

Assessment Update: Georgia's Changing Assessment Landscape

Georgia Milestones Assessment System: Georgia Milestones



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

A **NEW** Assessment System



Georgia Milestones: Georgia Milestones Assessment System

Georgia Milestones will consist of both end of grade (EOG) and end of course (EOC) measures.



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

Georgia Milestones

Comprehensive

- single program – an assessment system – not series of tests (e.g., CRCT; EOCT; WA)
- formative assessment tools to complement summative*

Coherent

- consistent expectations and rigor to position Georgia students to compete with peers nationally and internationally
- consistent signal about student preparedness for the next level, be it the next grade, course, or college/career
- consistent signal about student achievement both within system (across grades and courses) and with external measures (NAEP; PSAT; SAT; ACT)

Consolidate

- combine reading, language arts, and writing into a single measure to align to the standards



Coherency – Consistency

Achievement of Georgia Students in Reading

2013

- NAEP – Grade 4: 34% at/above proficient
- CRCT – Grade 4: 93% met/exceeded

Achievement of Georgia Students in Mathematics

2013

- NAEP – Grade 4: 39% at/above proficient
- CRCT – Grade 4: 84% met/exceeded

Achievement of Georgia Students in Science

2011 (NAEP) / 2013 (CRCT)

- NAEP – Grade 8: 30% at/above proficient
- CRCT – Grade 8: 74% met/exceeded (67% in 2011)



Coherency – Consistency

Achievement of Georgia Students in Reading

2013

- NAEP – Grade 8: 32% at/above proficient
- CRCT – Grade 8: 97% met/exceeded
- 9th Grade Literature EOCT: 86% met/exceeded
- American Literature EOCT: 91% met/exceeded
- SAT – Class of 2013: 43% college ready benchmark*
- ACT – Class of 2013: 43% college ready benchmark**

2012

- PSAT – sophomores: 40% on track to be CCR



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

*SAT data represent 71% of Class of 2013
**ACT data represent 51% of Class of 2013

Coherency – Consistency

Achievement of Georgia Students in Mathematics

2013

- NAEP – Grade 8: 29% at/above proficient
- CRCT – Grade 8: 83% met/exceeded
- Coordinate Algebra EOCT: 37% met/exceeded
- SAT – Class of 2013: 42% college ready benchmark*
- ACT – Class of 2013: 38% college ready benchmark**

2012

- PSAT – sophomores: 37% on track to be CCR



Georgia Milestones

Guiding principles stipulate that Georgia Milestones:

- ✓ be sufficiently rigorous to ensure Georgia students are well positioned to compete with other students across the United States and internationally;
- ✓ be intentionally designed across grade levels to send a clear signal of student progress/growth and preparedness for the next level, be it the next grade level, course, or college or career;
- ✓ be accessible to all students, including those with disabilities or limited English proficiency, at all achievement levels;
- ✓ support and inform educator effectiveness initiatives, ensuring items and forms are appropriately sensitive to quality instructional practices; and
- ✓ accelerate the transition to online administration, allowing – over time – for the inclusion of innovative technology-enhanced items.



Georgia Milestones

- Grades 3 – 8
 - End of Grade (EOG) in language arts, mathematics, science, social studies
- High School
 - End of Course (EOC) in 9th Grade Literature & Composition, American Literature & Composition, Coordinate Algebra, Analytic Geometry, Physical Science, Biology, US History, and Economics



Georgia Milestones

Features include:

- inclusion of constructed-response items in ELA and mathematics, in addition to selected-response items
- inclusion of a writing component (in response to text) at every grade level and course within the ELA assessment;
- inclusion of norm-referenced items in every grade and content area to complement the criterion-referenced information and to provide a national comparison; and
- transition to online administration over time, with online administration considered the primary mode of administration and paper-pencil back-up until transition is completed.

Addition of technology-enhanced items beginning in 2016-2017.



Georgia Milestones

Blended: Criterion-Referenced and Norm-Referenced

Georgia Milestones will provide:

- criterion-referenced performance information in the form of four performance levels, depicting students' mastery of state standards
- norm-referenced performance information in the form of national percentiles, depicting how students' achievement compares to peers nationally

Note: To provide norm-referenced information, some norm-referenced items may not align to Georgia's content standards. Only aligned NRT items will contribute to proficiency designations.



Georgia Milestones

The Georgia Milestones EOG will be designed to:

- ✓ provide a valid measure of student achievement of the state content standards across the full achievement continuum;
- ✓ provide a clear signal of the student's preparedness for the next educational level;
- ✓ allow for detection of the progress made by each student over the course of the academic year;
- ✓ be suitable for use in promotion and retention decisions at grades 3 (reading), 5 (reading and mathematics) and 8 (reading and mathematics)
- ✓ support and inform educator effectiveness measures; and
- ✓ inform state and federal accountability at the school, district, and state levels.



Georgia Milestones

The Georgia Milestones EOC will be designed to:

- ✓ provide a valid measure of student achievement of the state content standards across the full achievement continuum;
- ✓ Serve as the final exam for the course, contributing 20% to the student's final course grade;
- ✓ provide a clear signal of the student's preparedness for the next course and ultimately post-secondary endeavors (college and careers);
- ✓ allow for detection of the progress made by each student over the course of the academic year;
- ✓ support and inform educator effectiveness measures; and
- ✓ inform state and federal accountability at the school, district, and state levels.

Additional uses of the EOC include: (1) certifying proficiency prior to awarding credit for students enrolling from non-accredited schools, home study programs, or other non-traditional educational centers; and (2) demonstrating competency prior to taking the course and earning course credit (i.e., 'test-out').



Georgia Milestones

English Language Arts

[CC Georgia Performance Standards]

- will require close analytic reading to construct meaning, make inferences, draw conclusions, compare and contrast ideas, themes, etc., as well as synthesize ideas and concepts across multiple texts
- will require students to develop informative/explanatory responses or narratives, produce opinions/arguments – citing evidence from text(s) and using standard language conventions, etc.

Mathematics

[CC Georgia Performance Standards]

- will require demonstration of conceptual understanding of concepts, procedural skills and fluency, problem solving, modeling, and mathematical reasoning



Georgia Milestones

Science

[Georgia Performance Standards]

- will require understanding of the core concepts, ideas, and practices of science to explain scientific phenomena – with content and Characteristics of Science/Nature of Science standards serving as co-requisites

Social Studies

[Georgia Performance Standards]

- will require understanding of the past and its influence on the present and future – including the interconnectedness of history, culture, geography, economics, and governments/civics



Georgia Milestones

Item Types

- **Selected-Response** [aka, multiple-choices]
 - all content areas
 - evidence-based selected response in ELA
- **Constructed-Response**
 - ELA and mathematics
- **Extended-Response**
 - ELA and mathematics

Constructed response is a general term for assessment items that require the student to generate a response as opposed to selecting a response. Extended-response items require more elaborate answers and explanations of reasoning. They allow for multiple correct answers and/or varying methods of arriving at the correct answer. Writing prompts or performance tasks are examples of extended-response items.



Georgia Milestones

Transition to Online

- Online administration will be the primary mode of administration for Georgia Milestones, with paper/pencil serving as back-up
 - transition will occur over time
- Technology requirements are being finalized and will be posted ASAP
- Administration procedures will be developed
- Online practice center will be available for students



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

System Test Coordinators and IT Directors will need to work collaboratively to implement Georgia Milestones.

Georgia Milestones

Transition to Online

- Year 1: minimum of 30% online
- Year 3: minimum of 80% online
- Year 5: minimum of 100% online

Paper/pencil versions will be available for small number of students who cannot interact with computer due to their disability. Braille forms will be available.



Our Assessment Landscaping is Changing

- Assessment development is a process, not an event
 - as such, some components and/or resources may need to be rolled- out in stages
- Georgia is transitioning from a set of long-standing, mature programs
 - districts, schools, students, parents, and the public are familiar with and know what to expect
- This transition provides Georgia with an opportunity
 - however, as with any change, there will be periods of uncertainty and discomfort



Georgia Milestones

Logistics

- There are many logistics to work through
- GaDOE will work with districts to implement

Preliminary Logistics

- SY2014 – 2015 testing windows will remain as posted
- Districts should plan on having 9 days to administer the EOG in spring 2015; general parameters for EOC should remain the same



Resources to Move Us Forward



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

Resources Available NOW

- Content standards
 - frameworks, formative lessons, PARCC evidence statements
- Sample items
 - formative items/benchmarks via Georgia OAS→GOFAR;
 - released items via PARCC, SBAC, other states (KY, NY), NAEP
 - parent’s guide to Georgia’s new assessment developed by the National PTA [<http://www.pta.org/advocacy/content.cfm?ItemNumber=3816>]
- CRCT Readiness Indicators
- Lexiles

Focus on teaching and learning – eliciting evidence of student learning during instruction and adjusting as needed.

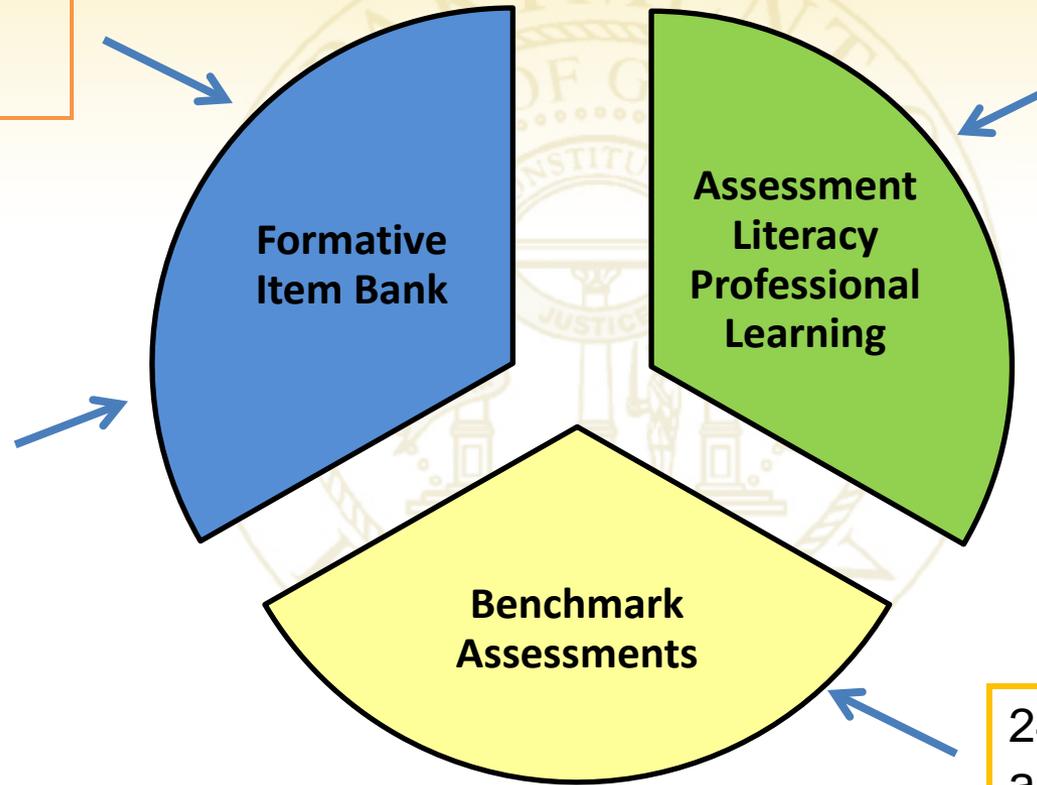


Formative Assessment Initiatives

Bringing a Balanced Assessment Focus to the Classroom

1600 new items loaded

1100 new science & social studies items to be loaded



Formative Instructional Practices: FIP Foundations & FIP in Action

24 benchmark assessments



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

Don't forget the NAEP Item Tool consisting of high quality, released NAEP items!

Benchmark Assessments

Implementation Schedule

Available Spring 2014

- ELA
 - Grades 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, and 10
- Mathematics
 - Grades 1, 2, 3, and Coordinate Algebra
- U.S. History

Available Fall 2014

- ELA
 - Grades 4, 5, 9, and 11
- Mathematics
 - Grades 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Analytic Geometry, and Advanced Algebra
- Biology



FIP Foundational Learning Modules

FIP tightly aligns to and directly supports TKES and LKES!

1. Introduction to Formative Instructional Practices
2. Clear Learning Targets
3. Collecting and Documenting Evidence of Student Learning
4. Analyzing Evidence and Providing Effective Feedback
5. Student Ownership of Learning: Peer Feedback, Self-Assessment, and More
6. Leading Formative Instructional Practices (for district and/or school leaders)
7. Coaching Formative Instructional Practices (for instructional coaches and/or teacher leaders)



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

FIP in Action modules available soon...

Resources Available SOON

- Sample items specific to Georgia Milestones
- Ancillary support resources, such as
 - Content Descriptions (test blueprints)
 - Student Study Guides
 - Technology Specifications
 - Accommodations Guidelines
 - Assessment for Learning Modules [types of items to elicit evidence of student learning]
 - Informational videos [parents & public / educators]



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

Focus on teaching and learning – eliciting evidence of student learning during instruction and adjusting as needed.

Georgia Milestones

In closing, some reminders:

- New program – new development [not redevelopment]
- Georgia educators will be involved in test design and development
- Georgia Milestones replaces the CRCT, EOCT, and Writing Assessments in grades 3, 5, and 8
 - writing, in response to text, will be assessed as part of the ELA assessment in each grade and course
 - the Georgia High School Writing Test (GHSWT) will be administered and remains a diploma requirement



Georgia Milestones

In closing, some reminders:

- CRCT-M (2%) will not continue
- GAA (1%) will continue
- Local scanning will not be continued [constructed-response items require hand scoring]
- Scores will be delayed in year 1 due to technical work and standard setting [implications to be worked through]
- Growth (SGP) will continue

IMPORTANT: Remember that TKES and LKES – utilize *growth*, not *achievement*.



Georgia Milestones

Georgia Milestones represents a significant change and importantly – *an opportunity* – for our state.

This opportunity allows us to *recalibrate*, as a state, and *refocus* on **teaching and learning** as a primary emphasis with assessment and accountability serving a *supporting* role.



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

Assessment will work with districts to ensure successful implementation.