

October 16, 2020

## TLSD Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. Is the TKES Electronic Platform open for LEAs to use?

Yes, the TLSD Electronic Platform is open and plans are activated by the completion of the TKES and LKES orientation.

### 2. Are educators able to complete the TKES and LKES self-assessments in the TLSD Platform?

The self-assessment may still be conducted, but it is not required. If a self-assessment is utilized, it should be conducted in support of a teacher's professional growth during these unprecedented times.

### 3. Must the "Pre-evaluation conference, Mid-year conference, and Summative Evaluation conference" be conducted?

The "Pre-evaluation conference, Mid-year conference, and Summative Evaluation conference" must still be conducted per state law. When conferences are utilized, they should be conducted in support of teachers' or leaders' professional growth during these challenging times and should not be punitive in nature. Evidence does not have to be uploaded to the TLSD Electronic Platform. The platform will remain open all year. We strongly suggest that LEAs document conferences with an established structure.

### 4. How many observations are required by State law and Board rule?

State law and Board rule require "multiple observations." GaDOE interprets this as two observations for all teachers for the 2020-2021 school year.



**5. Does the TKES plan type have to change from Full to Flexible in the TLSD Electronic Platform?**

No, the TKES plan type will not need to change.

**6. Can LEAs conduct more than two observations?**

Yes, LEAs can conduct more than two observations. School leaders should strongly consider not conducting these during an online or blended instructional environment and wait to conduct them in a traditional instructional environment. Observations can occur at *any time* during the school year. GaDOE strongly recommends that observations occur during the second half of the school year.

**7. What observation options should be selected in the TLSD Electronic Platform?**

If an observer of a TKES plan rates fewer than ten Performance Standards, a walkthrough option must be selected.

**8. Will the TAPS and LAPS Summative Assessment ratings be determined in the 2020-2021 school year?**

No, TAPS and LAPS Summative Assessment ratings cannot be determined because of the challenge of rating all Performance Standards; therefore, completion of Summative Assessments are not required by GaDOE or GaPSC for the 2020-2021 school year.

**9. Even though Summative Assessment ratings have been suspended, can districts still complete a Summative Assessment?**

Yes, districts may still rate all ten Performance Standards and complete a Summative Assessment. It is important to note that the TLSD Electronic Platform will not generate a TAPS or LAPS overall Summative Assessment rating.

**10. Can LEAs address remediation needs?**

Yes, LEAs can address remediation needs. Certificate renewal will not be affected since summative ratings are suspended this year. If an educator needs to remediate, the remediation plan section will remain open in the TLSD Electronic Platform. LEAs have the flexibility to determine their own remediation process. GaPSC will announce additional information.



**11. How will the absence of testing play into the 2020-2021 Teacher Effectiveness Measures (TEM), Leader Effectiveness Measures (LEM) and the Student Growth Component? Will we need to use our district benchmark assessment in its place, so basically all teachers will fall into non-SGP teachers?**

Teacher Effectiveness Measures (TEM) and Leader Effectiveness Measures (LEM) ratings will not be determined due to the suspension of the student growth scores for the 2019-2020 school year. Therefore, the Student Growth component will not be rated in the TLSD Electronic Platform for 2020-2021 school year. School districts will not use district benchmark assessments to complete the Student Growth Component.

**12. Will we be exempt from reporting UNSATS to GaPSC for FY21?**

TAPS and LAPS Summative Assessment Ratings cannot be determined because of the challenge of rating all performance standards; therefore, they are not required by GaDOE or GaPSC for the 2020-2021. GaPSC will announce additional information.

**13. Is the GaPSC still requiring PLGs/PLPs/PLCs?**

Professional learning requirements are in state law. However, school system leaders will determine what is appropriate considering the local context and system expectations, and GaPSC will accept verification from school system leaders for renewal purposes. The TLSD Electronic Platform is open and LEA's can record progress on PLGs/PLPs/PLCs.

**14. What are the GaPSC expectations for recertification/renewals now that a TAPS or LAPS will not be reported for SY2021?**

GaPSC will announce additional information.

**15. Is there any guidance for teachers who were on a remediation plan for an overall unsatisfactory rating last year?**

The GaPSC is the determining authority for teacher certification and will provide guidance related to certification.



**16. Should teachers on a remediation plan continue their plan for this school year?**

Decisions related to the implementation and/or continuation of remediation plans are made by local school districts.

**17. How does the non-completion of TKES impact induction teachers?**

There will not be a TAPS Summative Assessment rating requirement reported to GaDOE or the GaPSC. GaPSC will announce additional information.

**18. Can TKES/LKES training continue for new school administrators?**

The TLSD team will continue to provide LEA support and trainings in SY 2021.

**19. Are the TKES and LKES Re-Credentialing courses available on the PLO Platform in SLDS?**

Yes, the TKES and LKES Re-Credentialing courses are available on the PL platform in SLDS.

