



**Georgia Professional  
Standards Commission**  
*Protecting Georgia's Higher Standard of Learning*

# Session C3: EPP Structures of Support for GACE Program Admission Assessment (PAA)

<https://www.gapsc.com/Commission/Media/DocsPresentations.aspx>



# Navigating Preparation & Licensure

- Core reading, writing, and mathematics skills have been identified as important for teacher candidates
- Reading, writing, and mathematics skills predict success on initial licensure test
  - Gitomer, Brown & Bonnet (2011) and Buzick & Collier (in press)
- Many states (as part of program approval) and national associations (as part of accreditation) recognize the importance of core academic skills

# Supporting Teacher Candidates

- In a survey of over 150 preparation programs:
  - Many report poor academic skills as a barrier to entering the program
  - Most offer test preparation or skills remediation to incoming candidates
- Candidates often first fail to meet the passing score before seeking help or accessing test preparation materials

# Why Is It Important to Prepare?

- Test takers tend to overestimate their preparedness
  - 25% of test takers said they received a lower score than expected
- Success on teacher licensure tests is directly linked to preparation
  - 20% of test takers do not take advantage of the available test prep

# GENERAL STRATEGIES

Understand Test  
Structures, Requirements,  
and Logistics

Understand Test  
Frameworks and  
Content

Practice  
Tests

# Test Structure

Subtest	Price	Testing Time*	Test Duration**	# of Questions	Passing Score
Test I: Reading	\$78	85 min	120 min	56	250
Test II: Mathematics	\$78	85 min	120 min	56	250
Test III: Writing	\$78	100 min	120 min	40 mc / 2 cr	250
Combined	\$103 for 2 \$128 for 3	270 min	300 min	152 mc / 2 cr	

\* Time allocated for answering the test questions

\*\* Total time in the test center

# General Preparation & Logistics

GACE HOME | FOR TEST TAKERS | FOR PROGRAM PROVIDERS

GACE Home > Test Preparation Resources > Strategies and Tips

GACE Home > Test Preparation Resources > Test Prep Webinars

**GACE® Study Plan Development Webinars**

Study Plan Development webinars are offered to help you prepare for the GACE assessments. These webinars include practical suggestions and tips on preparing for and taking the GACE assessments and developing an individual study plan. They also walk you through the different parts of a GACE assessment and present a plan to guide you as you prepare to test. These webinars explore the online resources available to you for test familiarization and preparation. These resources include interactive practice tests and demonstrations, Study Companions that include test content specifications, and videos.

**Live Webinars**

You can attend a free 60-minute live webinar and ask questions on demand during webinar. See upcoming webinar dates below.

Date	Time
No dates scheduled at this time.	

**Prerecorded Webinars**

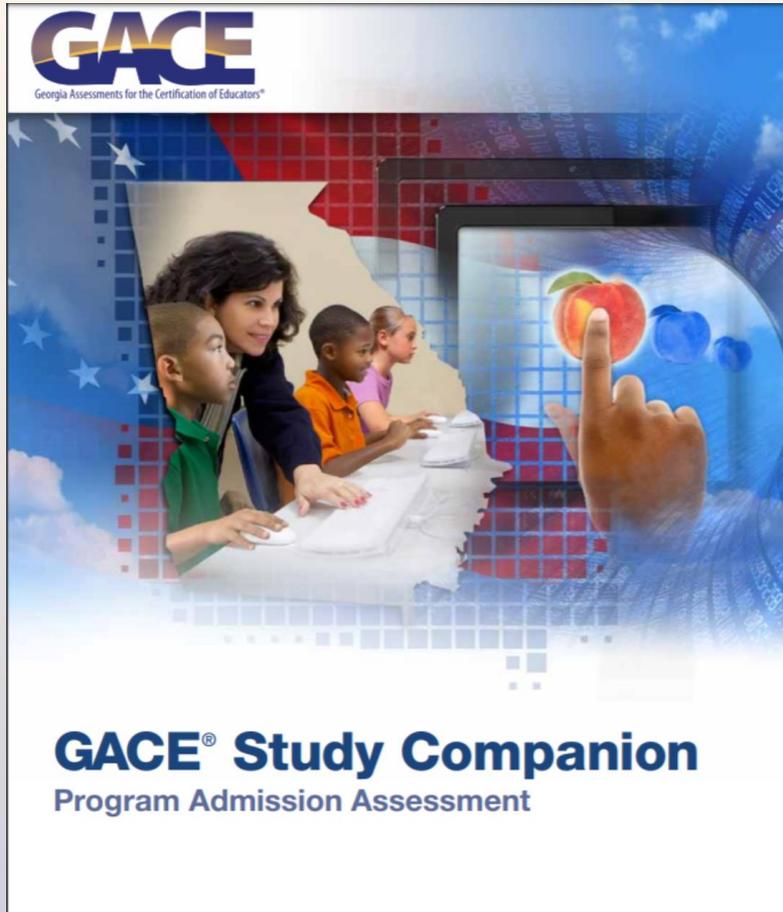
Prerecorded GACE® study plan development webinars are also available. These webinars cover several different areas:

what skills and knowledge are covered on the test and where to focus your attention. Creating a

## Developing a Study Plan

A study plan provides a roadmap to prepare for a GACE assessment. It can help you understand what skills and knowledge are covered on the test and where to focus your attention. Creating a study plan will help you organize your efforts. Follow the steps below to create your own study plan.

- **Know what to expect:** Identify the information the test will cover by reading through the test content specifications in the Study Companion for the test you are taking. The content specifications detail the knowledge and skills to be measured on the assessment.
- **Get the prep materials:** Identify books, courses, and other resources you plan to use for each content area.
- **Establish a strategy:** Organize, create, and commit to a schedule that provides for regular study periods. The [study plan sheet \(PDF\)](#) will help you organize.
- **Study:** Stick to your study schedule! Don't wait until right before your test to begin preparing. You can also join a study group and prepare with others who are planning to take the same test.
- **Practice:** Practice taking the sample questions in the Study Companion to get familiar with the types of questions on the test and to find out where you may need to focus your attention.



- **Learn About Your Test**
- **Familiarize yourself with the Content of Your Test**
- **Sample Test Questions and Answers + Rationales**
- **Develop Your Study Plan**
- **Review Smart Tips for Success**
- **Check on Testing Accommodations**
- **Do Your Best on Test Day**
- **Understand Your Scores**

# PAA Test Preparation

GACE Home > Test Preparation Resources > Prep Materials > 700

About the GACE Assessments

Registration, Test Centers, and Dates

Test Preparation Resources

▶ Prep Materials

Interactive Practice Tests

Tutorials

Videos

Test Prep Webinars

Strategies and Tips

On Test Day

Scores

Confidentiality of Information

Frequently Asked Questions

## Preparation Materials

Program Admission

### Program Admission

The Program Admission assessment consists of three subtests; a combined version of the tests is also offered.

- Test I – Reading (200)
- Test II – Mathematics (201)
- Test III – Writing (202)
- Combined Test I, II, and III (700)

### Test Preparation

The test preparation materials below are the only GACE® study materials endorsed by the GaPSC. Other preparation materials may not accurately reflect the content of the assessment or the policies and procedures of the GACE program.

### Study Companions

This free download is designed to familiarize you with the content material to be tested, test question formats, and pertinent study resources for this assessment.

- [Program Admission Study Companion \(PDF\)](#)

# Interactive Practice Tests

- Subareas and
- Test objective

[Program Admissio](#)

## Interactive Practi

Use the Interactive Practi  
Each practice test  
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however, the quest  
After you complete  
questions correctly  
provided for the co

A practice test for  
purchase through t  
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practice questions

- Program Adn

[Buy now](#)

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## GACE Program Admission Assessment - Reading (200) — Version I, Interactive Practice Test, 90-Day Subscription

Qty

 Version I

 Version II

 Versions I & II

\$18.00

[Add To Cart](#)

[Overview](#)

[System Requirements](#)

If you are preparing to take **Program Admission Assessment - Reading (200)** of the GACE® **Program Admission Assessment** assessment and want to experience what it will be like to take the test before the actual test administration, you can do so by purchasing the **Program Admission Assessment - Reading** interactive practice test. Created by ETS assessment developers, the **Program Admission Assessment - Reading** interactive practice test gives you hands-on experience with different question types that you might encounter on the day you take the test. After you complete the practice test, you can see if you answered questions correctly or incorrectly, and get detailed explanations of correct answers to the practice questions.

# Khan Academy Preparation

Now available - skills prep for PAA that:

- Promotes equity and access — 100% free and online
- Leverages Khan Academy instructional expertise in collaboration with ETS
- Offers a personalized experience for every learner

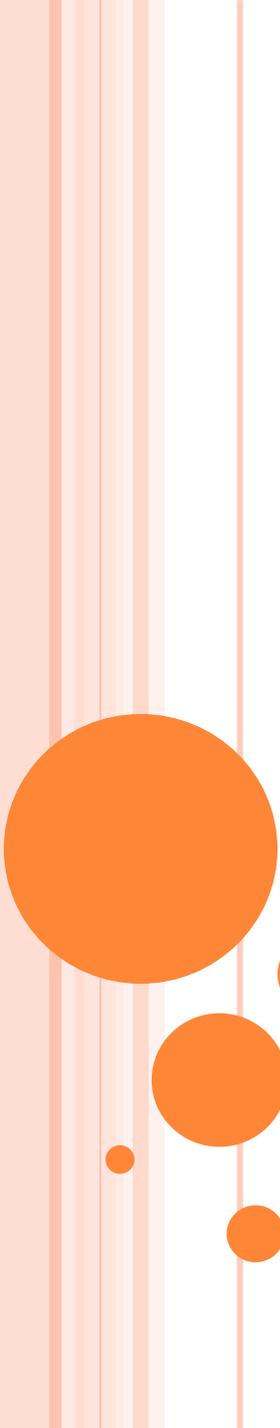
# Ongoing Research

In addition to analyses by Khan Academy focusing on the new preparation platform, ETS will:

- Continue to monitor test preparation behaviors of all test takers
- Conduct a detailed survey of test preparation and remediation activities of test takers struggling with core academic skills
- Conduct site visits to several minority-serving institutions to highlight efforts to bolster core academic skills for students interested in teaching

# Recap of Advice for Students

- Find Out What the Test Covers
- Assess How Well You Know the Content
  - Use the Study Plan document to create a clear, targeted study plan and target areas to strengthen
  - Stick to the plan and give yourself enough time to prepare
  - Join a study group if available
- Collect Materials to Prepare
- Review and Practice
  - Practice testing for the amount of time you will be testing



# **EFFECTIVE TEACHING STRATEGIES TO HELP INCREASE SUCCESS RATE ON GACE EXAMS**

**Chinenye Ofodile, Ph.D.**

**Co-Presentation – GaPSC Fall Conference**

**Macon, Georgia**

**October 24, 2019**

# COURSE LOGISTICS

- MATH 2008 – 01
- Spring 2019



# CLASS COMPONENTS (SPRING 2019)

- Class size: 28
- Varied instructional practices
  - Group Work, Group Presentations, Writing assignments, Bonus, Quizzes, Exams
- Varied assessment practices
  - Exams (4), Quizzes (4), Problem Solving, Presentations, Writing Assignments, Homeworks



# CLASS MAKE-UP (SPRING 2019)

- 28 students
  - 26 females
  - 2 males
- Students were enrolled in majors represented by all 1 College (College of Professional Studies)



# COURSE REQUIREMENTS (SPRING 2019)

- Exams
- Quizzes
- Homework
- GACE type problems
- Workshops
- Student Presentation



# PRESENTATIONS

- Students were assigned a group by the professor.
- Presentations were assigned after midterm grades and groups were evenly distributed.
- Students were assigned a topic by the professor, and were given a month or more to prepare.
- In preparation for the presentation, students were able to utilize the professor, internet, textbooks, group members, students, etc. as a resource.



# CLASS PERFORMANCE (SPRING 2019)

Assessment	Class Mean
Quiz 1	64
Quiz 2	76
Quiz 3	74
Quiz 4	86
Test 1	65
Test 2	84
Test 3	70
Test 4	91
Homework	96
Student Presentation	91



# GRADE DISTRIBUTION FOR COURSE COMPLETERS (SPRING 2019) (N=28)

○ A	12	12/28	43%
○ B	6	6/28	21.4%
○ C	6	6/28	21.4%
○ D	1	1/28	4%
○ F	3	3/28	11%
○ W	0		

○ Passing Rate = 85%

○ W's are not counted

○ **PASSED GACE: 20/28= 71%**



# GACE PAA SUPPORTS @ MGA

Sumitra Himangshu-Pennybacker  
Co-Presentation - GaPSC Fall Conference  
Macon, Georgia - October 24, 2019



**Middle Georgia** State University

# **GACE PAA: Current Supports @ MGA**



## **Teacher Education: Student Success Center**

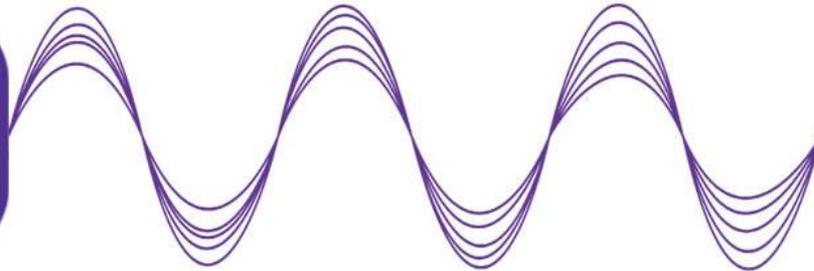
**(1) unsuccessful applicants  
supported by GACE PAA Coordinators**

**(2) monitored by Admissions &  
Certification Specialist**

**(3) TE Admission Blitz**



# GACE PAA: Current Supports @ MGA



The Writing  
Center  
a resource for MGA students



# Future Steps @ MGA

## (1) Proposed Plan:

Identify Area F students – to help them prepare

## (2) Early Identification:

Declared Education Majors – identify students with low SAT scores  $> 850$





**On your response sheet, review the questions below, identifying any others that may help guide development of EPP structures of support for GACE PAA:**

1. What can the EPP do to support PAA prior to testing?
2. What could be done in high school to strengthen skills of those considering teaching?
3. How can time restraints be addressed and other barriers candidates may be facing that detract from preparation for the PAA?
4. What can be done to support candidates who are struggling with PAA, so that they can be successful in their EPP program?
5. How are students prepared to truly differentiate the skills within reading, math, writing, prior to admission into teacher preparation programs? How do we know where they are with regard to these skill levels?
6. If the flexibility option is used, how are EPPS remediating that test area? How do they know it is working?



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On your response sheet, share one or two strategies that you or others can do that have worked in supporting candidates either before or after PAA testing?



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Today's Presenters:

Dr. Chinenye Ofodile, Associate Professor, Faculty Athletic Representative (FAR), Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, College of Arts and Sciences, Albany State University

[Chinenye.Ofodile@asurams.edu](mailto:Chinenye.Ofodile@asurams.edu)

Dr. Sumitra Himangshu-Pennybacker, Associate Professor and Graduate Program Coordinator, School of Education and Behavioral Sciences, Middle Georgia State University

[sumitra.himangshu@mga.edu](mailto:sumitra.himangshu@mga.edu)

Anne Marie Fenton, Director, Rules Management and Educator Assessment, GaPSC

[annemarie.Fenton@gapsc.com](mailto:annemarie.Fenton@gapsc.com)

For questions about PAA:

Policy or Implementation  
[annemarie.fenton@gapsc.com](mailto:annemarie.fenton@gapsc.com)

GACE assistance:  
[GACESupport@ets.org](mailto:GACESupport@ets.org)

Preparation:  
[www.ets.org](http://www.ets.org)





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