

The Scoring Process



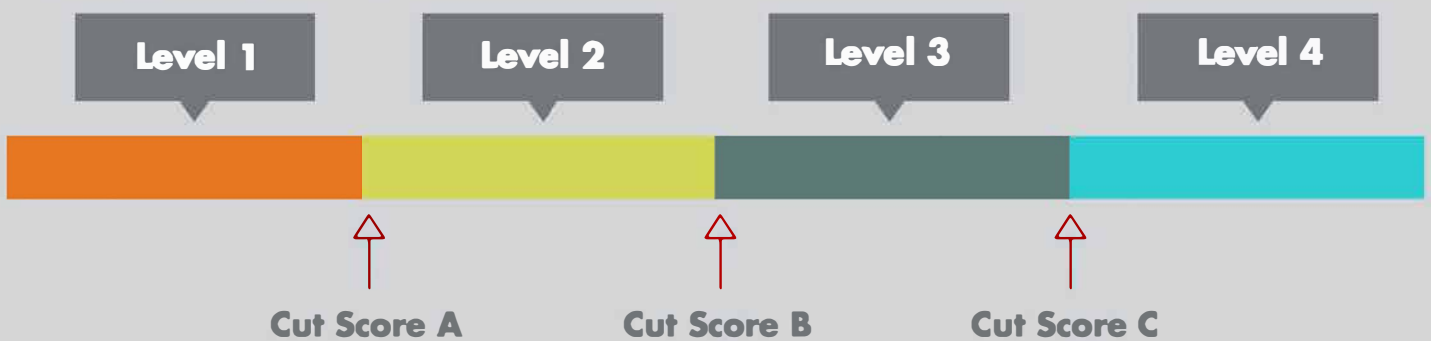
What is standards setting?



First, test questions must be ranked from least to most difficult. Actual student performance determines this order; that's why you can only do standards setting after students take the test.

Once questions are ranked least to most difficult, Tennessee educators use broad definitions about what students should know and be able to do to determine where the cut off between each level of performance should be. Educators set what is called a cut score, identifying where a performance level ends and begins. This process is called standards setting.

What is a cut score?



The point where two performance levels meet is called a cut score. The cut score is the minimum score a student must earn to be considered at a certain performance level.

What is a performance level?

There are four performance levels, ranging from basic knowledge of the content to the most advanced.

- Level 1: Below grade-level
- Level 2: Approaching grade-level
- Level 3: On grade-level
- Level 4: Mastered grade-level

