

Quick Links:

- [Test Development](#)

Summative Assessments

- [ACCESS for ELLs 2.0](#)
- [Georgia Alternate Assessment 2.0](#)
- [Georgia Milestones Assessment System](#)
- [NAEP/NCES](#)

Early Learning Formative Assessments

- [GKIDS and GKIDS Readiness Check](#)
- [Keenville](#)

Formative Assessment Resources

- [GOFAR/TestPad Update](#)
- [Formative Instructional Practices \(FIP\)](#)

Accountability

- [Accountability Update](#)

[Key Training Dates](#)

[April-June 2019](#)

[Key Assessment Tasks and Reminders](#)

[For Educators](#)

[Online Georgia Assessment and Training Calendar](#)

Highlights

This month's *Assessment Update* focuses on several of Georgia's assessment programs and provides System Test Coordinators (STCs) with specific information and guidance.

ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 and Alt ACCESS – Post-Assessment tasks and training opportunity details.

Georgia Alternate Assessment 2.0 – Transcription Directions for the Nextera Platform

Georgia Milestones Assessments – Student readiness for testing, reminders for student accommodations, and information regarding scoring and reporting.

GKIDS – Reminders regarding the closing of GKIDS 1.0 and training opportunities for GKIDS 2.0.

GOFAR and TestPad – Updates regarding the transition from GOFAR to TestPad.

Formative Instructional Practices (FIP) – End of year planning and reminders and feedback from the field of teachers.

Accountability Update – Planning for CCRPI portal activities.



[Online Georgia Assessment and Training Calendar](#)



@georgiadeptofed

www.gadoe.org

Test Development

Questions may be directed to Jan Reyes, Ed.D., Director of Assessment Development, at jreyes@doe.k12.ga.us or 404-463-6665.

ACCESS For ELLs 2.0

To have a successful post-administration window, STCs should remember the following:

- Participate in the WIDA Post Administration Trainings
[Georgia Assessment and Training Calendar](#)
- Participate in the GaDOE training in May
- Return Test All Materials

All ACCESS for ELLs and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs materials should have been returned to DRC by March 15.

Be sure to follow the directions in *the District and School Test Coordinator Manual* or Section 3 of the *Test Administrator Manual* to review the process for returning test materials to DRC. The Manuals can be accessed on the [WIDA Secure Portal](#).

Please use the following steps to access WIDA AMS to check to see if you have any missing materials for your district/school.

1. Log in to [WIDA AMS](#).
2. Click on **All Applications > Materials > Return Materials Receipt Report**.
3. Select the Administration and District (select the School, if applicable).
4. Click on **Show**.

Grade	Domain	Material Description	Qty Sent by DRC	Qty Received by DRC	Qty Not Received
Grade 01	Listening/Speaking	Grade 01 Listening/Speaking For A CDSE	1	1	0
Grade 01	Listening/Speaking	Grade 01 Listening/Speaking For B CDSE	1	1	0
Grade 01	None	Grade 01 Test Administrator Scripts	1	1	0
Grade 01	None	Grade 01 Test Administrator Scripts	1	1	0
Grade 01	None	Grade 01 Test Administrator Scripts	1	1	0
Grade 01	None	Grade 01 Test Administrator Scripts	1	1	0
Grade 01	Speaking	Grade 01 Speaking Test Booklets	1	1	0
Grade 02	Listening/Speaking	Grade 02 Listening/Speaking For A CDSE	1	1	0
Grade 02	Listening/Speaking	Grade 02 Listening/Speaking For B CDSE	1	1	0
Grade 02	None	Grade 02 Test Administrator Scripts	1	1	0

- Please remember to return the following secure material:
 - Student Response Booklets by grade in plastic bag packages
 - All Paper Test Administrator’s Scripts
 - Online Grades 1 and 2–3 Test Administrator’s Scripts
 - Speaking Test Booklets
 - Listening and Speaking Tests CDs
 - All used and unused large print and braille test materials
 - Alternate ACCESS for ELLs Listening/Reading/ Speaking Test Booklets
 - Kindergarten ACCESS for ELLs ancillary materials
- Please securely shred the following materials once score reports have been received:
 - Packing Lists
 - Security Checklists
 - Non-Disclosure and User Agreement
 - State Specific Directions
 - District and School Test Coordinator Manual
 - Test Administrator Manual
 - School box range sheet
 - Grades 4-12 Test Administrator’s Scripts
 - Any unused labels; please securely destroy them

Training Opportunity

ACCESS FOR ELLS 2.0 AND ALTERNATE ACCESS POST-ADMINISTRATION TRAINING

Purpose: In this webinar, the presenters will explain the purpose of ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 and Alternate ACCESS. They will also identify the differences in the types of score reports and discuss how to use those reports. Additionally, participants will consider ways to disseminate and discuss the information in these score reports. Please note there will be a 15-minute comfort break between the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 (2 – 3 p.m.) and the Alternate ACCESS (3:15 – 4:15 p.m.) webinar segments.

Date: Thursday, May 16, 2 – 4:15 p.m.

Questions may be directed to Mary Nesbit-McBride, Ph.D., Assessment Specialist, at mnesbit@doe.k12.ga.us or 404-232-1207.

Georgia Alternate Assessment 2.0

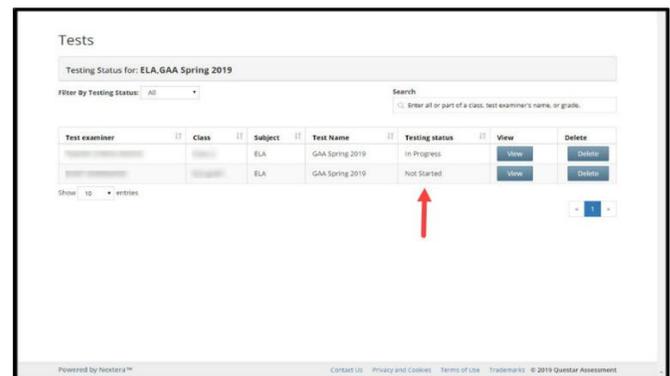
GAA 2.0 Transcription Directions

After the GAA 2.0 tests are administered, the STC is responsible for collecting, packaging, and shipping secure test materials to Questar via UPS no later than May 10. Secure test materials can be returned once tests have been administered and data entry is complete; systems do not have to wait until the end of the testing window to return secure test materials. For additional guidance related to the return of testing materials, please see the *GAA 2.0 Test Administration Manual*.

All Paper/Pencil forms, including Braille, must be transcribed into Nextera TDS at the local system level. All materials received by Questar that have not been transcribed will be returned to the district for immediate transcription. Student responses should be transcribed by the Test Examiner or School Test Coordinator using the following steps to ensure that all student responses have been properly entered in the Nextera Platform:

1. Locate the shortcut on your desktop and open the Nextera TDS . Once the application has opened, you will see the login page for the secure browser. 
2. Enter the student user ID and password at the sign-in screen, then select SIGN IN.
3. When prompted, enter the four-digit access code for the test selected. NOTE: These directions are geared toward students, so you do not have to wait. Select START TEST.
4. Navigate through the Student Response form and enter the student responses from the Student Response Document. Once you have finished, select REVIEW in the upper left corner of the screen.
5. Return to any unrecorded tasks part by selecting the task part number directly from this screen. Enter the student responses and select REVIEW again. **If the examiner did not administer a scaffolded task, they should not record a scaffolded response.** To learn more about reviewing student responses, click on the Help Tab > Help > Spring 2019 Training Materials > Nextera Review Screen Video.

6. Submit student responses by selecting SUBMIT TEST. If you select SUBMIT TEST, you will automatically exit Nextera TDS. Once you have submitted the test, you will **not** be able to go back and/or change any student responses. Repeat the steps for each student until you have submitted student responses for all students. If needed you can revisit the directions by clicking on Directions in the upper right corner of the window.
7. The Examiner and/or School Test Coordinator should ensure that tests have been submitted for all students.



If a session is unable to be transcribed, please contact Questar Customer Support and return the test booklet to Questar with a note stating the booklet has not been transcribed. Questar will then process the booklet for scoring and communicate with the district.

The STC should provide the signed validation forms to the School Test Coordinator for **each** Student Response Document. The *Validation Form for Transcription of Answer Documents* must be kept locally and NOT returned with the Student Response Documents to Questar.

Questions regarding GAA 2.0 may be directed to Mary Nesbit-McBride, Ph.D., Assessment Specialist, at mnesbit@doe.k12.ga.us or 404-232-1207.

Georgia Milestones Assessment System

Are your Students Ready for Testing?

Georgia Milestones online offers unique features that allow students to better access the test and respond to test items. Students should be familiar with all aspects of the assessment so they do not encounter these features the first day of testing and know how to manipulate these tools as they complete the assessment. Districts can familiarize students with these features through the **Secure Practice Tests** or **Experience Online Testing Georgia** www.gaexperienceonline.com.

UNIQUE FEATURES OF GEORGIA MILESTONES

Reading and Evidence-Based Writing: Day one of all ELA tests is a five-question section where students read two short passages then answer three multiple choice questions, one constructed response item, and one extended writing prompt.

Writing Tools: The ELA test now offers shortcuts for Cut, Copy and Paste.



Universal Tools: Georgia Milestones assessments



offer several tools that all students will use including the highlighter, sticky notes, magnifier, and line guide.

Reference Sheets: The formula sheets, periodic table and reference sheets are available as pop-ups within Georgia Milestones.



The Equation Builder:

Student can use the equation builder to easily create equations within constructed response mathematics items. This tool is offered as a pop-up on the top left corner of the mathematics text boxes.

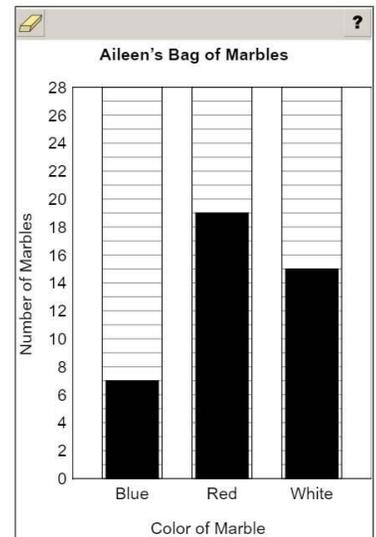


Calculator: The standard calculator, scientific calculator or graphing tool are available for assessments that allow calculators.



New Technology-Enhanced (TE) Items:

Students will be asked to respond to new TE items in mathematics, science, and social studies assessments. These items require students to use drag-and-drop or various types of graphing to respond to items. The TE items are being field tested so students will not be scored on the new items.



Testing Accommodations Reminders

An important step in preparing for the Spring 2019 Georgia Milestones administration is to ensure that testing accommodations have been confirmed and entered into the eDirect platform *prior* to testing. This helps reduce the risks of irregularities and ensures students receive appropriate accommodations as outlined in their IEP/IAP/EL Plan.

Below are a few reminders for consideration:

- Examiners should be familiar with any testing accommodations required for each student they will test *before* the day of testing and, if necessary, should seek clarification from the school test coordinator if unsure about the accommodation.
- Examiners and proctors must be provided with their own copies of the appropriate manual(s) during training.
- For example, examiners administering read-aloud tests must consult the *Read Aloud Guidelines*.
- Examiners and school test coordinators need to check that the appropriate abbreviation (TTS-S or TTS-C) appears on Student Test Tickets and Student Test Rosters for students who should be assigned a Read-Aloud or Audio test form.

IMPORTANT – Accommodations should be entered before printing test tickets!

Some accommodations require specific test forms, which are assigned when students are placed into test

sessions and reassigned when accommodations are entered.

If you enter accommodations *after* printing test tickets, be sure to check if **the password has been regenerated and reprint as needed.**

Students must be provided opportunities to practice the use of accommodations prior to testing. This can be done using the secure practice tests in eDIRECT and/or the Experience Online Testing Georgia website. Training Video and Quick Start Guide on entering Accommodations online can be found at: http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/Milestones_Training.aspx

Scoring and Reporting

PRE-EQUATING AND POST-EQUATING

To ensure that scores from different versions of a test are comparable, we use a statistical procedure called *equating*. This process ensures tests within a grade level/content area or course are of equal difficulty within a single administration (e.g., Forms A and B) and across different administrations (e.g., 2018 and 2019).

Test forms can be scored based on a pre-equated or post-equated approach. *Pre-equating* uses information from previous administrations to produce scale score tables prior to an administration, thereby allowing for a quick delivery of test results. *Post-equating* is based on data from the current administration. Using information from a representative sample of early testers allows the state to check whether the pre-equating approach is supported, or whether a post-equating solution is necessary.

The preliminary reporting timeline can be found in eDIRECT on the last page of the *Enrollment Guide Spring 2019* under General Information > Documents > Show Documents. Given that a new set of writing tasks is being administered this spring, we may need to use a post-equating approach. This means scores for ELA may be delayed per the schedule below. To maintain this timeline, it is imperative that districts follow their testing schedule, so an appropriate sample of students is obtained. Also keep in mind the importance of testing any graduating seniors early in the window, particularly in American Literature.

Grade	ELA Preliminary Reporting Begins	
	Pre-Equate	Post-Equate
3, 5, 8	4/26	5/2
4, 6, 7	5/3	5/10
High School	5/13	5/15

PRELIMINARY REPORTS

As preliminary reports begin to post to eDIRECT, School and STCs should monitor reports. A few reminders and key points:

- Monitor student progress in eDIRECT to verify all tests are submitted.
- Monitor testing to ensure all schools are testing within the window.
- Verify all students in grades 3, 5, and 8 are listed on the remediation/retest roster.
- Check that middle school students are coded with an EOC if they are taking a high school ELA, math, or science EOC assessment.
- Check for known invalidations to confirm that student scores are reflected as an IV.
- Ensure that students do not have more than one record per content area/course.
- Assign a corrected irregularity code for students listed on the LCE roster.
- Update class names listed as UNDETERMINED with a specific teacher or class name (e.g., Grade 8 Homeroom 1).

Questions may be directed to the Georgia Milestones Assessment Specialist team:

- Taiesha Adams, Ed.D., Assessment Specialist, at taadams@doe.k12.ga.us or 404-656-5975.
- Joe Blessing, Assessment Specialist, at jblessing@doe.k12.ga.us or 404-232-1208.
- Robert McLeod, Ed.D., Assessment Specialist, at rmcleod@doe.k12.ga.us or 404-656-2589.

NAEP/NCES

There are 21 Georgia schools whose 4th or 8th grade students will be tested as part of the 2019 Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS). TIMSS is a tablet-based assessment of 4th and 8th graders in more than 60 countries which assesses knowledge and skills in mathematics and science. The assessment window is April 1 through May 31, and results will be available in 2020.

There were 17 Georgia schools whose 8th graders were a part of the 14,400 8th graders from almost 500 schools nationwide who participated in the Technology and Engineering Literacy (TEL) assessment in 2018. This assessment is designed to measure whether students are able to apply technology and engineering skills to real-life situations. The national results will be released April 30.

Questions may be directed to Bobbie Bable, Assessment Specialist, at bbable@doe.k12.ga.us or 404-657-6168.

GKIDS and GKIDS Readiness Check

GKIDS 1.0

Monday, May 13: Deadline for teachers to enter student assessment data in the GKIDS website:
<https://gkids.tsars.uga.edu/start>.

Monday, May 13 – Monday, June 10: The website will remain available to teachers after the May 13 deadline. Teachers can access the website and their class data until June 10. Teachers may print or save individual student reports until June 10.

Friday, May 20 – Friday, May 27: Systems will receive school and system summary reports based on the data entered in the GKIDS website database. Note: Data entered after the May 13 deadline will not be included in the summary reports or data file.

Monday, June 10: Closedown of GKIDS 1.0

Systems will not receive individual student reports from GCA. Instead, before the end of the school year, teachers may select one of the individual student report options available on the GKIDS website to serve as the final individual student report. Teachers should print individual student reports from the GKIDS website.

Please note that newly/recently enrolled students should be assessed in as many English Language Arts and Mathematics elements as is feasible between their enrollment date and the end of your district's school year. Schools may continue to assess students beyond the May 13 deadline — and should do so in the interest of the student(s) when applicable (*Note: Again, data*

entered after May 13 will not appear in summary reports or the district's data file.)

GKIDS 2.0

July 2019: Opening of GKIDS 2.0

District and school training for GKIDS 2.0 will continue in May; online training modules for teachers will be available in early May in SLDS.

Questions may be directed to Bobbie Bable, Assessment Specialist, at bbable@doe.k12.ga.us or 404-657-6168.

Keenville



Keenville is currently entering the final stage of development. This spring we have kept educators busy playtesting new games, providing valuable feedback on game mechanics and content alignment, and ensuring all games promote instructional best practices. This partnership with our educators has proven to be a valuable asset to Keenville development, and we appreciate all districts and educators who have participated in Keenville activities.

In addition, we are currently finalizing the school and district administrator dashboards as well as upgrading teacher dashboards based on educator and administrator feedback. It is our goal to have these dashboards available for your review in early May.

Please watch for future communication regarding this last step of development. As always, we appreciate your feedback and thank you for your participation in Keenville activities.

Questions may be directed to Lisa Hardman, Assessment Specialist, at lhardman@doe.k12.ga.us or 404-651-9405.



GOFAR/TestPad Update

TestPad is the latest update to GOFAR for developing benchmarks and formative assessments. TestPad adds significant improvements to the GOFAR software and adds user created test items. In 2018-2019, we transitioned to TestPad while GOFAR stayed open. TestPad will remain for 2019-2020 but GOFAR will be retired. Make sure your district is prepared to transition to TestPad next year.

Questions regarding GOFAR training and content may be directed to Joe Blessing, Assessment Specialist, at jblessing@doe.k12.ga.us or 404-232-1208.

Questions regarding technical setup of TestPad can be directed to SLDS Support at slds@doe.k12.ga.us.

Formative Instructional Practices (FIP)

Georgia FIP online learning provides Tier 1 evidence-based support for educators to learn about and use formative instructional practices and assessment appropriately. The key component in FIP is that both teachers and students learn how to use the practices as the teacher becomes a skilled facilitator and students develop the ability to take ownership of their learning.

To date for the 2018-2019 school year, K-12 educators have created 1,689 *new* individual online learning accounts through the Georgia FIP Portal. From July 1, 2018 to April 1, 2019, Georgia educators enrolled in 6,903 FIP courses and posted a completed rate of 93% (6,438).

Sample anecdotal comments are below from the 2018-2019 Teacher Feedback Survey that is still in progress. Teachers were given the opportunity to write anecdotal responses in addition to responding to the question, "Please rate your perception of the usefulness of the content in Georgia FIP to your classroom work with students."

- *Many of the examples of downloadable files have been a great resource for me.*
- *It has given me more insight to better create sound assessments for my students.*
- *Modules 1-5 cover clear learning targets (what the student should be able to do), collecting and using*

evidence of student learning, and teaching students to self-assess and reflect on their learning – all crucial to effective instruction. I learned a lot.

- *For someone who didn't go to college to be a teacher, these modules are full of knowledge on different areas that really helps me understand the importance of the practices and why they need to be used.*

As leaders plan summer professional development for teachers, consider using GA FIP.

Questions or assistance with FIP may be directed to Kelli Harris-Wright, Assessment Specialist, at kharris-wright@doe.k12.ga.us or 404-463-5047.

Accountability Update

Remember to plan ahead for spring and summer CCRPI activities. The Live Portal Data tool will be available in the MyGaDOE portal in early May with select data from Student Record and Student Class. Look for an email announcing that the tool is available with a link to the training webinar. District staff and principals should check the data carefully, as it is used in calculating the 2019 CCRPI reports. Any errors must be corrected in Student Record and/or Student Class before the collections are certified and signed off by the superintendent in June.

There will be no CCRPI data correction window, so this is critical!

The Assessment Matching application, currently available in the MyGaDOE portal, will be updated with new assessments to match as they become available and will close in August.

The Non-Participation application, Cohort Withdrawal Update application, and Summer Graduate Collection will be available in early July. Look for an email with the user guide, deadline, and link to the training webinar as each application opens.

If you are not responsible for completing an application, be sure to forward the email to the appropriate staff in your district.

If you have questions about the CCRPI, please contact the [accountability specialist](#) at the GaDOE assigned to work with your district or consult the [accountability](#) and the [CCRPI Resources for Educators](#) webpages.

Key Training Dates for April-June 2019

*Please note: for all GoToWebinar meeting links below, if the meeting date has passed, the meeting link will take you to the recording.

Assessment Training

Date	Title	Time	Meeting Link

ACCESS for ELLs 2.0

Date	Title	Time	Meeting Link
4/17/2019	WIDA Webinar: Post-Testing: Interpreting Score Reports	12 – 1 p.m. ET	https://www.wida.us
4/23/2019	WIDA Webinar: Post-Testing: Data Validation	12 – 1 p.m. ET	https://www.wida.us
5/16/2019	Post-administration Training: Interpreting ACCESS for ELLs Score Reports and Interpreting Alt ACCESS for ELLs	2 – 4:15 p.m. ET	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5024458474560521474

GAA 2.0

Date	Title	Time	Meeting Link

GKIDS

Date	Title	Time	Meeting Link
5/7/2019	Introduction to GKIDS 2.0 Data Collection Platform	1 – 2:30 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/775483747583378956
5/16/2019	Introduction to GKIDS 2.0 Data Collection Platform – Live Repeat	9 – 10:30 a.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2779128184926191372

Georgia Milestones

Date	Title	Time	Meeting Link
5/28/2019	EOG/EOC Post-Assessment Training	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1736136948280223490

Key Assessment Tasks and Reminders

ACCESS for ELLs 2.0

Dates	Assessment Tasks and Reminders
4/8/2019 – 4/19/2019	Pre-Reporting Data Validation Window
5/13/2019	Districts receive reports (online)
5/17/2019	Districts receive reports (printed)
5/13/2019 – 5/24/2019	Post Validation Window

GAA 2.0

Dates	Assessment Tasks and Reminders
3/25/2019 – 5/3/2019	GAA 2.0 Spring 2019 Test Administration Window
5/10/2019	GAA 2.0 Secure Test Materials Due back to Questar

GKIDS

Dates	Assessment Tasks and Reminders
5/13/2019	GKIDS Window Closed/End of Year Data Due – Data entered after 5/13/2019 deadline will not be included in the summary reports or data file.
5/13/2019 – 6/10/2019	GKIDS website remains available – Teachers may access class data until 6/10/2019
6/3/2019	District files posted to GaDOE portal
6/10/2019	Close of GKIDS 1.0. Last day for Teachers to print or save individual student reports
July 2019	Opening of GKIDS 2.0

Georgia Milestones

Dates	Assessment Tasks and Reminders
3/6/2019 – 5/24/2019	EOG Test Setup Window
3/6/2019 – 6/7/2019	EOC Test Setup Window
3/25/2019 – 5/16/2019	EOG Additional Materials Window
4/8/2019 – 5/30/2019	EOC Additional Materials Window
4/8/2019 – 4/19/2019	EOC Summer 2019 Enrollment Count Window
4/8/2019 – 5/17/2019	EOG Spring 2019 Administration Window
4/22/2019 – 7/18/2019	EOG Summer 2019 Retest Additional Materials Window
4/22/2019 – 7/19/2019	EOG Summer Retest Test Setup
4/22/2019 – 5/31/2019	EOC Spring 2019 Administration Window
5/13/2019 – 7/19/2019	EOG Summer Retest Administration (grade 3, 5, and 8)
5/20/2019 – 7/19/2019	EOC Summer 2019 Test Setup Window
6/3/2019 – 7/18/2019	EOC Summer Administration Additional Materials Window
6/17/2019 – 7/19/2019	EOC Summer 2019 Administration

NAEP

Dates	Assessment Tasks and Reminders
4/1/2019 – 5/31/2019	TIMSS Administration Window