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Policy Update

2023-2024 Mathematics EOC Designated Purposes

COMPLETION OF COURSE

Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, *Algebra I and Coordinate Algebra* are being replaced with *Algebra: Concepts and Connections*. This is the designated high school EOC course under the new [Georgia K-12 Mathematics Standards](#). The updated EOC Course List will be available soon.

The new EOC for *Algebra: Concepts and Connections* will be administered beginning with the Winter 2023 Main administration.

In addition, students can complete their graduation requirements by putting together half credits from the *Algebra I/Coordinate Algebra* course with half credits in *Algebra: Concepts and Connections* when necessary. The *Algebra: Concepts and Connections* EOC will be required in these cases.

MAKEUP FROM PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATION AND RETEST

Students who need to complete their EOC requirement for the purposes of completion of the course, retest, or make up from a previous administration for the Algebra I and Coordinate Algebra courses may take those EOCs through the Fall 2023 Mid-Month administrations. The last administration of the *Algebra I* and *Coordinate Algebra* EOCs will be the Fall 2023 Mid-Month administration.

TEST OUT OPPORTUNITIES

State Board of Education Rule 160-5-1-.15 Awarding Units of Credit allows students to demonstrate subject area competency for an EOC course they have not yet taken (i.e., "test out.") Specific EOC administration windows are designated for this purpose, including the August, September, and March Mid-Month administrations and the Summer Main administration. For students attempting to test out of the new *Algebra Concepts and Connections* course during the August and September 2023 Mid-Month windows, the *Algebra I* or *Coordinate Algebra* EOC will be administered. For students attempting to test out during the March 2024 Mid-Month or Summer 2024 Main administration, the *Algebra: Concepts and Connections* EOC will be administered for this purpose.

Additional guidance related to EOC purposes is found in the *Student Assessment Handbook* (pp. 103-108).

Contact: Allison Timberlake, Ph.D., Deputy Superintendent for Assessment & Accountability, atimberlake@doe.k12.ga.us, 470-579-6353.

Assessment Update

Preparing for a Data Validation Process for All Assessments

System Test Coordinators (STCs) must develop a data validation process designed to identify student demographic, accommodation, and test result records that contain errors and correct those errors before reporting in most instances. It is highly recommended that STCs, Technology Directors, and Student Information System (SIS) Coordinators clearly understand the data expected for test administration and the required deadlines for providing clean data.

Assessment Updates for March, April, and May will include guidance to help you plan for and implement a data validation process for Georgia Milestones, ACCESS for ELs, and the Georgia Alternate Assessment 2.0. The following are examples of data to check for errors.

Step 1 – Before and During Assessment Windows (Examples)

- Perform data checks for all student demographics.
 - Missing or incorrect GTIDs
 - Duplicate student names
 - Incorrect hyphenation or spelling of student names
 - Reversals of student first name and last name
 - Missing or incorrect birthdates
 - Students incorrectly associated with “Service” school instead of “Home” (FTE) school
- Perform data checks related to participation
 - Attendance and Make-up sessions
 - EL exited status
 - Incorrect course
 - EOC course completion status
 - EOC already completed
 - Completed Test Status
 - Grade 8 Physical Science in lieu of Grade 8 Science EOG
 - AP/IB/DE U.S. History exempt status
- Perform data checks for correct assignment of accommodations
 - Check online platform and accommodations report
 - Check test tickets for accuracy

Step 2 – During and After Assessments

- Perform materials management checks
 - Inventory all secure paper materials
 - Investigate any missing secure paper materials
 - Return all materials per guidance found in test administration manuals and GaDOE training
- Review attendance and participation data for accuracy
- Final checks on student demographics
- Review of preliminary reports for student demographics

Review [ACCESS for ELs, GAA 2.0](#), and [Georgia Milestones](#) for more specific guidance for data validation.

Assessment Monitoring Update

The February 2023 Lunch and Learn presented two slides outlining recent test irregularity data. The STC Advisory Council met and agreed these data were helpful in local training sessions.

The preliminary data shown was collected during the Fall Mid-Month and Winter 2022 EOC and ACCESS for ELs.

GEORGIA MILESTONES FALL MID-MONTH AND WINTER 2022 EOC IRREGULARITIES

Testing Interruption (60)

- Student Absences
- Technical Issue – Device/Connectivity
- Lockdown/Fire Alarm
- Adult Interruptions

Test Administration Error – Adult (53)

- Wrong Content Tested
- Course Not Completed or EOC Already Taken
- Sections Out of Order
- TE Script Error, Instructional Materials

Test Administration Error – Student (26)

- Student not closing test
- Discipline issues

Accommodation Error – Student Refusal (23)

- Refusal of Headphones/TTS

ACCESS FOR ELLs PRELIMINARY REPORT OF IRREGULARITIES

Testing Interruption (136)

- Student Checked Out
- Fire/Weather Alarm
- Student Failed to Exit

Test Administration Error – Adult (112)

- Failure to Follow Directions/Training
- Provided the wrong test ticket
- Adult Interruption

Test Administration Error – Student (23)

- Cell phone
- Failed to Exit
- Student Confusion

Student Cheating (11)

- Cell phone or device
- Notes

The top three categories of irregularities occurred in the areas of 1) Testing Interruptions, 2) Test Administration Error – Adult, and 3) Test Administration Error – Student.

Several common irregularities appear for both assessments and may be minimized by providing additional or clarified guidance in these areas:

- Communication with students, parents, and local officials regarding upcoming assessments –
 - Student Absence/Checked Out of School
 - Lockdown/Fire/Weather Alarms
- Enhancing or emphasizing training points and reminders around the consequences of adult-related actions –
 - Adult Interruptions
 - Adult Errors with Test Tickets, Course Completion
 - Not Following Directions, Not Reading Scripts

- Improving student practice opportunities and/or communication with students –
 - Discipline issues
 - Student not exiting or completing test
 - Refusal of accommodations
 - Student confusion with test administration
 - Cell phone and other devices in the test environment

We encourage STCs to include guidance in training sessions that provide the School Test Coordinators (SchTCs) and Test Examiners information to maintain a smooth student testing experience.

Proactive Student Monitoring

We receive reports of many instances of student cheating that were easily preventable. How? By actively monitoring the testing environment. When adults are well-trained and diligent in monitoring the students in their care, the opportunities for cheating are severely reduced. Here are a couple of tried-and-true strategies for your Test Examiners to use.

Use proximity! What does that mean? As you are moving around the room and something suspicious appears to be occurring, move toward that student or area and use the proximity of your presence to deter potential cheating. Don't wait for the cheating to occur before doing something about it! You can prevent the invalidation of a test score by inhibiting cheating before it happens or as it is happening. If a student enters the room with unapproved items containing test content (cheat sheet, notebook, worksheet, etc.), confiscate the item(s) and allow the student to test. If a student neglects to turn their cell phone in for safe-keeping and you notice it, quietly confiscate it and allow the student to test. Don't wait for them to use it before confiscating it. Be proactive!

Districts can take any local disciplinary action in accordance with local policy; however, proactive monitoring can prevent the need to invalidate student scores, which are used for essential purposes, including school improvement, promotion, course grades, and accountability.

Electronic devices must not be in the testing environment.

- Establish and monitor a plan for collecting cell phones and devices, except those used for known health purposes

Classroom content materials must not be available to students in the testing environment.

- Monitor and manage all secure test materials
- Writers Checklists, formula sheets, and periodic tables are not allowed as scratch paper
- Ensure computer monitors allow for adequate space between students

Test Examiners and Proctors must monitor the testing environment.

- Ensure students are actively engaged in the assessment

Student Test Environment

The test environment should be well-organized, carefully managed, and orderly. A chaotic, messy, confused environment may lead to irregularities. Make sure Test Examiners have everything they need when they pick up their materials. Give them a checklist of what should be done, what should be returned, and how it should be organized. Model how they should set up their testing session. Use this as part of your Examiner Training. Show the Proctors what they can do to assist the Test Examiners in setting up the room before students enter.

Mistakes often occur because people don't know how to respond. Walk through potential scenarios and teach Test Examiners how to react appropriately by modeling and using role-play in your training. If you minimize the questions up front for your Examiners and Proctors, they will feel equipped to handle most of the issues they will face during testing. Relaxed, well-prepared adults will automatically create a calm and orderly environment and help reduce the stress your students may feel before testing. Ensure Test Examiners know what to do and who to contact if they are ever unsure of how to proceed. A

motto of “when in doubt, ask the School Test Coordinator” must be established to avoid unnecessary irregularities and breaks in test administration procedures and protocols.

Updated 2022-2023 System Requirements

[DRC INSIGHT System Requirements](#) for Georgia Milestones, ACCESS for ELLs, GAA 2.0, and DRC BEACON for February 2023 – June 2023 are now available. Please share this document with your technology directors.

Georgia Learns Test Examiner Course

This is a reminder that districts can use the Test Examiner Course in Georgia Learns to provide examiners with basic state requirements for administering Georgia Milestones. STCs can easily pull a transcript of those who completed the course. Once your examiners have completed this course, your SchTC can focus training on the district- and school-level requirements.

OBTAINING A TRANSCRIPT FOR GEORGIA LEARNS COURSES

Go to SLDS and choose the **GAlearns-PD Transcript Report** from the Georgia Learns - PD Hub Reports dropdown.

Here you will see an in-depth Transcript Report that can be exported to Excel or printed.

Georgia Learns - PD Hub Reports ▾

GAlearns-PD Rosters Report by Course

GAlearns-PD Transcript Report

State Testing Windows Posted for 2023-2024 and 2024-2025

The state testing windows have been posted to the [Georgia Assessment and Training calendar](#) on the For Educators webpage for Georgia Milestones (2023-2024, 2024-2025), GAA 2.0 (2023-2024, 2024-2025), and ACCESS for ELs (2023-2024). The remaining testing windows and training dates for 2023-2024 will be posted and shared in the April 2023 Assessment Update.

Significant Medical Emergencies Guidance

Sometimes, a student faces a significant medical emergency that impacts participation in state

assessments. A “significant medical emergency” is a rare medical event that prevents a student who otherwise would have participated in the assessment from participating throughout the duration of the state testing window, including make-up opportunities.

Examples of a significant medical emergency may include a serious car accident, hospitalization, severe trauma, a mental health crisis that is dangerous to self or others, or placement in hospice care. A parent or guardian refusal or doctor’s note, even for a medical reason, does not necessarily constitute a medical emergency (see guidance in the “Make-up Tests” and “Homebound/Hospitalized Students” sections of the [Student Assessment Handbook](#)).

Districts must follow all guidelines in the *Student Assessment Handbook* for test administration. Districts should keep documentation of the significant medical emergency on file. Additional guidance is available in the *Medical Emergencies in Participation Rate Calculations* document on the [CCRPI Resources for Educators](#) webpage.

In the event of a significant medical emergency, STCs must prepare a Testing Irregularity Form (TIF) in the MyGaDOE Portal to include all related documentation for review by the Office of Assessment & Accountability. Following that review, guidance and/or coding will be provided to the STC with next steps.

STCs may make a significant medical emergency submission during the Spring Georgia Milestones (EOG and EOC), ACCESS for ELLs/Alternate ACCESS, and GAA 2.0 administrations.

Contact: Sandy Greene, Ed.D., Director of Assessment Administration, sgreene@doe.k12.ga.us, 470-579-5395.

Test Development

Nomination of Educators for Test Development Activities

The application window for Georgia Milestones and GAA 2.0 test development activities has now closed. For each upcoming meeting, GaDOE will select participants to ensure a representative sample across the state based on grade level and content area. Initial meeting invitations will be sent in late March, and specific

meeting details will be provided at that time. Invited educators must confirm acceptance of the invitation and will be provided instructions to do so. If an educator declines an invitation, does not respond, or cancels prior to the meeting, an alternate will be selected from the applicant pool.

Contact: Jan Blose, Ed.D., Director of Assessment Development, jblose@doe.k12.ga.us, 404-275-5147.

DRC BEACON

What would you say to other Georgia districts considering using DRC BEACON?



Dr. Lyn Turnell, Director, Student Assessment Department, Curriculum and Instruction, Cherokee County

DRC BEACON has proven to be an invaluable resource at the classroom level, supporting our teachers' ability to provide effective, differentiated classroom instruction. We would highly encourage districts considering BEACON to involve schools in the decision as their classrooms will directly benefit. When our district introduced a small BEACON pilot, we had more schools volunteer than we intended to use, so we allowed those outside the pilot to also administer BEACON. After fully implementing BEACON in all schools, we were often asked why we were administering another assessment. Almost always, other educators would immediately respond with how beneficial it is to teachers and schools when used at full capacity. Following the teacher burnout report, we made BEACON become optional for schools. However, 91% of our schools chose to continue administering, insisting it was too useful of a resource not to. It is encouraging to see so many BEACON advocates in our district.

Dates	Assessment Tasks and Reminders
8/1/2022 – 6/30/2023	2022-2023 DRC BEACON Administration Window

Contacts:

- Missy Shealy, Assessment Specialist, mshealy@doe.k12.ga.us, 470-579-5393.
- Joe Blessing, Program Manager, jblessing@doe.k12.ga.us, 470-579-6326.
- Brian Collier, Assessment Specialist, brian.collier@doe.k12.ga.us, 470-579-6355.

Formative Instructional Practices (FIP)

Upcoming FIP Webinar

One major purpose for daily formative assessment is for students to learn to use evidence in their work to revisit and revise their thinking and set goals for more learning. The March 2023 FIP webinar focuses on *Teaching Students to Rethink their Work*. This webinar provides information to help teachers guide students' thinking when they exhibit misconceptions in their understanding.

Knowing how to use such processes places the responsibility on students to change their work based on the teacher's expectations and models for accuracy and success. Guiding students to analyze their work or adjust their thinking is a foundational step that students should be taught to use to develop ownership of learning.

Join the webinar on Thursday, March 16, from 10-11 a.m. Registration for the session is available in [GaDOE Professional Learning Events](#).

Contact: Kelli Harris-Wright, Assessment Specialist, kharris-wright@doe.k12.ga.us, 470-579-6329.

GKIDS 2.0 and GKIDS Readiness Check

Teachers should continue to enter student data in the GKIDS platform.

Districts should generate reports to ensure all their schools have entered student performance data.

Dates	Assessment Tasks and Reminders
7/5/2022 – 5/15/2023	2022-2023 GKIDS 2.0 Platform Open
4/27/2023	GKIDS 2.0 End-of-Year Reporting

Contact: Bobbie Bable, Assessment Specialist, bbable@doe.k12.ga.us, 470-579-6324.

Keenville

The Keens suggest assigning the following games as you begin planning for the fourth quarter.

For **English language arts**, the Keens recommend:

- **Cave Explorer** to assess students' ability to comprehend informational texts. Throughout game play, students are tasked to read informational texts and answer questions that require comparing and contrasting the texts to unlock the blocked paths inside the cave that lead to the Keens' secret treasure. This game aligns to standards RI.3, RI.6, and RI.9.
- **Peachy Acres Farm** to assess students' ability to comprehend literary texts. Students read sections of literary text and use what is learned to help solve the Keens' problems and ensure the farm produces enough food to feed the Keens and the Peachlings! This game focuses on reading comprehension with literary texts and aligns to standards RL.1, RL.3, and RL.4.
- For students not quite ready for reading comprehension games, assign one of our phonics or vocabulary games: **Museum of Mysteries, Harbor Phonics, Peachling Playground, Downhill Skiing, or Junkbot** to build foundational reading skills.

For **mathematics**, the Keens recommend:

- For Grade 1, Unit 5: Understanding Place Value: Maintain the current assignment of **Treat Factory** and add **Peachling Gym, Peachling Café, Captain Peachbeard, High-rise Builders, and Farmers Market**, as each of these games provides alignment to the standards taught within the unit: standards NBT.2, NBT.3, NBT.4, NBT.6, NBT.7, and MD.4.
- For Grade 2, Unit 5: Understanding Plane and Solid Figures: Maintain current assignments of **Treat Factory** and add **Guitar Maker, Intergalactic Fair, and Lunch Munch** as each of these games provide alignment to the standards taught within the unit: standards G.1, G.2, G.3, and MD.10.

Dates	Assessment Tasks and Reminders
8/1/2022 – 6/30/2023	2022-2023 Keenville Administration Window

For **functionality and technical support**, please contact keenvillesupport@doe.k12.ga.us.

For **content or assessment questions**, please contact Tiffani Taylor, Assessment Specialist, tiffani.taylor@doe.k12.ga.us, 470-763-1081.

ACCESS for ELLs

Important Reminders

The testing window for ACCESS for ELLs and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs closed Friday, March 3. The deadline for UPS pickup of all secure test materials for return to DRC is Wednesday, March 8.

Late materials will not be scored.

Data Validation — Ensuring Students Receive Composite Scores

Composite scores cannot be generated when a student is missing one or more domain scores. Therefore, STCs/SchTCs and Test Examiners are responsible for ensuring that correct and complete information is entered in WIDA AMS or labeled and bubbled on each student booklet.

Failure to address incorrect, missing, or incomplete student information and missing or misapplied labels will result in no student score.

Follow the Test Security and Materials Management and assessment-specific guidelines outlined in the *ACCESS for ELLs District and School Test Coordinator Manual*. Implementing the following steps will help staff avoid the most common reasons students do not receive composite scores.

MONITORING ONLINE TESTERS

- Ensure all English learners have a completed Reading, Listening, Speaking, and Writing test session.
- Ensure all elements of the student's demographic information (e.g., first name, last name, birthdate, grade, etc.) are correct and match the information in the local SIS.
- Be sure students in Grades 1-3 used the correct ACCESS for ELLs **Online** Writing Booklets

RETURNING PAPER SCORABLE AND SCANNABLE TEST MATERIALS

- Review all test materials before they are returned.
- Verify all Braille and Large Print responses have been transcribed into a standard booklet.

- Ensure every answer booklet that contains student responses has a Pre-ID or District/School label in the upper right corner of the front cover.
- Ensure all scorable student responses on answer documents are legible.
- Confirm the student’s name, grade, and testing date are filled in completely with a **number 2 pencil**.
- Verify all teacher ratings for Alternate ACCESS and Kindergarten ACCESS have also been recorded with a **number 2 pencil**.
- Apply a Do Not Process label to any used test booklet that should not be scored.
- Remove any paper clips or sticky notes from test booklets.
- If a student used multiple booklets, confirm responses have been transcribed to one booklet. The new booklet must have the correct Pre-ID or District/School label.


The Data Validation Process

The data validation process is designed to identify student demographic, accommodation, and test result records that could potentially contain errors, as well as provide the opportunity for corrective action before reporting.

Pre-Reporting Data Validation Window opens on Thursday, March 30, and closes on Wednesday, April 12.

Post-Reporting Data Validation Window opens on Monday, May 8, and closes on Friday, May 19.

To ensure all students have a score and all demographic data has been corrected, districts must have a plan to review all student reports in WIDA AMS. Reports will be made available in WIDA AMS on Friday, April 28.

 **After the close of the Post-Reporting Data Validation window, districts and schools will not have another opportunity to edit student data prior to final reports being printed or posted to WIDA AMS.**

Test Coordinators must reference the *WIDA AMS User Guide Supplement for Data Validation* located in the Resources section of the WIDA Secure Portal. In addition, STCs must view the *Post Testing Data Validation* webinar on Tuesday, March 7, from 2-3 p.m. EST. The event link is in the Webinars section of the WIDA Secure Portal.

Final state reports will be generated following the close of the data validation windows and made available in early June.

Dates	Assessment Tasks and Reminders
1/11/2023 – 3/3/2023	ACCESS for ELLs/Alternate ACCESS 2023 Administration Window
3/8/2023	Deadline for Shipping Completed Test Materials to DRC
3/30/2023 – 4/12/2023	Pre-Reporting Data Validation Window
4/28/2023	Reports and Data Files Available Online in WIDA AMS
5/8/2023 – 5/19/2023	Post-Reporting Data Validation Window – in WIDA AMS
5/12/2023	Reports Available in Districts (Printed)

Contact: Mary Nesbit-McBride, Ph.D., Assessment Specialist, mnesbit@doe.k12.ga.us, 470-579-6345.

Georgia Alternate Assessment 2.0 (GAA 2.0)

GAA 2.0 Test Setup

TEST SETUP ACTIVITIES

STCs/SchTCs will create student registrations for each assessment administered in the DRC INSIGHT Portal Registration Application from Monday, February 27, to Friday, May 5.

Which students will appear in the DRC INSIGHT for Test Setup and Registration?

STCs/SchTCs will see all students identified as ACS “Yes” during the October 2022 FTE Count in grades 3-11 in the DRC INSIGHT Portal. Use the DRC Registration application to view and edit auto-created registrations, assign teachers to each registration, and create new registrations for eligible students.

How will new enrollees, newly eligible students, and seniors who need to make up the assessment before graduation be entered into the INSIGHT Portal?

To add new students, STCs/SchTCs must do the following:

1. Select the **Administration, District, and School**.
2. Click **Add Student** at the bottom of the screen.

3. Enter all required fields on the **Student Detail** and **Demographics** tabs.
4. Click **Save** to add the student and close the Add Student window.

Why do STCs/SchTCs need to verify the student data entered in the INSIGHT platform matches the data in the local SIS?

Student data from INSIGHT will be used to create the Spring 2023 GAA 2.0 Assessment File. Student data from local SISs are used to create the Student Record File. When a match cannot be made between students appearing in the assessment file and those appearing in the Student Record, errors are generated that impact subsequent accountability processes.

How can STCs/SchTCs verify the student data entered in the INSIGHT platform matches the data in the local SIS?

STCs/SchTCs can export student data from INSIGHT, export a file from their local SIS, and compare and verify each test participant's first name, last name, GTID, and grade match. STCs/SchTCs should update and edit student information in the INSIGHT Portal to resolve mismatches.

How can STCs/SchTCs edit student data entered in the INSIGHT Portal?

After logging into the DRC INSIGHT Portal and selecting **Student Management** from the My Applications menu at the top of the screen, click **Manage Students**.

- Select **GAA 2.0 Spring 2023** from the Administration dropdown.
- Select **District** and **School**.
- Use other search filters as appropriate.
- Click **Find Students**.

After the search results populate, the View/Edit action button allows an individual student profile to be reviewed. Note that a school must be selected in the 'school' dropdown to add a new student to Student Management. The STC/SchTC can click the **View/Edit** button to bring up the Edit Student screen. All demographic fields displayed can be edited. Click **Save** after making updates or **Cancel** to close the window.

Available Resources

We are only weeks away from implementing a significant innovation in the way GAA 2.0 Test Examiners access

the Test Examiners Book (TEB) and enter student responses – in real time in the Online Response Entry Application. This update addresses common administration concerns and errors. Several resources are available to Test Examiners and Test Coordinators to help them become fully acquainted with online response entry, test setup, and monitoring activities before the GAA 2.0 test administration window opens on Monday, March 27.

DRC INSIGHT > DOCUMENTS

- Georgia Alternate Assessment 2.0 Assessment Navigation Training Video
- Georgia Alternate Assessment 2.0 Assessment Online Response Entry-General Navigation Training Video

GaDOE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING EVENTS

- [GAA 2.0 Pre-Administration and Test Setup Webinar Recording](#)
- [GAA 2.0 Test Examiner Procedures Webinar Recording](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

More than 400 educators attended the GAA 2.0 Test Examiner Procedures webinar on Thursday, February 2. The Assessment team consolidated the Chat questions and developed responses that Test Examiners and Test Coordinators may find helpful.

What are the minimum requirements for a GAA 2.0 Test Examiner?

GAA 2.0 Test Examiners must know each test participant's learner characteristics. These individuals should be familiar with each student's communication system, including how students perceive instructional information and respond to educational tasks. They must understand how often the student needs breaks to address physical needs and avoid fatigue or frustration. Test Examiners must also be well-trained in test security protocols and test administration procedures. Finally, they must hold a Clearance Certificate issued by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission.

Is there an answer document to record student responses for the GAA 2.0?

No, Test Examiners must enter real-time responses into the Online Response Entry application. Test Examiners must not record students' responses on paper to transfer

into the online system later. Test Examiners will view the script, passages, items, and answer choices in DRC INSIGHT Portal.

How does a GNETS teacher administer the GAA 2.0?

STCs will create user accounts for each GNETS teacher using their work email address. Then, STCs will conduct test security training for these individuals before linking GNETS Test Examiners to their assigned Student Registrations. STCs must ensure GNETS teachers meet the minimum requirements for GAA 2.0 Test Examiners before granting access to the Online Response Entry Application in INSIGHT.

Is there a Test Administration Practice site to help Test Examiners become familiar with the GAA 2.0 online administration?

The Test Administration Practice site is available in DRC INSIGHT. Users can interact with five practice students' English Language Arts and Mathematics tests in the **Online Response Entry** application to become familiar with navigation before the assessment window.

What's the difference between the Test Practice Site and the Test Preparation Window?

The **Test Practice Site** contains sample tasks and allows Test Examiners to become familiar with the Online response entry process.

The **Test Preparation Window** is the time allotted to Test Examiners to review secure operational tasks and Student Booklets to prepare for the administration of the GAA 2.0 according to specific student needs. The **Test Preparation Window** is available two weeks before the opening of the state window. The preview of secure test material must occur at school before 5 p.m.

How may a Test Examiner Pause and Resume a test when needed?

Test Examiners can pause and resume a student's test by following these steps:

Pause

1. Finish marking student answers and note the Task/Part recently completed.
2. Click Save.
3. Click Cancel to "pause" the assessment and return to the main Registration screen.

Resume

1. Identify the correct Subject area and Registration/Site Name.
2. Click the GTID to return to the assessment.

Once the Test Examiner has returned to the assessment, they must click Resume Assessment to continue entering student responses. The test will open in the same place where the Test Examiner paused the assessment.

Are Observers or Proctors required?

While test Observers and Proctors are not required (unless required by the district), they may be useful or necessary in the following situations:

- Test Examiners who are new to the education field or new to the administration of a standardized, secure test.
- Test Examiners who find it challenging to sustain an optimal testing environment for the student and administer the test with fidelity simultaneously.
- Test Examiners who requested additional support.
- Substitutes who are filling in for the student's primary teacher.

Dates	Assessment Tasks and Reminders
1/24/2023 – 5/5/2023	GAA 2.0 Practice Site Available
2/27/2023 – 5/5/2023	GAA 2.0 Test Setup Window
3/13/2023	GAA 2.0 Test Materials Arrive in Districts
3/13/2023 – 3/24/2023	Secure Test Examiner Review of Materials
3/27/2023 – 5/5/2023	GAA 2.0 2023 Main Administration
5/12/2023	GAA 2.0 Materials Return to DRC

Contact: Mary Nesbit-McBride, Ph.D., Assessment Specialist, mnesbit@doe.k12.ga.us, 470-579-6345.

Georgia Milestones

Secure Practice Test with Response Transmission Script (New!)

We now offer an examiner's script for the Secure Practice Test with Response Transmission (SPRT). This script walks through the same steps as the standard test administration and allows students to move freely

through the test items. This optional resource allows districts to simulate the testing environment during the practice test. The Secure Practice Test with Response Transmission is available in [DRC INSIGHT](#) and on the [Georgia Milestones Resources](#) page as a part of the Secure Practice Test Directions.

Check Your COS

Technology Coordinators should check their COSs before spring testing. The winter administration showed irregularities due to content not downloaded before testing. If the COS is on during updates, content, and TTS/HVA will automatically be checked, and all content will be available for testing. Technology Coordinators should ensure that all appropriate administrations are checked along with TTS/HVA and VSL is available. Space can be saved on a COS server by deselecting content that is not required.

Admin	TTS/HVA	VSL
ESA226 End-of-Grade Summer Retest 2022	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
EGA325 End-of-Grade Spring 2023	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
EGA244 End-of-Course Spring RMP Month 2022	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ESA326 End-of-Course Spring 2023	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
EGA809 Practice Test with Response Transmission	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
EW0126 WIDA ACCESS for ELLs 2022-2023	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
EW0128 WIDA Screener Assessment 2022-2023	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
EW0122 WIDA Sample Items	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Plan for Distributing TMA Monitoring Codes

Schools should have a plan for distributing Monitoring Codes. SchTCs will access the Test Monitoring Application to generate the test monitoring code. It is essential to check the code's expiration date and adjust as needed. This code will be shared with test examiners on a secure network drive or by writing it on the Participant Rosters. The Test Examiner will write the code on the board at the start of testing. Students will then need to enter this code after they log into the test and before they can begin testing. Then the SchTC will monitor the testing activity.

A suggested best practice is to generate a monitoring “Code of the week.” This will simplify the distribution and management of the code across all different registrations, including makeup testing.



Accommodations Validation File

After accommodations are set up in INSIGHT, schools can use the Accommodations Validation File found in Report Delivery to verify that all accommodations are entered correctly before testing. Schools should have a plan to confirm the correct entry ahead of input. Then they can use the Accommodations Validations File after entry to ensure all data is accurate.

Spring 2023 EOG and EOC Test Administration Reminders

As a reminder, the following changes apply to Spring 2023 EOG and EOC test administrations.

ELA TEST DESIGN

Narrative writing will be assessed in Section 2 only.

CALCULATOR POLICY

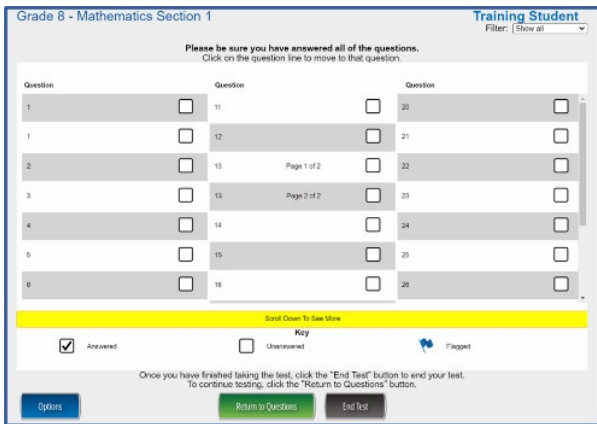
- Grade 6 students may use a **scientific** or basic calculator.
- Grade 8 students may use a **graphing** or scientific calculator.

All grades 6 – high school test takers should be trained in the use of the online Desmos Calculator embedded in the practice tests or at <https://www.desmos.com/testing/Georgia>.

REVIEW OF STUDENT RESPONSES

Test Examiners may remind students to review items completed or not completed at the end of a test section. To ensure student responses have been submitted for scoring, students must End and Submit Test.

STCs must train Test Examiners to avoid any actual review of student responses during testing, as this represents a possible ethical violation.



Data and Reporting

ACCOMMODATIONS UPLOAD, MSU, AND ROSTER FILE UPLOAD

Test setup opens on Monday, February 27. Be prepared to upload files to the DRC INSIGHT Portal.

- Participants and Registrations (MSU) – uploads students and test sessions.
- Accommodations Upload – optional upload to assign accommodations.
- Users: create user accounts for large districts and/or for teacher reporting.
- Rosters: Optional upload of student groups by teacher for teacher reporting.

ACCOMMODATIONS UPLOAD FILE

Districts wanting to upload student accommodations in batch may use the Accommodations Upload file. The accommodations file should be uploaded prior to the MSU so the DRC INSIGHT system can use the accommodation information to set up registrations. Test Coordinators can use the accommodation validation file in *Report Delivery* to review what has been uploaded or manually entered into INSIGHT prior to testing. The [Accommodation Validation File Quick Start Guide](#) gives instructions on accessing the report and information in the file.

TEACHER REPORTS ON THE INTERACTIVE REPORTING PLATFORM

Three files must be uploaded in the following order: Batch User, MSU, and Roster. The Roster file may be uploaded after testing, but *the Batch User and MSU files must be uploaded prior to testing.*

More information about these files can be found in the *Spring/Summer 2023 Pre-Admin and Test Setup* webinar

recording available in [GaDOE Professional Learning Events](#). The recording link should be available by Monday, March 13.

Additional details about transmitting these files can be found on the DRC INSIGHT Portal Training webinars on the Georgia Milestones Training Resources page and the Georgia Milestones & DRC BEACON File Layouts FAQ document on the [Georgia Milestones Resources](#) page under Technology Resources.

WINTER 2022 EOC SUMMARY RESULTS

Summary results for the Winter 2022 EOC administration (i.e., state, system, and school) have been publicly released by the state on the GaDOE [Georgia Milestones website](#) (under “Statewide Results”). This ends the embargo on summary reports for Winter EOC 2022. Final ISRs for the Winter 2022 and Fall MM were posted March 3.

SPRING MM EOC DATA

As a reminder, preliminary Spring MM EOC data and reports are currently available in DRC INSIGHT and will be updated regularly as assessments are scored. STCs/SchTCs should monitor these reports by:

- Ensuring all schools are testing within the testing window.
- Verifying all tests are submitted.
- Ensuring no more than one record per course for each student.
- Checking that invalidations are reflected as “IV.”
- Reconciling the LCE roster.
- Updating “UNDETERMINED” class names (e.g., Grade 8 Homeroom 1).

SPRING 2023 EOG/EOC MAIN PROJECTED REPORTING DATES

The earliest projected dates for the availability of preliminary Spring Main EOG and EOC reports and data files are shown in the schedule below.

Report	Location	Date	
		EOG	EOC
Preliminary System Data Files, Class Rosters, and ISRs	DRC INSIGHT	<u>Wed.</u> <u>April 19</u> Math, Sci., SS	<u>Fri.</u> <u>April 28</u> Math, Sci, Soc

Report	Location	Date	
		EOG	EOC
		<u>Fri., April 28</u> ELA Gr. 3, 5, 8	<u>Mon., May 8</u> American Lit
		<u>Fri., May 5</u> ELA Gr. 4, 6, 7	

GRADE 8 HIGH SCHOOL PHYSICAL SCIENCE EOG

For Grade 8 students taking High School Physical Science EOG, their record on the MSU must contain the appropriate *Course Number*. Students will be registered for the Grade 8 – HS Physical Science assessment and for all other grade 8 assessments.

For Grade 8 students taking the regular Science EOG, the *Course Number* on their record must be **blank**.

Grade 8 students must not be assigned to both Science EOGs.

DRC INSIGHT PARTICIPANTS AND REGISTRATIONS

Student demographic data manually entered or uploaded into DRC INSIGHT now carries over from one test administration to another. This new functionality saves test administrators time registering students for smaller test administrations such as EOC Spring Mid-Month and EOG Retest. For example, students uploaded for the EOC Winter administration will now be automatically available for assigning an EOC Spring Mid-Month assessment without manually entering or uploading a participant file (MSU). Any student roster information attached to the student (i.e., for Teacher Reporting) will also carry over with them. Likewise, students uploaded for the Main EOG Spring administration will be available automatically for assigning an EOG Retest administration. Again, any previously entered or uploaded roster information will carry over with them.

It is important to note that although this functionality is available, districts can still opt to upload or manually edit students if the current information needs updating. For example, a new participant file (MSU), accommodation file, or roster file should be uploaded prior to the test administration if student information has changed or errors have been fixed.

We strongly request that new upload files are used for the Main Spring administrations of EOC and EOG to ensure that the most accurate data are available in DRC INSIGHT for these test administrations.

EOG and EOC – Data Validation

It is critical that the student demographic data loaded into DRC INSIGHT via the MSU are accurate and match the information uploaded to GaDOE through Student Record and Student Class. Some common data errors include:

- Missing or Incorrect GTIDs.
- Duplicate Student Names.
- Incorrect Spelling or Hyphenation of Student Names.
- Reversals of Student’s First Name and Last Name.
- Missing or Incorrect Birthdates.
- Students Incorrectly Associated with “Service” School instead of their “Home” (FTE) School.

School leaders and teachers can help check data by reviewing local attendance rosters for accuracy. Any errors found should be corrected in the SIS *prior to uploading the MSU*. If an error is found after the MSU upload, the error should be fixed in the SIS, and the MSU re-uploaded to INSIGHT.

Student Growth Percentiles (SGPs) will be calculated using the final assessment records compiled by DRC, not assessment data that is later matched by GaDOE.

Students who cannot be matched to a prior assessment score in the assessment files using their GTID will not receive SGPs.

Dates	Georgia Milestones Tasks and Reminders
1/3/2023 – 3/24/2023	EOC Spring 2023 Mid-Month Test Setup Window
2/27/2023 – 5/26/2023	EOG Spring 2023 Test Setup Window
2/27/2023 – 6/2/2023	EOC Spring 2023 Test Setup Window
3/6/2023 – 3/17/2023	March 2023 Mid-Month EOC Testing Window
4/10/2023 – 5/19/2023	Spring 2023 Main EOG Window
4/17/2023 – 5/26/2023	Spring 2023 Main EOC Window

Dates	Georgia Milestones Tasks and Reminders
4/24/2023 – 7/21/2023	Summer 2023 EOG Retest Test Setup Window
5/15/2023 – 7/14/2023	EOG Retest 2023 Window
5/15/2023 – 7/19/2023	Summer 2023 EOC Test Setup Window

Contacts:

- Joe Blessing, Program Manager, jblessing@doe.k12.ga.us, 470-579-6326.
- Brian Collier, Assessment Specialist, brian.collier@doe.k12.ga.us, 470-579-6355.
- Missy Shealy, Assessment Specialist, mshealy@doe.k12.ga.us, 470-579-5393.

NAEP/NCES

All districts and schools in the 2022-2023 testing have been identified and contacted. Schools in the Field Test will be involved in testing to explore the viability of using school technology resources. Field staff will work with school or technology coordinators to assess the use of school infrastructure for testing. The testing window is Monday, March 20 – Tuesday, April 18.

Dates	Assessment Tasks and Reminders
3/1/2023 – 5/31/2023	NAEP – TIMSS (<i>selected schools only</i>)
3/1/2023 – 5/31/2023	NAEP – ICILS (<i>selected schools only</i>)
3/20/2023 – 4/14/2023	NAEP – Field Test (<i>selected schools only</i>)

Contact: Bobbie Bable, Assessment Specialist, bbable@doe.k12.ga.us, 470-579-6324.

Georgia Student Growth Model

SGPs will be calculated and reported for the 2022-2023 school year. SGPs are norm-referenced measures that quantify student progress, or growth, from one year to the next by comparing a student’s test performance to that of academically similar students. Students, teachers, and parents can use growth information alongside achievement information to increase their understanding of student learning and how to move students forward in skill development.

You can learn more about interpreting and using SGPs on the Georgia Student Growth Model [website](#), which will

be updated as materials become available. Some details about the SGP release are listed below, and more information will be provided in future Lunch and Learns and Assessment Updates.

SGPs are calculated for ELA and Mathematics subjects only. In 2022-2023, American Literature & Composition SGPs will not be calculated because of data limitations of *prior* scores. Note: the most common prior for American Literature SGPs is the Grade 8 ELA EOG, which occurred in Spring 2020 when testing was suspended due to the pandemic.

SGPs will appear on the *final* ISRs and in the *final* system-level data files for each Georgia Milestones administration starting with the Spring 2023 EOG and EOC (expected in early to mid-July). SGPs for Fall 2022, Winter 2022, and Summer 2023 EOC will be reported simultaneously after spring reporting is complete (expected in early August).

Accountability Update

The Assessment Matching application is now available for district users with CCRPI access in the MyGaDOE portal. National assessments (ACT, AP, IB, and SAT) are available for matching. The remaining assessments (ACCESS EOC, EOG, and GAA 2.0) will be loaded when they become available. The window for matching these additional assessments will be short, so please begin checking national assessments early. Note that this is one critical step your district will take in ensuring accurate data for the 2023 CCRPI!

As a reminder, the accountability team is offering several new webinars related to CCRPI. These live trainings are intended for a broad audience — anyone interested in understanding CCRPI! Suggested audiences include principals and school leadership teams, SIS personnel, counselors, testing coordinators, special education staff, and other district leaders. Refer to the GaDOE Professional Learning Events catalog for full descriptions and registration links. Please note that you do not need

an account to register for a webinar. Just click on *Professional Learning* in the top right-hand corner and choose *Events*. Then use the search feature to find a webinar.

Recordings are stored in the Professional Learning Events catalog a few days after each live webinar. The following recordings are currently available:

- [CCRPI: Accountability and the Big Picture.](#)
- [CCRPI: Components of CCRPI for Elementary School.](#)
- [CCRPI: Components of CCRPI for Middle School.](#)
- [CCRPI: Components of CCRPI for High School.](#)

The following webinars will be presented live, and recordings will be uploaded after a few days. We hope you'll join us!

[Ensuring Accurate CCRPI Data](#), Wednesday, March 8, 10-11 a.m.

This session will review data utilization for CCRPI, explain the connections between data submitted and indicators on the CCRPI reports, and explain how district and school leaders can ensure accurate data before CCRPI is calculated.

[Understanding CCRPI Applications and Processes](#), Wednesday, March 29, 10-11 a.m.

Join the Accountability Team as we focus on applications in the MyGaDOE portal that provide data for the College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI). These applications are completed by districts and ensure the most recent and accurate data are used for CCRPI calculations.

GaDOE Professional Learning (PL) Events for March-May 2023

Are you looking for professional learning opportunities to support educator practice? Visit the [GaDOE Professional Learning Events](#) to view upcoming virtual webinars, webinar recordings, in-person events, on-demand content, and by-request workshop opportunities. Email Dawn Ashmore at dashmore@doe.k12.ga.us for additional information about the PL Catalog.

All training STC training sessions are Microsoft Teams webinars. Please register with your district email address for the webinar in the [GaDOE Professional Learning Events](#) or the link in the table below. Once registered, an email is sent from Microsoft Teams, noreply@teams.registration.microsoft.com, allowing you to add the webinar to your calendar.

**Conference and training session dates and times are subject to change.*

Required Assessment Training Webinars

Date	Title http://login.community.gadoe.org/events	Time	Intended Audience
4/27/2023	GKIDS 2.0 End-of-Year Reporting Training #4	2 – 3:30 p.m.	STCs
5/18/2023	ACCESS for ELLs Post-Assessment Training	10 – 11:30 a.m.	STCs

WIDA Webinars

Date	Title (Registrations for all sessions are in the WIDA Secure Portal .)	Time	Intended Audience
3/7/2023	Post Testing: Data Validation	2 – 3 p.m.	STC, SchTC
3/14/2023	Post Testing: Interpreting Score Reports	2 – 3 p.m.	STC, SchTC

Optional Assessment Meetings

Date	Title (Registration link in Assessment Update notification email)	Time	Intended Audience
3/10/2023	March 2023 Assessment Lunch and Learn	12 – 1 p.m.	STCs

FIP Courses

Date	Title http://login.community.gadoe.org/events	Time	Intended Audience
3/16/2023	Teaching Students to Rethink Their Work	10 – 11 a.m.	STCs, District Leaders, School Leaders, RESAs
4/20/2023	The Road to Student Ownership of Learning	10 – 11 a.m.	STCs, District Leaders, School Leaders, RESAs

Georgia Milestones Courses

Date	Title http://login.community.gadoe.org/events	Time	Intended Audience
Webinar Recording	Understanding the Georgia Milestones English Language Arts Assessment	24/7	Grades 3-12 Teachers, Instructional Coaches, School Leaders, District Leaders
	Understanding the Georgia Milestones Mathematics Assessment		
	Understanding the Georgia Milestones Science Assessment		
	Understanding the Georgia Milestones Social Studies Assessment		
	Introduction to Reading and Evidence-Based Writing, Gr 3-12		Grades 3-12 ELA Teachers, Instructional Coaches, Assistant Principals, Principals, Literacy Coordinators
	Examining the Opinion Essay, Gr 3-5		
	Examining the Argumentative Essay, Gr 6-HS		
	Examining the Informative/Explanatory Essay, Gr 3-HS		
	Best Practices for Narrative Writing, Gr 3-12		
	Narrative Writing on Georgia Milestone, Gr 3-12		
	Using Description in Narrative Writing, Gr 3-5		
	Using Description in Narrative Writing, Gr 6-8		
Using Description in Narrative Writing, American Literature			

Understanding Assessment Webinar Series

Date	Title (Registrations for all sessions are at the link below.) https://login.community.gadoe.org/events/understanding-assessment-series-for-teachers	Time	Intended Audience
Webinar Recording	Day 1 – Assessment Foundations for Teachers & Leaders	24/7	Grades K-12 Teachers, Instructional Coaches, Teacher Leaders, School Leaders
	Day 2 – Formative Assessment Processes, Part 1		
	Day 3 – Formative Assessment Processes, Part 2		
	Day 4 – Formative Assessment Processes, Part 3		
	Day 5 – Summative Classroom Assessment, Part 1		
	Day 6 – Summative Classroom Assessment, Part 2		
	Day 7 – Summative Classroom Assessment, Part 3		
	Day 8 – Standardized Assessments		
3/14/2023	Day 9 – Balanced Assessment Systems	3 – 4:30 p.m.	

Georgia Learns Courses

[How to Access Georgia Learns](#) contains information and screenshots to assist educators in accessing courses in Georgia Learns.

Assessment Coordinator Courses

Date	Title	Time	Intended Audience
Available Course	Georgia Milestones School Test Coordinator Course	24/7	STC
Available Course	Georgia Milestones Test Examiner Course	24/7	STC, SchTC, Test Examiners
Available Course	Accessibility and Accommodations for State Testing Course	24/7	STC, SchTC, Special Education Directors, ESOL Directors
Coming Soon	GAA 2.0 for Test Examiners Course	24/7	STC, SchTC, Special Education Directors, Test Examiners