



Dr. John D. Barge, State School Superintendent

July 1, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: System Test Coordinators
Special Education Coordinators

FROM: Tony Eitel
Director for Assessment Administration

SUBJECT: Georgia Alternate Assessment (GAA) Fall 2014 Training

In preparation for the 2014-2015 administration of the GAA, the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) will be conducting pre-assessment training online, via webinar, using *Blackboard Collaborate*. The purpose of these webinars is to provide information to guide the appropriate system-level and school-level staff in the development of portfolios that showcase the achievement and progress of students with significant cognitive disabilities. Representatives from the GaDOE and Questar Assessment, Inc. will be presenting the sessions. The specific dates/times and links to access both the live broadcasts and recorded sessions are listed on the following pages.

A variety of topics will be addressed during eight broadcasts held on four dates. Each webinar will last approximately an hour and thirty minutes and will allow time for questions and answers. The topics selected were identified based upon an analysis of 2013-2014 GAA results, the transition of mathematics standards in the high school, the high school retest option, and feedback from school and system personnel. New this year to the webinar training will be live sessions to address questions from the online audience. Please refer to the following pages for an entire list of topics to be addressed along with the date and time information, and links for both the live sessions and recordings.

A target audience is defined for each session based upon the topics. However, System Test Coordinators are expected to collaborate with their Special Education Coordinator to determine the appropriate attendees for your district. The fact that each session will be available through both a live delivery and a recording (that can be viewed at any time) will allow systems to schedule the viewing of each session as local schedules may require.

Thank you in advance for arranging to attend these important webinars. Should you have any questions regarding this training, please do not hesitate to contact Deborah Houston via email dhouston@doe.k12.ga.us or phone 404-657-0251.

cc: System Superintendents
Dr. John D. Barge, State School Superintendent
Dr. Mike Buck, Chief Academic Officer
Melissa Fincher, Ph.D., Deputy Superintendent for Assessment and Accountability
Deborah Gay, Director of Special Education Services
GNETS Testing Directors
RESA Directors
State Schools Testing Coordinators

GAA 2014-15 Fall Pre- Assessment Training Schedule and Topics

Dates	Sessions and Times	Topics	Target Audiences
Wednesday, August 13, 2014	Session 1 1:00-2:15 pm ET	High School Retest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ELA CCGPS or GPS Retesting, depending on cohort year • Math GPS Retesting in 2014 • Retest Opportunities and Procedures • Materials for Retesters (Blueprint/Standards, SDIF, Entry Sheet) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All High School GAA teachers and/or those who are affiliated with the retest
	Session 2 2:30-4:00 pm ET	The Basics of the GAA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview • Portfolio Components • Types of Evidence and Permanent Products • Alignment • Documentation and Organization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All personnel new to the GAA or those seeking a refresher on the basics
Thursday, August 14, 2014	Session 3 1:00-2:15 pm ET	Looking ahead to the 2014-15 Administration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of current assessment • General Administration Information • Lessons Learned from the 2013-14 Administration • Ethics and Test Security • Portfolio Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All teachers who will administer the GAA • Peer Reviewers and Designated Trainers • System Test Coordinators • System Special Education Coordinators
	Session 4 2:30-4:00 pm ET	Alignment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unpacking the Standards • Selecting the Target Skill for Assessment • Prerequisite Skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All teachers who will administer the GAA • Peer Reviewers and Designated Trainers • System Test Coordinators • System Special Education Coordinators
Thursday, August 21, 2014	Session 5 1:00-2:15 pm ET	Overview of High School Mathematics in 2014-15 - Part 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administration overview of new standards • Coordinate Algebra and Analytic Geometry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All High School GAA teachers
	Session 6 2:30-3:45 pm ET	Overview of High School Mathematics in 2014-15 - Part 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum Access for High School Students in 2014-15 • Coordinate Algebra and Analytic Geometry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All High School GAA teachers
Wednesday, August 27, 2014	Session 7 1:00-2:15 pm ET	Question & Answers Session * <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covering items from Sessions 1 - 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any GAA affiliate
	Session 8 2:30-4:00 pm ET	Question & Answers Session for HS Math * <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covering items from Sessions 5 - 6 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any GAA affiliate

Please note: Although target audiences have been recommended, all sessions are offered for all personnel to attend.

*** Questions will be submitted ahead of sessions 7 and 8, but we will also address questions during the live session.**

GAA 2014-2015 Pre-Assessment Training Webinar Links

Wednesday, August 13 th	Session 1 1:00-2:15 pm	Live Session: https://sas.illuminate.com/m.jnlp?sid=2012003&password=M.CDCC74BD33DB3DABB675EC8D086839 Recording: https://sas.illuminate.com/mr.jnlp?suid=M.5A0AAE40ED2CF7A71EB8918ED291BF&sid=2012003
	Session 2 2:30-4:00 pm	Live Session: https://sas.illuminate.com/m.jnlp?sid=2012003&password=M.5A948B1B10BAD78138869E5C326CE0 Recording: https://sas.illuminate.com/mr.jnlp?suid=M.AEBD801B50D545D612CA230CD4429E&sid=2012003
Thursday, August 14 th	Session 3 1:00-2:15 pm	Live Session: https://sas.illuminate.com/m.jnlp?sid=2012003&password=M.0C67D27E220BB790ECE66ABA0EE7F7 Recording: https://sas.illuminate.com/mr.jnlp?suid=M.56022D72805D4387EDF925CDEF55E6&sid=2012003
	Session 4 2:30-4:00 pm	Live Session: https://sas.illuminate.com/m.jnlp?sid=2012003&password=M.869E71547F83C491BC5E132BB6FB8E Recording: https://sas.illuminate.com/mr.jnlp?suid=M.59E228B394EA2DD1E1B2733D4AB3D8&sid=2012003
Thursday, August 21 nd	Session 5 1:00-2:15 pm	Live Session: https://sas.illuminate.com/m.jnlp?sid=2012003&password=M.90472BEB638F8423374465DCD3C7C5 Recording: https://sas.illuminate.com/mr.jnlp?suid=M.E0206673C18A937D386A54504C02E7&sid=2012003
	Session 6 2:30-4:00 pm	Live Session: https://sas.illuminate.com/m.jnlp?sid=2012003&password=M.5A8B0F5F2377BAA557345B0D05B1DF Recording: https://sas.illuminate.com/mr.jnlp?suid=M.116AEDF3600B2C75C0E1AEE68EFC0B&sid=2012003
Wednesday, August 27 th	Session 7 1:00-2:15 pm	Live Session: https://sas.illuminate.com/m.jnlp?sid=2012003&password=M.822BDE817AB559E572B91A9A8FF784 Recording: https://sas.illuminate.com/mr.jnlp?suid=M.0665CE0985DA30767389E979509413&sid=2012003
	Session 8 2:30-4:00 pm	Live Session: https://sas.illuminate.com/m.jnlp?sid=2012003&password=M.B41041460EFAB59ECE9DEC57E342FF Recording: https://sas.illuminate.com/mr.jnlp?suid=M.9870A7B8066A1C2145B0905CB535AF&sid=2012003