TTS is not currently available for Spanish versions.) Extra time should also be requested when requesting use of TTS. Note: For examinees whose documentation justifies reading of passages, paper-based audio CDs should be used in lieu of TTS.
Breaks	Supervised Breaks	YES	YES	Both the PBT and the CBT can be administered with supervised breaks. The CBT can be paused for up to 20 minutes to accommodate a break. The standard duration and frequency of breaks is 5 minutes every half-hour unless otherwise requested and approved.
	Multiple Sessions	YES		The TASC paper-based test can be administered over multiple sessions. The Test Coordinator will store the assessment in a locked cabinet between sessions. The examinee must be supervised during breaks.
Calculator	Calculator Memory Function	YES	YES	The memory function of a calculator can be used to support working memory and may be approved for use on the Math (Part 1) and Science subtests, where scientific calculators are allowable tools for all examinees. When calculator memory function is approved as a testing accommodation for these subtests, it is expected that the examinee knows how to use this feature and has experience with this accommodation. Note: For CBT, a scientific calculator is available online; however, it does not have memory functionality. Therefore, the examinee will need to bring his or her own hand-held scientific calculator to the CBT test administration unless the examinee is testing in a state where the test center provides examinees with calculators for use during the administration.
	Talking Calculator	YES	YES	An examinee with visual impairments or print disability may receive approval to use a talking calculator during the Math (Part 1) and Science subtests, where scientific calculators are allowable tools for all examinees. Although a hand-held talking calculator could be made available to the examinee at some testing centers, it is highly recommended that the examinee bring his or her own talking calculator to the test administration because different models can vary considerably and it is expected that the examinee knows how to use and has experience with this accommodation.
	Abacus	YES	YES	For examinees with appropriate documentation, an abacus may be approved for use during the Math (Part 1) and Science subtests where scientific calculators are allowable for all examinees.

Category	Details	PBT	CBT	Description
Duration	1.25x Standard Testing Time	YES	YES	Extended testing time is an accommodation that is provided at 1.25 (1 ¼) times the standard administration time. It is assumed that requests for extended time are for 1.5 times the standard testing time unless otherwise specified.
	1.50x Standard Testing Time	YES	YES	Extended testing time is an accommodation that is provided at 1.5 (1 ½) times the standard administration time. It is assumed that requests for extended time are for 1.5 times the standard testing time unless otherwise specified.
	2.0x Standard Testing Time	YES	YES	Extended testing time is an accommodation that is provided at 2.0 (2) times the standard administration time. It is assumed that requests for extended time are for 1.5 times the standard testing time unless otherwise specified.
Physical Support	Preferential Seating Location	YES	YES	Preferential seating refers to seating in a location that supports the examinee’s testing experience. Preferential seating may provide freedom from distractions, special lighting conditions, or extra desk space for large materials (large-print or Braille materials), etc.
	Adaptive Equipment or Devices	YES	YES	Examinees who require the following equipment or devices, when medically necessary, are not required to receive formal approval for use during the testing: hearing aids, eyeglasses, medication (unwrapped), bandages, inhalers, insulin pumps, oxygen tanks, arm braces, casts, canes, crutches, walkers, wheelchairs, motorized scooters, body braces, prosthetic devices, service animals. Other devices or equipment that are requested for use during the testing should be described in the TASC Test <i>Special Testing Accommodations Request Form</i> . (Note: This accommodation does not include Technology Devices or Adaptive Furniture, which are described separately below.) As examinees should regularly use such equipment, it is expected that the examinee will bring most such devices to the testing center. The device must be specified in the TASC Test <i>Special Testing Accommodations Request Form</i> .
	Adaptive Furniture	YES	YES	This includes adjustable-height desks, cushioned furniture, wheelchair friendly desks, chairs with armrests, etc. As examinees should regularly use such furniture, it is expected that the examinee will work with the test center to ensure that the furniture is appropriate. Test centers are not expected to purchase new furniture to accommodate individual testers. The furniture must be specified in the TASC Test <i>Special Testing Accommodations Request Form</i> .

Category	Details	PBT	CBT	Description
Scribe	Point or Dictate Answers	YES		<p>If an examinee taking the PBT is unable to record responses to test questions in the conventional way, the examinee may request that an Examiner serve as a Scribe. If this special testing accommodation request is formally approved, the examinee points to or dictates responses to questions and the Scribe records the examinee's responses onto the answer document. When dictating responses to the Writing essay, the examinee must also dictate all spelling and punctuation, including paragraph breaks. The Scribe's role is to accurately record precisely what the examinee dictates without providing the examinee with cueing. The examinee should see the Scribe's work as it is being completed and review the result, dictating any changes that are needed.</p> <p>Especially for the Writing test, use of a Scribe may require that testing be in a separate location and with extended time. The essay should be written on the separately provided scratch paper before being accurately and neatly transferred to the answer document. Transferring the essay onto the answer document should take place <i>after</i> the timed test has been completed.</p>
Technology Device	Technology Assisted Writing	YES		<p>Technology-assisted writing is an accommodation for the PBT when the following features are disengaged: formatting, spell check, and grammar check. If a word processor is used, then the typed material will need special handling by the Examiner to ensure it is scored with the examinee's other answer document responses. The device being requested must be specified on the TASC Special Testing Accommodations Request Form. (Note: Plug-and-play equipment is not available on the CBT.) As the examinee should be familiar with and regularly use the particular device requested, the examinee may need to bring the particular device to the testing center.</p> <p>It is suggested that, if possible, examinees who might otherwise use technology-assisted writing devices consider taking the CBT.</p>
Separate Room	Separate Room	YES	YES	An examinee may be tested in a separate location with a qualified Examiner present.
Small Group Setting	Small Group Setting	YES	YES	An examinee may be tested in a small-group setting with a qualified Examiner present.

Other	Describe in Request Form	YES		Accommodations not otherwise listed may be approved based on the examinee's documented needs. Special arrangements may be required to support such accommodations. If a sign language interpreter or human reader is requested, then the Evaluator or examinee will be expected to justify why the DVD of signed instructions or the audio CD alternatives cannot be used.
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