

# Ohio ABLE Career Readiness Credential Field Test

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Traci Lepicki and Adrienne Glandon  
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CENTER ON  
EDUCATION AND TRAINING  
FOR EMPLOYMENT

# What is a Credentialing System?

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- ❑ In general, credentials are based on some combination of education, experience, and examination score
  - ❑ Content domains are controlled by credentialing organizations (license, certification, or registration)
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# Ohio's Career Readiness Credential (CRC)

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This credential signals employers, in Ohio and beyond, that an individual has achieved a set of prerequisite workplace skills:

- Mathematics
  - Information Comprehension
  - Reading
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# Drivers For Ohio's CRC

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- ❑ US Department of Education OVAE
  - ❑ ABLE Workplace Education Committee
  - ❑ Ohio Governor's Workforce Policy Board--Worker Success Committee
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# Purpose of the Ohio Field Test

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- ❑ To provide students with work-related goals a chance to earn a credential to document their skills
  - ❑ To investigate curriculum and partnership models in support of a CRC
  - ❑ To evaluate the feasibility of utilizing WorkKeys for credentialing in Ohio ABLE
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# Field Test Components

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- General/Administrative
    - Timeline
    - Population Targeted
    - Professional Development
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# Field Test Components

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- Planned Intervention
    - Length and Content of Sessions
    - Curriculum
    - Support Services
    - Partners
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# Curriculum-Academic

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- Software
    - KeyTrain, WIN aligned to WorkKeys
  - Print Materials
    - Empower, Top 50 Reading Skills for GED
  - Locally Developed
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# Curriculum-Soft Skills

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- Variety of materials chosen by sites
  - Examples:
    - Employability Skills Series and Essential Skills for the Workplace
    - Equipped For the Future toolkit and work readiness materials
    - PBS Workplace Essential Skills and Skills that Work
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# Field Test Components

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- Assessment
    - WorkKeys
    - Soft Skills Checklist
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- Applied Mathematics
  - Locating Information
  - Reading for Information
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# Soft Skills Checklist

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- Adapted from Secretary's Commission of Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS)
  
  - 13 observable statements
    - Instructor asked to mark Not Observed, Occasionally or Consistently for each
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## Work Readiness Credential Field Test Checklist 2006

INSTRUCTIONS: Indicate the extent to which the ABLE learner identified below has exhibited the following behaviors within the Work Readiness program at the BEGINNING of the Field Test. Please try to answer each question. All responses will be held in confidence and used only in group statistics to describe the results of the field test.

*CONSISTENTLY  
OCCASIONALLY  
NOT OBSERVED*

1. Communicates in class using spoken English ..... ① ② ③
2. Consistently attends classes ..... ① ② ③
3. Learns how to use appropriate computer technology ..... ① ② ③
4. Demonstrates willingness to learn ..... ① ② ③
5. Uses basic math well enough to complete assignments ..... ① ② ③
6. Consistently demonstrates preparation for class ..... ① ② ③
7. Reads and understands written information ..... ① ② ③
8. Asks for clarification or help as needed ..... ① ② ③
9. Shows initiative in carrying out learning assignments ..... ① ② ③
10. Takes responsibility for completing own assignments ..... ① ② ③
11. Manages time effectively ..... ① ② ③
12. Monitors quality of own work ..... ① ② ③
13. Demonstrates timeliness in attending classes ..... ① ② ③



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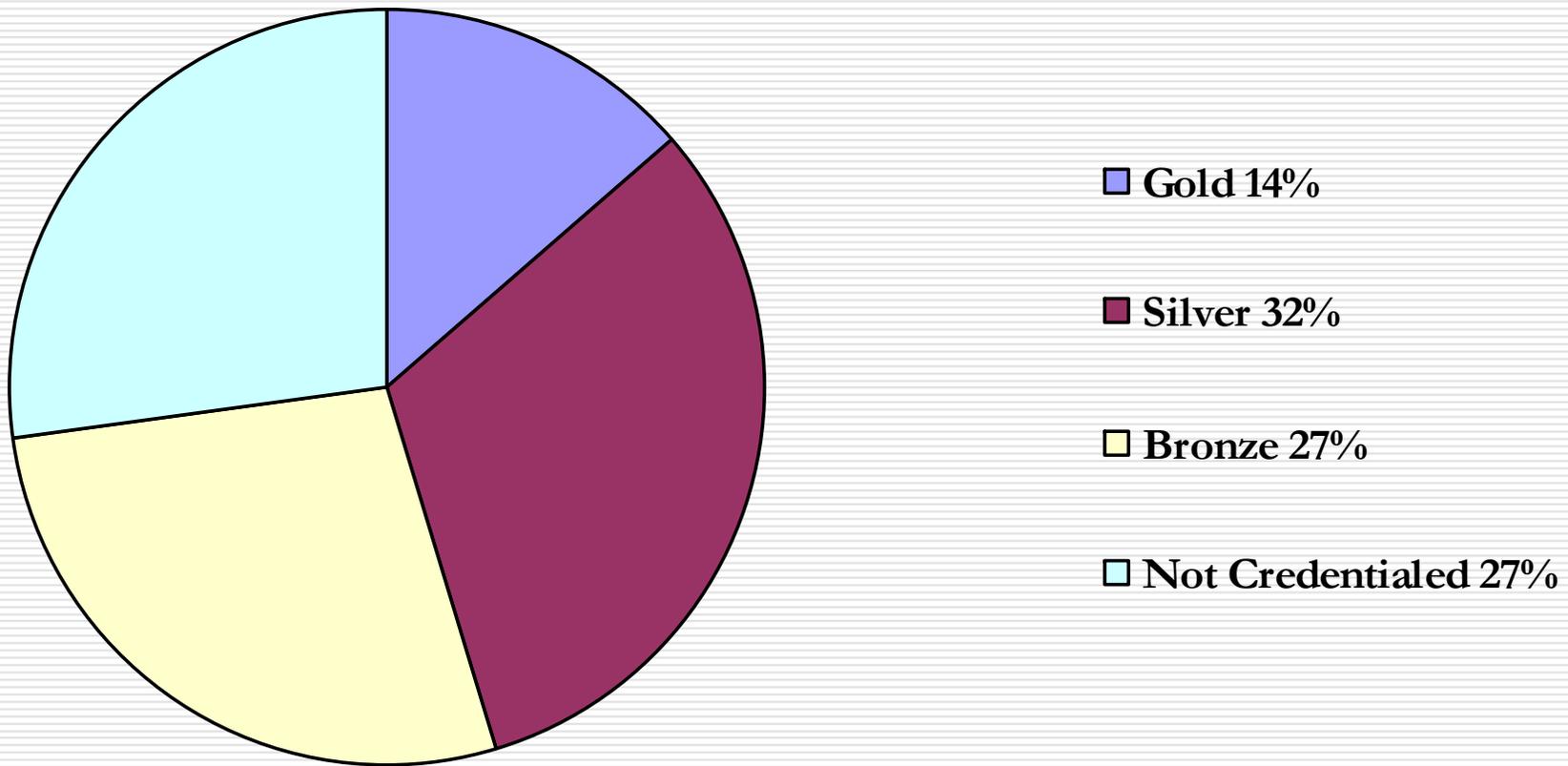
<b>Level</b>	<b>Credential</b>	<b>Profiled Jobs</b>
3	Bronze	30%
4	Silver	65%
5	Gold	90%

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# Overall Results

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**Credentials Issued Based on the Percentage of 183 Students Tested**



**Gold  
Career Readiness Credential**

This is to Certify that

**April Showers**

has achieved a WorkKeys<sup>®</sup> score of level 5 or higher in:

**Applied  
Mathematics**

**Locating  
Information**

**Reading for  
Information**

Given this day, March 28, 2007 at the  
Glandon City Schools ABLE Program

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Superintendent/CEO

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Workforce Investment Board Chair

# Career Readiness Credential Gold

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WorkKeys® is a national workforce development system that compares a worker's skills with the skills required to successfully perform a specific job. The holder of this certificate has scored at least a level five in Applied Mathematics, Locating Information and Reading for Information.

A Gold level certificate indicates skills at a level required by 85% of all jobs profiled through the WorkKeys® system. The holder of this certificate demonstrates mastery of the following skills:

## **Applied Mathematics Skills for Level 5**

- Decide what information, calculations, or unit conversions to use to solve the problem
- Look up a formula and perform single-step conversions within or between systems of measurement
- Calculate using mixed units (e.g. 3.5 hours and 4 hours 30 minutes)
- Divide negative numbers
- Find the best deal using one- and two-step calculations and then comparing results
- Calculate perimeters and areas of basic shapes (rectangles and circles)
- Calculate percents of discounts or markups

## **Locating Information Skills for Level 5**

- Sort through distracting information
- Summarize information from one or more detailed graphics
- Identify trends shown in one or more detailed or complicated graphics
- Compare information and trends from one or more complicated graphics

## **Reading for Information Skills for Level 5**

- Figure out the correct meaning of a word based on how the word is used
- Identify the correct meaning of an acronym that is defined in the document
- Identify the paraphrased definition of a technical term or jargon that is defined in the document
- Apply technical terms and jargon and relate them to stated situations
- Apply straightforward instructions to a new situation that is similar to the one described in the material
- Apply complex instructions that include conditionals to situations described in the materials



Programs participating in this project are funded by the Ohio Department of Education

# Field Test Components

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## Reflection/Evaluation

- Data Summary Worksheet: learners
  - Program Perspectives: program staff
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# Program Perspectives Questionnaire

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- Value
  - Gain
  - Continued Participation
  - Strengths
  - Weaknesses
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# Program Perspectives Questionnaire

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## Strengths

- Reputation/Recognition
- Curriculum

## Weaknesses

- Costs: Tests, scoring
  - Lesson Plans
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# What are We Learning?

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- ❑ 40+ states involved in a portable credential based on WorkKeys
  - ❑ Partners in the Ohio project are excited about the future of the Career Readiness Credential
  - ❑ Ohio will use data from the field test to support other programs in this effort
    - Going to scale discussions underway
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# Next Steps

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- ❑ ABLE Strategic Plan identifies CRC as high priority area based on field input
  - ❑ Transition Task Force discusses bridging services between ABLE and postsecondary education and workforce roles
  - ❑ Vendor presentations for curriculum
    - KeyTrain, WIN, Aztec & Skills Tutor
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# Contact Us

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Traci Lepicki ([lepicki.1@osu.edu](mailto:lepicki.1@osu.edu))

Adrienne Glandon ([glandon.8@osu.edu](mailto:glandon.8@osu.edu))

