

Georgia Alternate Assessment 2.0 Eligibility Form

Directors' Webinar
September 26, 2023

Alternate Assessments for Students with the Most Significant Cognitive Disabilities

Federal Requirements

- A state may provide for alternate assessments aligned with alternate academic achievement standards (AA-AAAS) for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities if the state:
 - Ensures that, for each subject, the total number of students assessed using the alternate assessments does not exceed 1 percent of the total number of all students in the state who are assessed in such subject;
 - Ensures that the parents of such students are clearly informed that their child's academic achievement will be measured based on alternate achievement standards and how participation in such assessments may delay or otherwise affect the student from completing the requirements for a regular high school diploma; and
 - Additional requirements as stated in ESSA.

Alternate Assessments for Students with the Most Significant Cognitive Disabilities

Federal Requirements

- Georgia has historically received a waiver to exceed 1% by demonstrating the state's progress in carrying out its plan to reduce the percentage of students participating in the alternate assessment, among other assurances.
- However, in 2019, US ED informed the state that:
 - “I note that even though Georgia made substantial progress in carrying out its plan, it did not reduce the percentage of students taking an AA-AAAS in mathematics, reading/language arts or science. I am granting this extension despite the fact that Georgia has not demonstrated progress in reducing the percentage of students taking an AA-AAAS in each subject. Given the significant work underway, I expect to see the results of these efforts in the 2018-2019 school year and beyond. Beginning next year, any request for an extension of this waiver will be contingent on both continued progress implementing your plan and progress in reducing the percentage of students taking the AA-AAAS.”

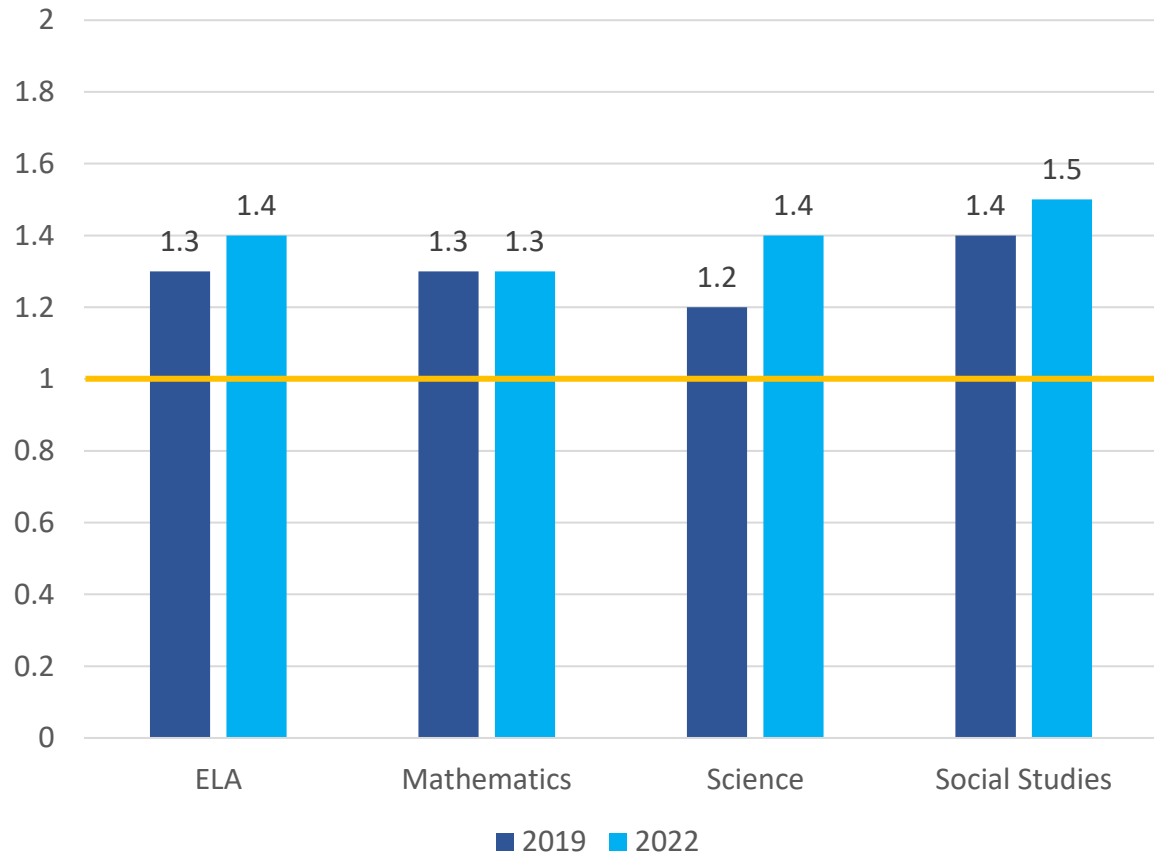
Alternate Assessments for Students with the Most Significant Cognitive Disabilities

Federal Requirements

- Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, flexibility from US ED enabled Georgia to receive extensions of the 1% waiver for 2020-2021 and 2021-2022.
- However, US ED declined to renew Georgia's waiver for 2022-2023:
 - “After reviewing GaDOE’s waiver request, I am declining to exercise my authority under section 8401(b) of the ESEA to issue a one-year (school year 2022-2023) waiver of section 1111(b)(2)(D)(i)(I) of the ESEA, so that the State may assess more than 1.0 percent of the total number of students with an AA-AAAS in reading/language arts, mathematics, and science. *GaDOE has not demonstrated progress in reducing the percentage of students taking the AA-AAAS in R/LA, mathematics, and science between the 2018-2019 and 2021-2022 school years.*”

Percentage of Students Participating in the GAA 2.0

Comparing 2019 to 2022



- The percentage of students participating in the GAA 2.0 **increased** from 2019 to 2022 in 3 of 4 content areas.
- The count of students participating in the GAA 2.0 **increased** from 2019 to 2022 in all 4 content areas.
- Preliminary 2023 data indicate the count of students participating in the GAA 2.0 will **increase** again, by approximately 80-225 students per grade level, with greater increases in lower grades.

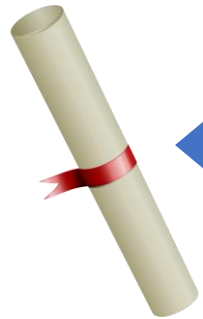
GAA 2.0 Counts by Primary Disability

Comparing 2019, 2022, and 2023

Primary SRC	2019	2022	2023 (Preliminary)
1 – Visual Impairment or Blind	12	15	14
2 – Deaf or Hard of Hearing	23	25	36
3 – Deaf and Blind	9	13	8
4 – Specific Learning Disability	63	32	57
5 – Mild Intellectual Disability	2,955	2,848	2,844
6 – Traumatic Brain Injury	82	75	87
7 – Moderate/Severe/Profound Intellectual Disability	3,975	3,735	3,690
8 – Autism	4,283	5,064	5,554
9 – Orthopedic Impairment	59	59	56
10 – Speech-Language Impairment	13	4	5
11 – Emotional and Behavioral Disorder	38	30	36
12 – Other Health Impairment	989	968	1,006
15 – Significant Developmental Delay	495	611	626

Instructional Program- Assessment Placement and Graduation

SBOE Rule 160-3-1-.07; SBOE Rule 160-4-5-.02; SAH p.p. 210-211

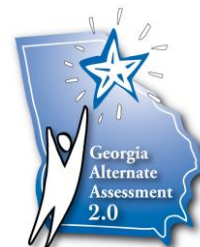


**High School
Diploma**

**Georgia Standards
of Excellence**

**Alternate Content
Standards**

**Alternate
Diploma**



GAA 2.0 Eligibility Criteria Form Review

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