



Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators® (GACE®) Newsletter

The *GACE® Newsletter* is intended to be a resource for Educator Preparation Program Providers to gain access to all the important information and changes happening around the GACE program. The newsletter includes important dates, information about tests and policies, reminders about testing windows and more. The latest GACE program information can always be found at www.gace.ets.org.

Note that we have made some changes in the newsletter beginning this month. You'll see upcoming/important dates prominently displayed, as well as links to past issues of the newsletter and the newsletter sign up page. Links to the GACE website home page and contact information links for both ETS and GaPSC are in the footer on this page. We hope these updates are helpful.

Upcoming/Important Dates:

- Test Taker Webinar at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, April 13
- EPP Webinar at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19
- Spring Teacher Leadership Registration Deadline is April 15
- Spring Teacher Leadership Submission Window Ends April 29

- Read [past issues](#) of the *GACE Newsletter*.
- [Subscribe](#) to the *GACE Newsletter*.

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PROGRAM UPDATES

Change in Testing Time for French, German, and Spanish Assessments

Effective April 4, 2016, the testing time for the French, German, and Spanish assessments has changed. Fifteen minutes have been added to the Reading section of these assessments.

- Test I testing time is 1 hour and 35 minutes
- Combined Test I and II is testing time is 2 hours and 35 minutes

Program Update Webinar for EPPs

A live webinar will be offered to Educator Preparation Programs (EPPs) on **Tuesday, April 19** at 3 p.m. ET. This webinar will cover updates on the following:

- Reasons for Testing
- Using the GACE Program Provider Website
- Resources for Program Providers
- Test Preparation Resources for Candidates
- Taking the Assessments
- GACE Scores
- Important Information for 2015–16 and Contacting the Program and the GaPSC

EPP heads and ETS GACE Data Manager users will receive the invitation to participate; they will be asked to forward the invitation to appropriate EPP faculty/personnel.

PREPARING CANDIDATES

Study Companions Streamlined

The GACE Study Companions have been streamlined to include what test takers want most:

- Basic information about the assessment
- Practice questions
- Answer key and rationales
- Preparation resources

The practice questions in these study companions are designed to familiarize test takers with the types of questions they may see on the assessment. While they illustrate some of the formats and types of questions that appear on actual tests, performance on these sample questions should not be viewed as a predictor of performance on the actual test. Fundamentally, the most important component for test takers to ensure success is familiarity with the content that is covered on the assessment.

Tests at a Glance

Each GACE assessment now has a Test at a Glance that gives a quick overview of the assessment and includes:

- Test specs (name, grade level, test code, testing time, test duration, number of questions, test format)
- Content specifications
- Test subareas
- Test objectives

Tests at a Glance can be found in the Test Preparation Materials section of the GACE website at gace.ets.org/prepare/materials.

Tips and Strategies Section Added to Test Preparation Resources

A Tips and Strategies section has been added to Test Preparation Resources on the GACE website at www.gace.ets.org/prepare/strategies. This section includes a booklet with general information about the GACE assessments, the types of questions you may encounter in the test, and study tips for preparing to take the test. A study plan is also available to help you understand what skills and knowledge are covered on the test and where to focus your attention.

New Test Preparation Materials

Several new test preparation documents have been added to the Strategies and Tips section of Test Preparation Resources.

- *Study Tips: How to Prepare for a GACE Assessment*
This booklet contains useful information on preparing for multiple-choice tests and constructed-response tests. The instructions, tips, and suggestions contained here can help candidates become better-prepared test takers.
- *Reducing Test Anxiety*
This guide provides practical help for people who suffer from test anxiety. Although designed specifically for GACE test takers, it's useful for anyone who has to take a test. This guide reviews the major causes of test anxiety and offers practical advice on how to counter each one.
- *Guide to Taking a GACE Computer-delivered Test (available April 2016)*
This guide explains how to navigate through a GACE assessment and how to answer different types of test questions.

TEACHER LEADERSHIP ASSESSMENT

Completing Permission Forms

Test takers must obtain a signed permission form for the use of any materials they submit as artifacts that are not created solely by them. Please let your educators know that when completing the permission forms they should note the following:

- Their name and GA Cert ID should be entered in the Candidate Name section at the top of the form.
- The “Your Name” and “Your Address” sections in the form should be the name and address of the person providing permission to use the requested information in your assessment portfolio.
- The name in the “Your Name” space and the signature should be the same person.
- The information in the middle of the form should not be blacked out — while personal identifying information in the artifacts that are submitted should be blacked out since these are seen by the raters, information should not be blacked out on the permission forms.

Permission forms can be downloaded from the “Teacher Leadership” section of the ETS GACE website at www.gace.ets.org/teacher_leadership/resources.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Georgia Ethics for Educational Leadership Program Exit Launched

The Program Exit level (380) of the Georgia Ethics for Educational Leadership assessment launched at the end of January 2016.

All candidates **completing** any GaPSC-approved Educational Leadership program (current program or the new tiered model) on or after July 1, 2016, **must attempt** Georgia Ethics for Educational Leadership – Program Exit (380) prior to completion and **must pass** the assessment to earn certification in the field of Educational Leadership. A candidate who **passes** Georgia Ethics for Educational Leadership – Program Exit for Tier I certification does not have to pass it again for Tier II certification. For full details see the [January GACE Newsletter](#).

Reporting Locations and Location Changes

The reporting location for each test administration can be found on the candidate's admission ticket, which they can access and print at any time from their [ETS GACE testing account](#). On occasion, weather conditions or other circumstances beyond the test center or ETS's control may require a delayed start or the rescheduling of a test. If there is a change (e.g., a different building than originally scheduled, delayed start, or test cancellation/rescheduling), it will be updated in the candidate's testing account.

ETS will make every effort to contact test takers affected by reporting location and/or reporting time changes prior to the originally scheduled test administration. Please advise your test takers to check their testing account 24 hours prior to their test to ensure their reporting location and reporting time have not changed, and print a new admission ticket, if necessary.