

Date: April 8, 2024
From: Matt Arthur, Executive Secretary
Subject: Latest on GACE

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC) contracts with an external supplier to administer the Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators (GACE) testing program. In response to HB 538 (2023), the Georgia Early Literacy Act, we initiated a Request-for-Proposals (RFP) process to solicit bids for the assessment program contract. The Georgia Department of Administrative Services managed this process.

It is our pleasure to announce Evaluation Systems of Pearson (ES) was awarded the new contract to administer the GACE program, which will include many customized test and program innovations and services. We remain very appreciative of the high quality of service to Georgia by our current supplier, Educational Testing Service (ETS), and look forward to our continued collaboration through the transition period.

Transitioning from ETS to ES

Until July 1, 2025, the current GACE program, including the registration process and testing calendar, will not change. Because scores from tests offered by different test suppliers are not comparable, **examinees must pass all parts of an assessment with the same testing supplier for that assessment to count toward certification.** Passing scores on tests within an assessment cannot be split between the two suppliers. For example, an examinee cannot pass the Elementary Education Test 1 with ETS and expect to take Elementary Education Test 2 with ES to get credit for completing the Elementary Education GACE assessment. Additional details about the transition dates for specific assessments will be forthcoming.

Volunteer to Participate in GACE Development

In the current GACE program, each test was developed with representation of Georgia educators from across the state, including individuals from school systems, local schools, educator preparation providers (EPPs), and other stakeholders. Test development will begin shortly with ES, and we will be issuing an invitation for educators across the state to apply to participate in test development, fairness reviews, and standard setting committees for each GACE assessment. Information will shortly follow regarding how you can nominate yourself or others to be involved.

For Assistance

We are committed to ensuring a smooth transition between the two testing suppliers and will release information as we have it. Should you have any immediate questions or suggestions regarding the GACE program, please contact Anne Marie Fenton at annemarie.fenton@gapsc.com.

As always, thank you for the work you do and for the trust you put in us as educational partners.