

National Career Readiness Certificate Levels

To earn a National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC), individuals will need to score a three or higher on the three core assessments: Reading for Information, Locating Information and Applied Mathematics. The lowest score dictates the certificate level. Skills measured by WorkKeys® are transferable skills – skills necessary for most jobs.



Bronze Certificate Level 3

READING FOR INFORMATION

- Identify main ideas and clearly stated details
- Choose the correct meaning of a word that is clearly defined in the reading
- Choose the correct meaning of common, everyday workplace words
- Choose when to perform each step in a short series of steps
- Apply instructions to a situation that is the same as the one in the reading materials

APPLIED MATHEMATICS

- Solve problems that require a single type of mathematics operation (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) using whole numbers
- Add or subtract negative numbers
- Change numbers from one form to another using whole numbers, fractions, decimals or percentages
- Convert simple money and time units (e.g., hours to minutes)

LOCATING INFORMATION

- Find one or two pieces of information in a graphic
- Fill in one or two pieces of information that are missing from a graphic

Silver Certificate Level 4

READING FOR INFORMATION

- Identify important details that may not be clearly stated
- Use the reading material to figure out the meaning of words that are not defined
- Apply instructions with several steps to a situation that is the same as the situation in the reading materials
- Choose what to do when changing conditions call for a different action (follow directions that include “if-then” statements)

APPLIED MATHEMATICS

- Solve problems that require one or two operations
- Multiply negative numbers
- Calculate averages, simple ratios, simple proportions or rates using whole numbers and decimals
- Add commonly known fractions, decimals or percentages (e.g., 1/2, .75, 25%)
- Add up to three fractions that share a common denominator
- Multiply a mixed number by a whole number or decimal
- Put the information in the right order before performing calculations

LOCATING INFORMATION

- Find several pieces of information in one or two graphics
- Understand how graphics are related to each other
- Summarize information from one or two straightforward graphics
- Identify trends shown in one or two straightforward graphics
- Compare information and trends shown in one or two straightforward graphics

Gold Certificate Level 5

READING FOR INFORMATION

- 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

APPLIED MATHEMATICS

- 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 percent discounts or markups

LOCATING INFORMATION

- 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

Platinum Certificate Level 6

READING FOR INFORMATION

- Identify implied details
- Use technical terms and jargon in new situations
- Figure out the less common meaning of a word based on the context
- Apply complicated instructions to new situations
- Figure out the principles behind policies, rules and procedures
- Apply general principles from the materials to similar and new situations
- Explain the rationale behind a procedure, policy or communication

APPLIED MATHEMATICS

- Use fractions, negative numbers, ratios, percentages or mixed numbers
- Rearrange a formula before solving a problem
- Use two formulas to change from one unit to another within the same system of measurement
- Use two formulas to change from one unit in one system of measurement to a unit in another system of measurement
- Find mistakes in questions that belong at Levels 3, 4 and 5
- Find the best deal and use the result for another calculation
- Find areas of basic shapes when it may be necessary to rearrange the formula, convert units of measurement in the calculations or use the result in further calculations
- Find the volume of rectangular solids
- Calculate multiple rates

LOCATING INFORMATION

- Draw conclusions based on one complicated graphic or several related graphics
- Apply information from one or more complicated graphics to specific situations
- Use the information to make decisions

NCRC Levels and Approximate Average Annual Salaries*	
\$27,000	Bronze Occupations
\$31,000	Silver Occupations
\$55,000	Gold Occupations
\$92,000	Platinum Occupations

NCRC Level	WorkKeys Score	Percentage of Jobs that Match Skills
PLATINUM	6	99%
GOLD	5	93%
SILVER	4	67%
BRONZE	3	16%

For more information, please visit www.scworkready.org