

Alaska Community Health Aide Program Overview of Math Skills Assessment and Remediation

Introduction:

For years CHA/Ps, Training support, and Supervisory staff have been concerned about CHA/P acquisition and maintenance of math skills necessary to perform the job. The Academic Review Committee (ARC) has attempted to standardize the process of evaluation and remediation of math skills related to the Community Health Aide's job.

Evaluation:

Refer to the [Facts on TABE Testing](#) (Test of Adult Basic Education).

Before hire or Pre-Session, depending on employer policy, the TABE 9/10 Series, Level D Test should be administered to assess English reading and math skills. A "diagnostic score" can be requested to clarify which specific skills need review.

CHAPCB Sec. 5.10.040 (a) requires, "The policy for selection must include requirements that the training applicants have no less than sixth grade math and reading skills ...". Students with a minimum score may struggle with CHA Basic Training.

The TABE Test must be proctored. It can be administered through a local college campus or Adult Basic Education office. TABE Testing is also available online through Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium's Distance Learning Network ([TABE Application Form](#)) free of charge. Scores should be included on the CHA Statewide Basic Training Application.

Math Assessment Tool:

This tool is intended to guide evaluation and remediation of math skills used on the job by CHA/Ps. Derived from similar tools developed at Training Centers in Bethel and Anchorage, this tool assesses math skills using job specific examples. The [Medical Math Assessment](#) tool begins with a review of arithmetic skills. More job specific skills are coded in the right margin to correlate to the items on the [CHA/P Medical Math Checklist](#).

In all cases, the CHA must complete this assessment independently. It is designed to evaluate the CHA's personal areas of strength and weakness for math skills. The Medical Math Assessment tool may be initiated several ways.

- The employing THO can administer this before, during, or after Pre-Session.
- The employing THO can score it and send to the Training Center.
- The employing THO can fill out the CHA/P Medical Math Checklist and sent it to the Training Center.
- The employing THO begins remediation.

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The importance to having the THO administer the Medical Math Assessment tool is that problems are identified early, review can begin in the village, and skills can improve to the level required in Session I.

Documentation:

The [CHA/P Medical Math Checklist](#) is usually printed on green paper. This itemizes specific math skills necessary to do the CHA job. It is similar to the blue CHAP Post-Session Practice Checklist. The CHA/P Medical Math Checklist should be initiated before or during Pre-session. There are columns for signing off skill introduction and mastery. The Medical Math Assessment tool is keyed to these items on the Medical Math Checklist, and should be used to assess skills “on paper”. This Medical Math Checklist should follow the CHA throughout training, and be signed off by Field and Training Center instructors as the CHA demonstrates mastery of skills.

Skill Review/Remediation:

The Academic Review Committee is developing teaching and remediation tools that can be used by training centers and field staff.

The following are links to sources that may be of assistance:

1. CHAP website [Math](#) page
2. State of Alaska AVTEC Learning Resources Department
<http://www.avtec.edu/LRD.htm>
3. Khan Academy <https://www.khanacademy.org/>
4. Alaska Adult Basic Education Directory
http://www.jobs.alaska.gov/abe/abe_dir.pdf