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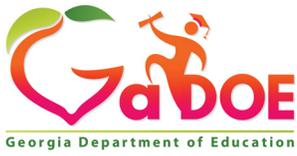
HIGHLIGHTS

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** – Assessment window opens January 16. Specific information is provided regarding test material delivery and changes in additional materials ordering.
- ✓ **Georgia Alternate Assessment 2.0** – Training summaries are provided for installation of the Nextera platform in February.
- ✓ **Georgia Milestones Assessments** – The Enrollment Count Window for Spring 2019 EOC and EOG opens January 7 and closes January 18.
- ✓ **GKIDS** – Training summaries for the implementation of GKIDS 2.0.
- ✓ **Test Development** – The GaDOE is seeking nominations of highly qualified educators to participate in several upcoming test development meetings for both Georgia Milestones and the Georgia Alternate Assessment (GAA).
- ✓ **Accountability** – Understanding the CCRPI and the use of this data in determining student-focused actions for your district, school, and teachers.



[Online Georgia Assessment and Training Calendar](#)



Assessment Update

INNOVATIVE ASSESSMENT PILOT PROGRAM

In 2018, SB 362 established an Innovative Assessment Pilot Program that allows up to 10 school districts or groups of districts to develop alternate assessment and accountability systems aligned with state academic content standards.

In accordance with SB 362, Georgia submitted its application for the federal Innovative Assessment Demonstration Authority (IADA) to the United States Department of Education (USED) in December. It is expected that USED will respond within 90 days of that submission.

The application and other information may be found on the [Testing/Assessment webpage](#) under the [Assessment Innovation and Flexibility Resources link](#).

Questions regarding the Innovative Assessment Pilot Program may be directed to Allison Timberlake, Ph.D., Deputy Superintendent for Assessment and Accountability, at atimberlake@doe.k12.ga.us or 404-463-6666.

TEST DEVELOPMENT

NOMINATION OF EDUCATORS FOR TEST DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

The GaDOE is seeking nominations of highly qualified educators to participate in several upcoming test development meetings for both Georgia Milestones and the Georgia Alternate Assessment (GAA). Memoranda with details of the nomination process will be emailed to STCs, System Curriculum Coordinators, and System Special Education Directors on Thursday, January 10 and will also be posted on the Assessment website at <http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/Memoranda--Announcements.aspx>.

NOTE: There will be two separate memos, one for Georgia Milestones and one for GAA, each with unique

nomination requests and survey links. Please ensure that nominees for each program are submitted via the appropriate survey.

Nominations will be accepted **January 11 – February 1**. A few days following the close of the nomination window, all nominees will receive an email request to submit an application for participation. For each meeting, the GaDOE will select participants to ensure a representative sample across the state based on grade level and content area. Specific meeting details will be provided in the official invitation sent to selected educators.

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

TEST MATERIALS DELIVERY

The ACCESS for ELLs and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs test materials were delivered on **Monday, January 7**. Assessment materials were shipped to the address that is listed in [WIDA AMS Material Ordering](#). Choose the correct Administration and District filters but set the School filter to All. All materials shipped are secure and must be signed for upon delivery.



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Along with the test materials ordered during the initial material ordering window, the district should have received the following information in its shipment:

- **Packing List** – Lists all materials shipped to the district.
- **Secure Checklist** – Lists all secure materials shipped to the district (with barcode ranges).
- **School Box Range Sheet** – Shows the number of boxes packaged for each site within a district. For district sites, the School Box Range Sheet will identify the number of boxes packaged for each school and district.

Every district has a Security Checklist included that details every secure material delivered. It is the responsibility of the district personnel to verify the secure materials against the checklist. Any discrepancies found in the secure materials should be noted in the Accountability Form. To complete the form, log into [WIDA AMS](#) and go to Materials > Accountability Form and select the school with the material discrepancy.

Record the secure barcode of the material and list the discrepancy.

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS ORDERING

On Monday, December 31, 2018, DRC Customer Support sent an email to STCs with information regarding additional materials ordering for ACCESS for ELLs and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs. It is important to note that additional materials should be ordered only for specific students requiring those materials. It is not appropriate to order extra materials to keep on hand.

The additional materials ordering window for ACCESS for ELLs and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs is Monday, January 7 through Friday, March 1. During this time frame, you may order additional testing materials needed via the [WIDA AMS](#) Additional Materials functionality.

Note the following changes for 2018-2019:

The initial shipment of test materials includes 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 receive additional quantities of test materials with the initial shipment. *These materials must be used before any orders for additional materials may be placed.*

Test Administrators who need additional materials must consult with their STC to determine whether the district has the material on hand or whether an order for additional materials may be placed.

Orders for additional materials may be placed by STCs only and these orders will be shipped directly to the districts only.

For assistance with ordering additional materials, view the **Additional Materials Ordering** tutorial posted in the ACCESS for ELLs training course on the [WIDA Secure Portal](#). The training course may be accessed by logging into the My Account & Secure Portal page. Once there, select the appropriate training course.

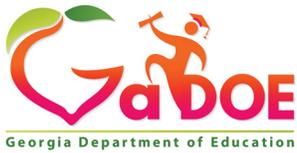
For detailed instructions on ordering additional materials, please refer to the [WIDA Assessment Management System \(WIDA AMS\) User Guide](#), which is located in WIDA AMS under All Applications > General Information > Documents.

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

SAMPLE TASKS

The sample tasks for ELA and mathematics have been posted to the [Georgia Alternate Assessment 2.0](#) website under Test Administration and Teacher Resources. Tasks are provided in a Student Booklet and Examiner Booklet format and are intended to provide a look at



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tasks and examiner's scripts and directions that resemble what is expected in the Spring assessment.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

GAA 2.0 Nextera Online Platform

Target Audience: STCs and Technology Directors. This training is not intended for Test Examiners or Teachers.

Purpose: This training session is intended to support the installation of the Nextera Online Platform.

Dates: January 16 and January 23.

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.

Questions 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

ENROLLMENT COUNT WINDOW OPENS

Districts will enter their testing dates and number of test takers per grade and course for the Georgia Milestones during the **Spring Enrollment window January 7-18**. It is important that we garner an accurate understanding of district and charter school testing dates and enrollment numbers so that we can plan for allocation of appropriate resources and to ensure on-time scoring and reporting in Spring 2019.

Training for enrollment counts will be on January 8 with a live repeat on January 10. Links to the training are listed below. The *Enrollment Count Guide* is available to walk you through the Enrollment Counts process in eDIRECT. Please use the Preliminary Reporting

Timeline on the last page of the Enrollment Count Guide to help determine testing dates that will return scores in time for retests, grading, and graduation. The User Guide can be found in eDIRECT under General Information and Documents. Choose the administration and then Manuals under Document Type.

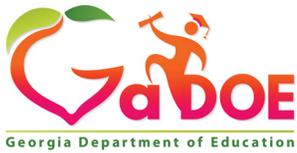
NEW TESTING IRREGULARITY FORM

Beginning with the Spring 2018 Georgia Milestones Assessment administration, an updated Testing Irregularity Form for documenting and reporting Testing Irregularities to the Assessment Division at the GaDOE was released. STCs will now use the new Form to report irregularities for all of Georgia's assessment programs.

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

The switch to Spring 2019 begins on January 14 with the opening of the Spring EOC Mid-Month assessment window. If you have questions about the functionality of the form, please contact Robert McLeod. For guidance on reporting a specific testing irregularity, contact your designated GaDOE Assessment Specialist.



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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.

For Georgia's online assessments, the computer-embedded accessibility features should minimize the need for accommodations during testing and ensure the inclusive, accessible, and fair testing of the diverse students being assessed. The online version of the Georgia Milestones Assessment Program offers a variety of accommodations within the eDIRECT platform while others have been redefined as universal tools to empower greater numbers of students with optimal accessibility options. For example, the Magnifier tool (used to enlarge test content) and Line Guide tool (used to track a line of text) are universal tools available to all students testing online. Other tools such as Color Contrasting, Masking, Text-to-Speech, and Video Sign Language are accommodations embedded within the online platform for students who need them per an IEP or IAP/504 plan. For questions about online tools and/or accommodations, please contact your assigned GaDOE Assessment Specialist.

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 USED encouraging inclusion is posted on the Complete SD/ELL Student Information link of the MyNAEP page.

The NAEP testing window begins January 28.

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

GKIDS AND GKIDS READINESS CHECK

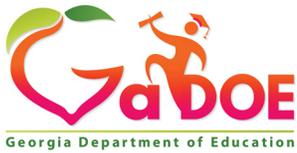
GKIDS 2.0 TRAINING SCHEDULE

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.



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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.

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

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

GOFAR/TESTPAD UPDATE

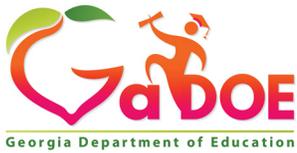
TestPad and GOFAR are both available to help districts determine if students are learning Georgia's State standards and help teachers determine where to focus teaching for struggling students. TestPad leverages GOFAR test item content along with item creation tools to allow educators to create their own assessments using both released test items aligned to the state standards and by developing their own items. TestPad resides in SLDS so teachers, classes, and student information are already available. Teachers, administrators, and students access TestPad by logging into the SLDS through the district student information system.

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)

Formative Instructional Practices (FIP) are intentional behaviors that teachers and students use to gather and respond to evidence of learning in ways that facilitate greater student learning. Georgia FIP Online Professional Learning assists teachers, coaches and leaders in learning about and using classroom-based formative instructional practices and assessment appropriately. Georgia FIP is a blended model of



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professional learning that includes 25 courses that are organized into a series of related topics (1) FIP Foundations Series, (2) Clear Learning Targets Series, (3) Reaching Every Student Series, and the (4) Designing Sound Assessments Series.

The four major components of Georgia FIP are:

- Creating and using clear learning targets
- Collecting and documenting evidence of student learning
- Using evidence and feedback to increase learning
- Preparing students to take ownership of their learning through reflection, peer feedback, self-assessment

Downloadable facilitator and participant materials are available to deepen participants' understanding of course content, set goals and plan use of FIP practices. The original FIP courses can be accessed via the SLDS under the PD Tab. Revised FIP courses and the enhanced dashboard can be accessed through district- and school-unique access codes that are in the MyGaDOE Portal account of the Test Coordinator of Record with the GaDOE. The codes to create an individual online learning account are under "District Assessments" in the "Custom" folder. Two types of codes exist for each district office and school: (1) Administrative and (2) Learner. The short URL to access the revised courses is: <http://www.gadoe.org/GeorgiaFIP>

Most RESAs are available to facilitate FIP Professional Learning Communities. At the close of the 2017-2018 school year, 1,446 teachers participated in FIP through RESAs. Four hundred and sixty (460) participated in the end-of-year survey and 91% shared that learning about FIP had positively changed their work with students. A district or school can also plan to independently participate in FIP for summer professional development or during the year.

STCs are encouraged to share this update with their colleagues in teaching and learning, professional

learning, special, gifted and EL education, school improvement, and Title I.

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.

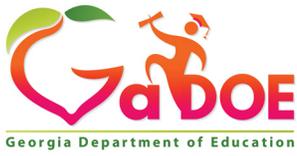
ACCOUNTABILITY UPDATE

2018 CCRPI REPORTS - NOW WHAT?

2018 College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) reports, based on the 2017-2018 school year, were released in late October 2018. The redesigned CCRPI was designed to focus on understanding performance and encourage all stakeholders to work together to promote improvement. We encourage districts and schools to look beyond the overall CCRPI score and consider the whole story. The redesigned CCRPI paints a rich picture of performance by considering achievement; growth; subgroup improvement; readiness for the next grade, course, or college or career; and graduation rate. Every school and district will have successes to celebrate and areas for improvement!

NOW WHAT?

The new CCRPI reporting system makes it easier for stakeholders to access scores and dig into the underlying data. While the data set is from last school year, it is relevant data to frame conversations this school year. Dig into the data to see trends and get insight. But while the numbers provide information, they do not provide the root causes or tell us what action to take. Use the data as a springboard for important conversations about opportunities, resources, professional development, and staffing needs for next year.



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As you work with schools in understanding and using CCRPI data, here are some suggestions for you to share with principals:

- Avoid immediate reactions; be thoughtful.
- Use the rest of the year to address the outstanding questions through formative data reviews and classroom observations.
- Engage your administrative team and/or leadership team in the data dig rather than working in isolation; get their insights.
- Have teachers and teams work through protocols to study the data.

- Model digging and reflecting so teachers learn to apply protocols to formative data in their classroom or within their teams.
- Be more curious than certain.
- Reflect, don't deflect.

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 JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2019

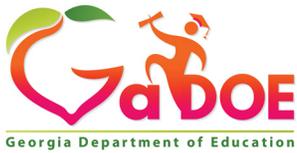
*Please note: for all GoToWebinar meeting links below, if the meeting date has passed, the meeting link will take you to the recording.

Assessment Training

Date	Title	Time	Meeting Link
1/11/2019	Assessment Lunch and Learn	12 – 1 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1979830506422006274
2/8/2019	Assessment Lunch and Learn	12 – 1 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5188772784272319746

ACCESS for ELLs 2.0

Date	Title	Time	Meeting Link
1/23/2019	WIDA Webinar: During Testing- Managing Test Materials (Paper)	3 – 4 p.m. ET	https://www.wida.us
1/31/2019	WIDA Webinar: Post-Testing – Returning materials (Paper) REVISED BY WIDA	3 – 4 p.m. ET	https://www.wida.us
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



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GAA 2.0

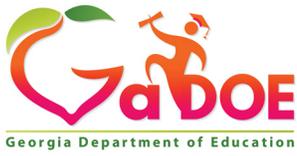
Date	Title	Time	Meeting Link
1/16/2019	GAA 2.0 Nextera Platform Training	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5461539632601737473
1/23/2019	GAA 2.0 Nextera Platform Training – Live Repeat	1 – 3 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/9062699698312369153
2/25/2019	GAA 2.0 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
1/8/2019	eDIRECT Enrollment Count Training	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4461503017103521026
1/10/2019	eDIRECT Enrollment Count Training – Live Repeat	1 – 3 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7003979620312293890
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
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



Assessment Update

KEY ASSESSMENT TASKS AND REMINDERS

ACCESS for ELLs 2.0

Dates	Assessment Tasks and Reminders
1/7/2019	Districts Receive Test Materials
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

GAA 2.0

Dates	Assessment Tasks and Reminders
1/2019	Additional Material Order Window
3/25/2019 – 5/3/2019	GAA 2.0 Spring 2019 Test Administration Window

GKIDS

Dates	Assessment Tasks and Reminders
1/14/2019	GKIDS Mid-Year Checkpoint

Georgia Milestones

Dates	Assessment Tasks and Reminders
1/2/2019 – 3/28/2019	EOC Spring Mid-Month eDIRECT Test Setup
1/7/2019 – 1/18/2019	eDIRECT Enrollment Window Spring 2019 EOC and EOG
1/14/2019 – 1/25/2019	End of Course Mid-Month Administration
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
Prior to call with field representative	Complete all Prepare for Assessment tasks