Alternate Form Testing – 50-60 hours of instruction is recommended when testing with an alternate form (i.e. 11M to 12M or A1 to B1) for students that test into NRS Levels 1-4 (ABE) and NRS Levels 1-6 (ESL) with a minimum of 40 hours.

For students testing into NRS Levels 5 and 6 (ASE Low and High) 30-59 hours of instruction is recommended.

Programs may also select the next level higher of Tabe® or Tabe Complete Language Assessment System—English™ (Tabe CLAS-E™) test (11M to 11D or A2 to A3) while following the same recommended hours above for alternate form testing.

Same Form Testing – 60-80 hours of instruction is recommended when testing with the same form (i.e. 11M to 11M or A3 to A3)

Data Recognition Corporation suggests the pre- and post-test guidelines as best practices recommendations based upon practitioner feedback. The purpose for assessing with Tabe 11&12 or Tabe CLAS-E will also have an impact on the implementation of these recommendations. DRC discourages random and frequent testing as it will not present valid gain scores and could create a practice effect, thus producing questionable or spurious scores. Instructional intervention between testing periods is strongly recommended to maximize gain.

Proper use of the Locator Test as a determinant of appropriate content level testing is also strongly recommended and is an integral part of the testing process. The Locator Test should be used to determine which level of Tabe to administer on a students initial test (pre-test) only, but not used for instructional placement decisions about a student.