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[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.

New Enhancements to the Testing Irregularity Form

- Noticeable improvements in speed when navigating between forms as well as when saving or submitting a Form and returning to the Forms List page
- Setting of multiple filters on the Forms List page and the last applied filter will be retained when navigating between the Forms List page and a new or existing Form
- Ability to export from the Forms List page pertinent details from one or more Forms to an Excel spreadsheet
- Ability to export from the Student Information section of a Form a list of students to an Excel spreadsheet
- Ability to set a Submitted Form back to In Progress without assistance from a GaDOE Assessment Specialist

Assessment and Contact	Code
Milestones	
Joe Blessing	SP-1
Robert McLeod	SP-3
Taiesha Adams	SP-4
GAA and ACCESS	
Mary Nesbit-McBride	SP-2
GKIDS and NAEP	
Bobbie Bable	SP-5



Assessment Update

TEST DEVELOPMENT

NOMINATION OF EDUCATORS FOR TEST DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Thank you to all districts who nominated educators for the upcoming Georgia Milestones and GAA 2.0 test development meetings. All nominees should have received an email request to submit an application for participation. Within this application, nominees will provide more information regarding teaching experience and availability to participate in the upcoming meetings. Please note these emails will be sent from GaDOE Meeting Planning GMeetings@datarecognitioncorp.com (for Georgia Milestones) and Paapa Okyere pokyere@questarai.com (for GAA 2.0). Nominees may need to check their Clutter, Junk, and/or Spam folders, as these emails will occasionally be received in those folders.

Meeting invitations will be sent on a rolling basis, throughout March and April, 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. In the event an educator declines an invitation, does not respond, or cancels prior to the meeting, an alternate will be selected from the nominee pool.

Certain expenses are covered for meeting participants, including the following:

- Mileage will be reimbursed for travel to/from the meeting location.
- Breakfast and lunch are provided at the meeting.
- Hotel accommodations and dinner reimbursement are provided for eligible participants (per state travel regulations).
- If applicable, the local school/system will be reimbursed for the cost of providing a substitute.
- During the summer months, an honorarium is offered for teachers not under contract.

Should you have questions about the nomination process, please contact Jan Reyes, Ed.D., Director of Assessment Development, at jreyes@doe.k12.ga.us or 404-463-6665.

ACCESS FOR ELLS 2.0

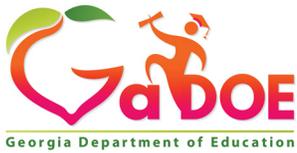
COMPUTER ADAPTIVE TESTING

Often, test examiners will call their School Test Coordinator to report that a student's computer skipped questions, or that the student exited the test without answering all their questions. Unlike Georgia Milestones, ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 is a computer adaptive test. This means a student cannot advance to the next item if they have not answered the current item. Conversely, a student cannot return to a question they have already answered on the Reading, Listening, and Speaking Domains.

Like all computer adaptive tests, ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 adjusts to an individual student's ability level, and once the student has reached their limit, the test stops. This means the number of questions presented to each student will be different, as will their completion time. For example, some students complete the Speaking test in 10 minutes, while others may take up to 20 minutes. Often, the examiner thinks the student who submitted the test in 10 minutes finished it too quickly. When examiners are concerned that a student finished the Speaking test too early, WIDA recommends checking the Tier Placement for Speaking. Frequently, these students are Pre-A Speaking students and Pre-A only has seven questions as in contrast to an A or B/C test, which can have 12-14 items.

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS WINDOW

The additional materials ordering window for ACCESS for ELLs and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs ends on Friday, March 1. We are receiving reports from WIDA of significant additional materials from certain locations and request a review of the information on the next page:



Assessment Update

- Initial shipments of test materials included extra copies of certain high-demand materials, such as *Tier A Online Writing Booklets*, **to ensure that additional orders will rarely be required.**
- All districts received additional quantities of test materials with their initial shipment. **These materials must be used before any orders for additional materials may be placed.**
- STCs must work with Test Administrators to determine whether the district has the material on hand or whether an order for additional materials may be placed.
- It is expected that only one additional materials order will be made by the STC.
- All materials are considered secure as outlined in District and School Test Coordinator manuals and must be accounted for and returned following local administration windows.

RETURN OF TEST MATERIALS

STCs are encouraged to return ACCESS for ELLs Grades 1-3 Writing Booklets immediately following testing. These materials can be returned to DRC before the end of the test window.

Remember, the timely return of test materials helps ensure that score reports are produced on schedule. All test materials must be returned to DRC by **March 15**.

DATA VALIDATION

With the Pre-Reporting Data Validation Window approaching (April 2 to 13), STCs are encouraged to review the Data Validation Tutorial and WIDA AMS User Guide Supplement for Data Validation posted in the ACCESS for ELLs Training Course in WIDA AMS. These resources provide instructions for the tasks that must be completed during this reporting phase.

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

INSTALLING QUESTAR'S SECURE BROWSER

STCs will receive their login credentials for Nextera Admin on February 11. These credentials will allow you to download the Questar's Secure Browser. The setup and installation guide for the secure browser will be available in the Help tab.

In preparation for the upcoming test window, please ensure the following tasks have been performed:

- DeepFreeze, CleanSlate, or similar applications have been disabled or you have designated an alternate "save" location prior to testing.
- Local systems are set to work with Nextera.
- Workstation readiness has been completed prior to the opening of the testing window.
- If you are using a Firewall, Proxy Server, or Web Filter, please ensure that you add Questar's IP address.

If you have questions about downloading Questar's Secure Browser, please contact Customer Support at GA@QuestarAI.com or 866-997-0698.

PREPARING FOR MATERIALS AND TEST SET-UP

As we move closer to the opening of the assessment window for GAA 2.0, please be mindful of two important reviews STCs will need to conduct.

1. Review of enrollment data
 - Review the two data files loaded into the MyGaDOE portal. One file contains the list of names submitted to Questar from pre-ID. The second file contains information for the district (not by each school) showing the 2018 enrollment numbers by grade level and the 2019 projection of enrollment numbers by grade level.
 - Determine and compile the demographic data for those students missing from the preID file in preparation for manual entry in the Nextera admin system.

2. Review of Additional Materials

- In conjunction with the review of enrollment numbers, prepare a list of additional materials that may be needed for those students not currently found on the pre-ID list uploaded for districts in the MyGaDOE portal.
- Once materials are delivered in districts on March 6, review counts received with those needed in the schools according to your preparations.
- If additional materials are needed, be prepared to order those materials on or after March 6. Please make every effort to order only those materials that are required after a review of materials received including overage amounts.
- Braille materials will be shipped according to the information reported by districts in the survey request earlier this year. Additional Braille materials may only be ordered for specific students and may not be ordered to hold if needed.
- If the need for additional Braille materials is confirmed, please be prepared to order those materials early in the window and beginning March 6.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

GAA 2.0 Test Set-Up and Review of Nextera Online Platform

Target Audience: STCs and School Test Coordinators. Portions of this training may be redelivered locally to Test Examiners.

Purpose: This session will highlight tasks and actions required in the Nextera Platform prior to the administration of the GAA 2.0.

Dates: February 25 and February 27.

RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS

Our colleagues in Special Education Services and Supports have prepared additional training to support teachers of students with significant cognitive disabilities. These resources include:

- **Webinar: Teachers Who Teach Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities** (12/19/2018)
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/323474517448970753>

- Training sessions – **Effective Instruction for Teachers of Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities**

Registration Link:

<https://form.jotform.com/gadoespecial/IMTraining>

The speaker, Jessie Moreau, will focus on the following topics:

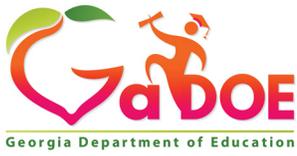
- Communication
- Class & Individual Schedules
- Curricular Access
- Positive Behavioral Supports
- Adapted Living Skills
- Make and Take Activities

The remaining dates for the sessions will be held on:

- February 28, 2019
- March 1, 2019
- March 8, 2019

Questions regarding these training opportunities may be directed to Crystal Callaway, Education Program Specialist for Compliance, Special Education Services and Supports, at ccallaway@doe.k12.ga.us or 404-657-9969.

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.



Assessment Update

GEORGIA MILESTONES ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

TEST PRACTICE OPTIONS

[Experience Online Testing Georgia](#) Online Tools Training is the public facing option for providing students opportunities for interacting with the INSIGHT test administration browser. It is organized into elementary, middle, and high school grade bands and generic logins are provided on the login screen for each grade band. After logging in, students will have the option to practice with a standard or an accommodated test form. Both the EOG and EOC test practice forms include a sample of the Reading and Evidence-Based Writing section of the Milestones English Language Arts assessment and samples of the new Technology-Enhanced item types that will first appear on the spring 2019 Milestones administration. Experience Online Testing Georgia also includes a form titled *Technology-Enhanced Items*. This form is comprised exclusively of new Technology-Enhanced Item types for all grade levels. There is a companion document for this form, [Score Descriptions for New Technology-Enhanced Items](#), that serves as an answer key for this form. On the main Milestones webpage are links to Educator Resource pages where there are links to [Practice Videos for Technology-Enhanced Items](#). These videos demonstrate the approach students would take to respond to these new items. Finally, the [Secure Practice Test Directions](#) have been updated to provide guided practice for both versions — with and without response transmission — of the test. These directions are posted on the Test Administration and Educator Resources pages in the Georgia Milestones website and under the Documents section in eDIRECT.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STATE ASSESSMENTS

The GaDOE is committed to ensuring that students with disabilities can participate in state assessments with the accommodations they need. Assessment accommodations allow for changes in the administration of an assessment in terms of how the student takes or

responds to the assessment. Accommodations considered by IEP teams must be consistent with those used during classroom instruction and assessment. IEP teams may not include accommodations in IEPs which are not included in the list of allowable accommodations found in the *Accommodations Manual* and *Student Assessment Handbook*. For cases where an accommodation is recommended that is not included in the list of allowable accommodations, a Special Accommodations Request must be submitted and approved prior to the use of the accommodations on any state-mandated test.

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

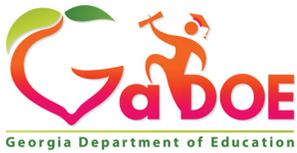
NAEP/NCES

School coordinators should have all the **Prepare for Assessment** tasks completed prior to a scheduled review call with their field staff representative.

A letter from the United States Department of Education (USED) encouraging inclusion is posted on the Complete SD/ELL Student Information link of the MyNAEP page.

The NAEP testing window opened January 28.

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



Assessment Update

GKIDS AND GKIDS READINESS CHECK

GKIDS 2.0 TRAINING SCHEDULE

GKIDS Mid-Year Checkpoint & Introduction to GKIDS 2.0

Target Audience: STCs and other district-level leaders.

Purpose: In conjunction with the Mid-Year Checkpoint, this session will provide an overview of GKIDS 2.0, including the purpose of the assessment and the timeline for implementation. Expectations for the use of the assessment in terms of performance tasks, data collection, and data entry will be shared. Roles and responsibilities of district and school level staff will also be communicated.

Dates: February 14 and February 20. Please note that February 14 is a date change from the originally scheduled Mid-Year Checkpoint training. Mark your calendars appropriately.

GKIDS 2.0: Train-the-Trainer Session

Target Audience: District or school leaders responsible for redelivery of training to kindergarten teachers.

Purpose: This session will highlight key messages about GKIDS 2.0 and discuss options for the implementation of digital training modules for redelivery of training to kindergarten teachers.

Dates: March 7 and March 12.

Introduction to GKIDS 2.0 Data Collection Platform

Target Audience: District and/or school leaders responsible for uploading student rosters or monitoring/accessing GKIDS 2.0 reports.

Purpose: This session will provide a high-level overview of the functionality of the new GKIDS 2.0 platform. Key changes from the existing platform will be highlighted, along with a preview of resources available to aid in the transition to the new platform. Responsibilities of district level staff related to rosters, accounts, access, and support for schools and teachers will be discussed.

Dates: May 7 and May 16.

Online Modules for Kindergarten Teachers

Similar to the modules provided for the GKIDS Readiness Check, the GaDOE will provide online training modules for use in redelivery of GKIDS 2.0 training to kindergarten teachers. The modules will be available via the SLDS in early May, and will include topics such as:

- Overview of GKIDS 2.0
- Integration of the GKIDS Readiness Check
- Administration of GKIDS 2.0
 - Big Ideas
 - Learning Progressions
 - Performance Tasks
- Evaluating Student Performance
- GKIDS 2.0 Data Collection Platform
- Formative Instructional Use

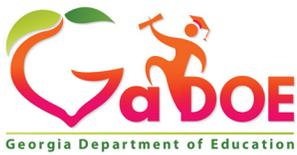
Districts/schools will have the flexibility to determine the best approach for redelivery via the online modules. Several options will be discussed in the Train-the-Trainer session.

Reminder: Teachers will need to monitor the transition of students. Preparation for end of year reporting must include the release of student transferring or moving out and the acquisition of students moving in to enter current student performance data.

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

KEENVILLE

Keenville is available for all first and second grade students via the Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS). Recent feedback has indicated that the login process for students is a concern for some districts. As the first step for students to access Keenville is the login via the district's Student Information System (SIS), each district has the flexibility to establish a simplified login process for these young students.



Assessment Update

To assist, we recently reached out to districts throughout the state to identify best practices in simplifying the student login process. Several districts reported using options such as ClassLink, Clever, and Single Sign On to provide easy access to Keenville. Others are using shorter login IDs, such as the student’s lunch number, with a simple password.

Your district SIS Coordinator should be able to assist if you would like additional information about logging into Keenville.

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

GOFAR/TESTPAD UPDATE

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 REMINDER

STCs are reminded that directions for locating your central office and school-unique FIP access codes are on page 68 of the November 2018 edition of the *Student Assessment Handbook*. Teachers in your district may be participating in FIP online learning PLCs with your RESA. You may receive requests from principals or teachers for school-unique “Administrator” or “Learner” FIP access codes to enroll in FIP online learning courses. Become familiar with the location of your district and schools’ FIP access codes.

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

DUAL ENROLLMENT – CCRPI CALCULATION UPDATE

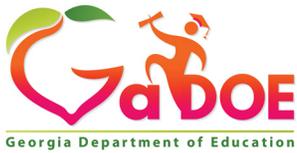
As you know, SBOE Rule 160-3-1-.07 Testing Programs – Student Assessment exempts *certain* dual enrollment students from the Georgia Milestones EOC assessments. In lieu of EOC scores, the college-issued course grades have been used in CCRPI calculations for the eligible EOC-related dual enrollment courses. Previously, students who earned an A (90-100), B (80-89), or C (70-79) in applicable dual enrollment courses counted as “Proficient Learners” in CCRPI indicators that utilize achievement levels. Students earning less than a C (70) counted as “Beginning Learners.”

Based on the feedback the GaDOE has received on this business rule, the rule is being updated for 2019. **For applicable dual enrollment courses, students earning an A (90-100) shall count as “Distinguished Learners,” students earning a B (80-89) shall count as “Proficient Learners,” students earning a C (70-79) shall count as “Proficient Learners,” and students earning less than a C (70) shall count as “Beginning Learners” in CCRPI indicators that utilize achievement levels.**

This will be implemented for the 2019 CCRPI. The following chart summarizes the points allocated under the previous and new business rule:

Grade	Previous Rule	New Rule (2019)
A (90-100)	1	1.5
B (80-89)	1	1
C (70-79)	1	1
Less than a C (70)	0	0

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.



Assessment Update

KEY TRAINING DATES FOR FEBRUARY/MARCH 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
2/8/2019	Assessment Lunch and Learn	12 – 1 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5188772784272319746
3/8/2019	Assessment Lunch and Learn	12 – 1 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5597514032874802178

ACCESS for ELLs 2.0

Date	Title	Time	Meeting Link
2/6/2019	WIDA Webinar: during Testing: Monitoring Completion (Online)	12 – 1 p.m. ET	https://www.wida.us
2/27/2019	WIDA Webinar: Post-Testing: Returning materials (Paper)	3 – 4 p.m. ET	https://www.wida.us

GAA 2.0

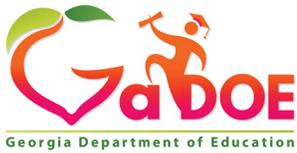
Date	Title	Time	Meeting Link
2/25/2019	GAA 2.0 Test Setup and Review of Nextera Online Platform	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5366725443024189187
2/27/2019	GAA 2.0 Test Setup and Review of Nextera Online Platform – Live Repeat	2 – 4 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6382825919693867011

GKIDS

Date	Title	Time	Meeting Link
2/14/2019	GKIDS Mid-Year Checkpoint & Introduction to GKIDS 2.0 – *DATE CHANGE*	2:30 – 4 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3118087824730433538
2/20/2019	GKIDS Mid-Year Checkpoint & Introduction to GKIDS 2.0 – Live Repeat	9 – 10:30 a.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3981771800534657794

Georgia Milestones

Date	Title	Time	Meeting Link
2/19/2019	INSIGHT/eDIRECT Training	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7971554250801720066
2/21/2019	INSIGHT/eDIRECT Training – Live Repeat	1 – 3 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7243752320004708098



Assessment Update

Date	Title	Time	Meeting Link
2/26/2019	Spring/Summer 2019 EOG & EOC Pre-Administration Training	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6841678509927641858
2/28/2019	Spring/Summer 2019 EOG & EOC Pre-Administration Training – Live Repeat	1 – 3 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/510078129216915970
3/5/2019	Spring/Summer 2019 EOC & EOG Online Test Set-Up Training	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6369493241379414018
3/7/2019	Spring/Summer 2019 EOC & EOG Online Test Set-Up Training – Live Repeat	1 – 3 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1269746106010175746

KEY ASSESSMENT TASKS AND REMINDERS

ACCESS for ELLs 2.0

Dates	Assessment Tasks and Reminders
1/7/2019 – 3/1/2019	Additional Test Material Ordering Window in AMS
1/16/2019 – 3/8/2019	ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Test Administration Window
3/15/2019	All test materials must be returned to DRC (Corrected date)
4/2/2019 – 4/13/2019	Pre-Reporting Data Validation Window

GAA 2.0

Dates	Assessment Tasks and Reminders
2/11/2019	Receive District logins – Begin Nextera Installation
2/27/2019	Begin Nextera Test Set-Up
3/6/2019	Materials received in districts
3/6/2019	Additional Material Order Window Opens
3/25/2019 – 5/3/2019	GAA 2.0 Spring 2019 Test Administration Window

GKIDS

Dates	Assessment Tasks and Reminders

Georgia Milestones

Dates	Assessment Tasks and Reminders
1/2/2019 – 3/28/2019	EOC Spring Mid-Month eDIRECT Test Setup
2/11/2019 – 2/22/2019	End of Course Mid-Month Administration

NAEP

Dates	Assessment Tasks and Reminders
1/28/2019 – 3/8/2019	NAEP Test Administration Window