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What are technical reports?

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What information is found in technical reports?

Technical reports contain chapters with details about each step in developing and evaluating the assessment.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Development</th>
<th>Scoring</th>
<th>Evaluation</th>
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<td>Information on the item development, test form building, and achievement standards development can all be found in a technical report. Georgia's assessment technical reports are generally cumulative, meaning the development efforts from the current year, as well as development established in prior years, are all documented in an annual report.</td>
<td>Several scoring steps are documented in annual technical reports; one major step is rangefinding and performance scoring of constructed-response items. Scoring and calibration of all item types, including field test items is also included, detailing the process of transforming raw scores to equated ability on the reported scale.</td>
<td>Evaluation steps occur throughout the development cycle, and are documented throughout the associated technical report chapters accordingly. In particular, valuation of the equating model and of the validity and reliability of an assessment is a key focus, and the annual processes and results are detailed in dedicated chapters in these reports.</td>
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How could technical reports be used?

Technical reports can be used to answer detailed technical questions regarding assessment development. Below are some examples of how someone might use a technical report to better understand key assessment topics.

- **Validity and Reliability**: Assessment validity is considered at each step of test design, administration, scoring, and reporting to support appropriate inferences and use; it is addressed throughout each portion of a technical report. The chapters which addresses specific measures of assessment reliability and validity may be used to better understand the evaluation processes and criteria for ensuring the validity of all reported student scores.

- **Achievement Standards**: How achievement standards are set, who is involved in the process, what methodology is used, and how these standards are held constant each administration is all included in assessment technical reports. The chapter on standard setting can answer questions regarding the use of achievement standards at all stages of the test development cycle: form building, scoring, and reporting.

- **Writing and Evaluating Items**: Because item development is documented in detail in annual technical reports, this may provide a useful reference point to answer detailed technical questions regarding how items are written to align to Georgia's academic content standards, meet test design specifications, and engage Georgia students to support their demonstration of achievement.