

EOPA State Guidance Document

Mamie Hanson

State CTAE Assessment Coordinator

(404) 657-6279

mhanson@doe.k12.ga.us



EOPA State Guidance

❖ **Document:**

- EOPA Testing Guidelines primarily governed by third party testing vendors
- Need general guidance in place that governs overall testing process



Dr. John D. Barge, State School Superintendent
"Making Education Work For All Georgians"

**Career, Technical and Agricultural Education
Georgia Department of Education
1752 Twin Towers East
Atlanta, GA 30334**

Georgia End of Pathway Assessment (EOPA) State Guidance

**Dr. Mike Buck, Chief Academic Officer
Lynn Dessauer, Administrative Assistant.....404-463-1158
Georgia Department of Education
1766 Twin Towers East
Atlanta, GA 30334**

**Mr. David Turner, State CTAE Director
Anita Williams, Administrative Assistant.....404-657-8304
Georgia Department of Education
1752 Twin Towers East
Atlanta, GA 30334**

**Ms. Mamie Hanson, State CTAE Assessment Coordinator
Georgia Department of Education
1752 Twin Towers East
Atlanta, GA 30334
404-657-6279
mhanson@doe.k12.ga.us**



**Dr. John D. Barge, State School Superintendent
"Making Education Work for All Georgians"
www.gadoe.org**

Guidance Development

- Utilized input from SMEs from:
 - CTAE System Level Administrators
 - GaDOE State DOE Testing Division
 - GaDOE Policy Committee
 - GaDOE Special Education Division
 - GaDOE ESOL/Title III Compliance Unit
- Governor's Office of Student of Achievement Review (GOSA)



Historical Perspective

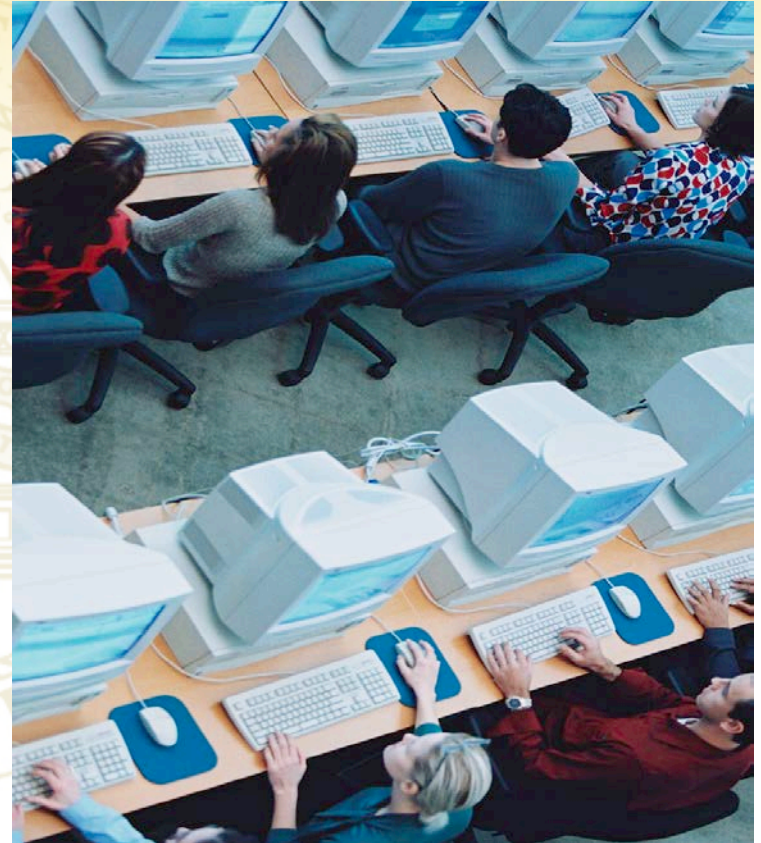
- **Recounts EOPA Origins**
 - ***Perkins IV Secondary Core Indicator: 2S1***
 - Measuring Technical Skill Attainment
- **Different Measurement Components:**
 - ***Definitions***
 - National, industry-recognized credentialing exams
 - National occupational assessments
 - State Licensures
 - State developed occupational assessments



Eligible Participants

❖ *Students:*

- Who have successfully completed the three or four designated courses in the pathway; or,
- Who are enrolled in the final designated course (third or fourth) in the pathway; on track to successfully complete course



Test Security

- Same standards referenced in the **State Student Assessment Handbook**



Any action that compromises test security or leads to the invalidation of an individual student's or a group of students' test scores will be viewed by the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) as inappropriate use or handling of tests (including written, online, and performance) and will be treated as such.

- Any concerns regarding EOPA test security should be reported to the CTAE State Director and CTAE State Assessment Coordinator



Breach of Test Security

❖ It is a breach of test security if anyone performs any of the following:

- Coaches examinees during testing, or alters or interferes with examinees' responses in any way;
- Gives examinees access to test questions or prompts prior to testing;
- Copies, prints, reproduces, or uses in any manner inconsistent with test security regulations all or any portion of on-line exams or assessments, written exams, or performance exams;
- Makes answers available to examinees;



Breach of Test Security

- Reads or reviews test questions before, during (unless specified in the IEP), or after testing;
- Questions students about test content after the test administration;
- Fails to follow security regulations set forth by the testing agency for on-line testing;
- Fails to properly secure administrative pass codes and usernames dispensed by the testing agency to test site coordinators;
- Fails to properly secure pass codes and usernames supplied by testing agencies to be used by examinees;



Breach of Test Security

- Uses or handles written, on-line, or performance test materials for any purpose other than examination;
- Fails to follow testing agency directions for the test;
- Completes an on-line exam under the auspice of a career pathway completer;
- Participates in, directs, aids, counsels, assists, encourages, or fails to report any of these prohibited acts



Security Breach



- Cell Phone and Other Electronic Device Usage in EOPA Testing Labs:



Are strictly prohibited

- Announcement made at beginning of testing session
- Items collected by test site coordinator prior to testing
- If device is detected during testing session; but determined that student did not use device:
 - Collect device and allow student to continue testing
- If determined that student is using device:
 - Collect the device
 - Stop testing that student; and,
 - Remove student from the testing session





Steps for Reporting a Testing Irregularity

1. Communicate any testing irregularity to the EOPA test site coordinator.
2. EOPA test site coordinator should report irregularity to high school principal and CTAE Administrator.
3. High school principal and CTAE Administrator should investigate irregularity and document details using Testing Irregularities Report Form and Statement Form.
4. High school principal and CTAE Administrator should notify the CTAE Division. Testing agency should also be notified.



Roles and Responsibilities

➤ **Superintendent:**

- Possesses ultimate responsibility system wide for the EOPA process

➤ **Principal:**

- Has ultimate responsibility for all EOPA testing activities in the high school

➤ **CTAE Administrator:**

- Serves as the liaison between the school system and GaDOE for all EOPA test administration activities



Roles and Responsibilities cont'd.

➤ **Test Site Coordinator:**

- Handles many of the administrative responsibilities associated with EOPA testing activities

➤ **Proctor:**

- Works with the test site coordinator to facilitate the actual testing process and monitors the testing environment



Testing Administration

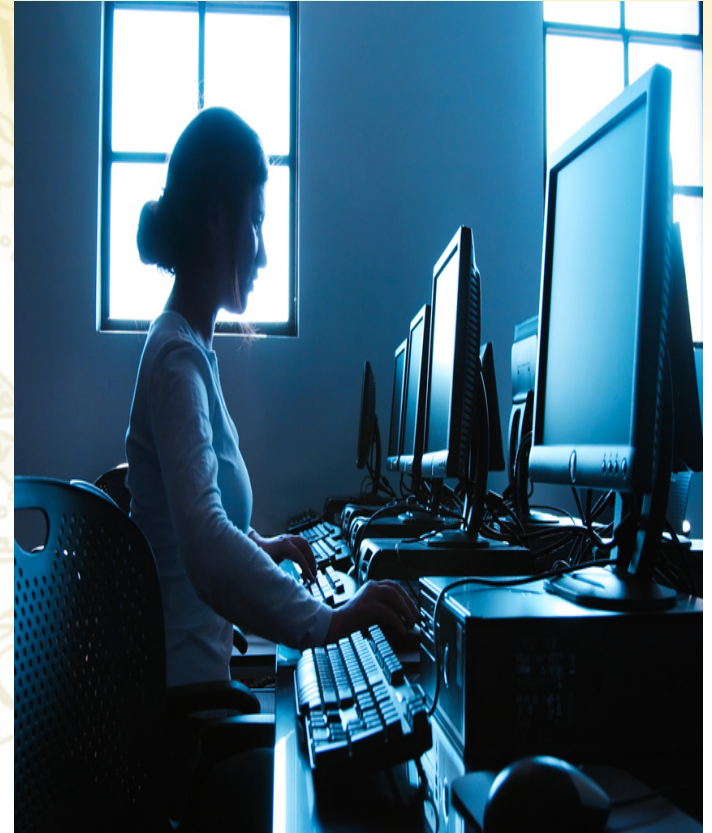
- Will now have general guidelines, but must still adhere to testing agency policies
- Each agency has specific guidelines governing its testing process
- ***Assessment Information Sheets***

NOCTI ***SkillsUSA*** ***OK CareerTech*** ***ACF***
NCCER ***NA3SA*** ***NHA*** ***Adobe*** ***A*S*K****



Testing Schedule/Window

- Testing windows established locally
- Two testing windows for systems utilizing block schedule: winter, spring
- ***Include EOPA testing schedule (and make up dates) on system's official testing calendar***
- Make up dates: students unavoidably, unexpectedly absent



EOPA Testing

FORMAT

- Online (Written)
- Performance Component
- Multiple Testing Sessions
- Scheduling Written & Performance Component Exams
- An Exam Series
 - Separate testing sessions recommended

ENVIRONMENT

- Hardware/Software Requirements
 - Review test agency specifications before the testing process occurs
 - Assessment Information Sheets
- Technical Support
 - Share specifications
 - Provide testing window dates



Special Accommodations

- ***IEP: Point of Reference***
- Direct link between classroom and assessment accommodations
- ***IEP Team should review available EOPAs to determine most appropriate exam option***
- Some testing agencies allow a number of accommodations
- Some agencies may not allow the same accommodations that a student receives instructionally



Special Accommodations

- These agencies require individuals to have certain cognitive and physical abilities to complete job tasks
- CTAE instructor involvement with IEP process
- **List of available Special Accommodations by testing agency posted on CTAE Assessment Web Page**



EOPA Retest Administration

- Not mandated to be offered by LEAs
- Systems that allow retest option will:
 - Offer focused remediation to students before retest
 - Allow a **single** retest opportunity for failed exam
 - Adhere to any stated “waiting periods” established by the testing agency
- Students eligible to utilize retest option:
 - Students who have successfully completed the designated courses
 - Students who failed the EOPA on the first attempt
 - Students who have participated in focused remediation



Pre-Testing

- ***Pre-testing:***
 - Measuring knowledge and skills prior to course and after course completion
 - EOPA tests knowledge, skills, and abilities learned throughout each course in the pathway
 - Difficult to decide in which course to dispense
 - Many exams do not offer pre-test option
 - Many systems can't afford pre-tests
- ***Not recommended***



Pre-Testing

- To promote equity among all pathway completers, EOPA pre-testing:



is not permissible any time after the commencing of the final designated (third or fourth) course in the pathway



Practice Exams/Sample Questions

- Number of test vendor offer practice exams and/or sample questions
- Are only similar to actual test items
- Are not the same items that appear on the actual exam
- Are **permissible**



EOPA State Guidance

Document

Version 1

Updated Annually

