

Using the Illinois ABE/ASE Content Standards & Curriculum Guide to Write or Revise Curricula

What are the mandatory components of the ABE/ASE curriculum?

At a minimum, your curriculum must include the following for each NRS level in your program:

- corresponding Illinois ABE/ASE Content Standards (include content area, NRS level, domain and content standard number)
- corresponding essential understandings and essential questions
- student objectives (what students will be able to do – mastery)
- evidence for assessing learning
- sample classroom activities and/or lesson plans
- student learning activities
- a list of instructional materials (core and supplemental)
- a list of technology resources

Should there be a one-to-one correspondence between the levels in our program and the NRS levels and/or the Illinois ABE/ASE Content Standards levels?

Not necessarily, but your curriculum must cover the NRS levels that are addressed in your program's continuation plan.

Must all of the ABE/ASE Content Standards appear in our curriculum?

Yes. Please refer to your program's continuation plan as to which NRS levels must be addressed.

Can we re-word the ABE/ASE Content Standards and/or change the coding (i.e., 1.R.VA.3, 1.G.5)?

No. The Content Standards' wording and code must be included in all curricula so that they will be recognized as such by evaluators.

Can we use a different template for the curriculum?

Yes. You may use any format you wish to organize and present your curriculum as long as the mandatory components are included.

Can we just copy and paste the standards and use those as the objectives for each domain?

No. The objectives must meet four criteria: specific, descriptive, reasonable, and measurable. Although the standards are well crafted, they are not meant to be objectives. Standards are benchmarks to reach, while objectives concentrate on the outcomes – or the results – of instruction.

Can we just list “textbooks” in the List of Instructional Materials section?

No. In this section you must list the materials that are available in your program for use in the classroom when teaching this domain. List by title and publisher the core and/or supplemental textbook(s) that you are using. It would be helpful to both your staff and future new teachers to also list the chapter and/or page numbers that corresponds to the domain. Listing the chapter/page number is not required, but would serve as an enhanced resource for your program.

What needs to be included in the Technology Resource section?

In this section, you must list technology resources, keyboarding, presentation software, Internet web sites, etc. for teaching this domain. Listing specific urls and/or lessons that correspond to the domain would be helpful to your staff and future new teachers.