



Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators®



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 of the important information and changes happening in the GACE program. The GACE 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.

Upcoming/Important Dates:

- ETS Offices will be closed on Thursday and Friday, July 4 and 5.
Spring 2019 Teacher Leadership Resubmission Window ends July 8.

- Read past issues of the GACE Newsletter.
Subscribe to the GACE Newsletter.

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## PROGRAM UPDATES

### **2019–20 GACE Registration Bulletin and Bulletin Supplement for Test Takers with Disabilities or Health-related Needs**

The 2019–20 GACE *Registration Bulletin* and *Bulletin Supplement for Test Takers with Disabilities or Health-related Needs* will be available on the GACE website on June 27. The effective date for these documents is September 1, 2019, through August 31, 2020. The 2018–19 *Registration Bulletin* and *Bulletin Supplement* will remain posted until September 1 when the new testing year begins.

### **2019–20 Testing Windows, Registration Deadlines, and Score Reporting Dates**

Testing windows, registration deadlines, and score reporting dates for the 2019–20 testing year will be posted on the GACE website on June 27. The 2018–19 dates will remain posted until September 1 when the new testing year begins.

### **Assessments Moving to Continuous Testing**

The following assessments will move to continuous testing on September 1, 2019. Test takers will be able to see specific test date availability during the registration process.

- Biology
- Music
- Special Education General Curriculum/Elementary Education

### **Delayed Reporting for the Program Admission Assessment in September**

Given the substantial changes to the Program Admission – Mathematics test (discussed in the January *GACE Newsletter*), it was necessary to conduct a new standard-setting study on May 13–14, 2019, to determine the recommended passing score for Georgia educators. As with the standard-setting studies for content assessments, the standard-setting panel made their recommendation based upon professional judgment.

However, we want to give the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC) as much information as possible about how Georgia test takers will perform on the regenerated test. The plan for doing this is to begin offering the new test on September 1, 2019, gather results for three to four weeks, and then perform the appropriate statistical analyses with passing rates to provide to the GaPSC. The GaPSC would then vote on the passing standard at the October 10, 2019, meeting.

In order to provide actual test taker data to the GaPSC, ETS will have to delay reporting scores to this initial group of test takers. Their scores will be reported on October 18, 2019. While we understand that test takers always like to get their score reports sooner rather than later, we believe the benefit of delaying the score reporting outweighs this desire. Test takers will be informed when registering that the scores will be delayed.

In order to encourage candidates to take the test during the month of September, we will be displaying little or no testing availability for the Program Admission – Mathematics test for the month of October in the registration system. **Please encourage your prospective students to take the newly regenerated test in September so that the passing standard recommendation from the Commission can be based on as much data as possible.**

### **Early Childhood Education and Early Childhood Special Education General Curriculum Assessments**

During the 2019–20 testing year, the title of these two assessments will change. Early Childhood Education will change to Elementary Education, and Early Childhood Special Education General Curriculum will change to Special Education General Curriculum/Elementary Education. The test specifications for these two assessments will not change. A Study Companion and Test at a Glance (TAAG) will be available for the revised titles in July.

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## PARAPROFESSIONAL ASSESSMENT

### Join Our Testing Network

The GACE Paraprofessional testing network is **recruiting!** We are in need of additional public test sites in the Atlanta Metro area. Our objective is to provide potential paraprofessionals with ample opportunities and locations to take the assessment, and we hope that you will assist us in reaching this goal. School districts, Regional Education Service Agencies (RESAs), Educational Technology Training Centers (ETTCs), technical colleges, and many other agencies are currently administering the assessment. Please consider administering the GACE Paraprofessional assessment in collaboration with ETS and/or suggesting other nearby schools or locations that may be able to participate.

See the [GACE Paraprofessional Test Administrators website](#) for information about the assessment, technical requirements, and basic information needed by test administrators to successfully prepare for, and administer, this assessment. ETS will reimburse participating school districts, RESAs, ETTCs, and other agencies \$10 per examinee tested each quarter. So if you meet the technical requirements and would like to administer the GACE Paraprofessional assessment, please complete the [online application](#) today! We look forward to working with you in the near future.

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## PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT FOR SCHOOL LEADERS (PASL)

### Supporting Test Takers

As a program provider, one of the roles you play is to help test takers prepare to take the PASL assessment. The work test takers submit in response to each performance assessment task must be their own.

The [PASL Overview \(PDF\)](#) is a resource that both supervising faculty and test takers can reference for obtaining in-depth information about the assessment and review of the three tasks.

### Spring 2019 Score Reporting Dates

Scores for the initial submissions were reported on May 8, 2019; scores for the Spring 2019 resubmission window will be released on **June 19, 2019**.

Official score reports are available via test takers' testing accounts in the ETS Performance Assessments registration system. Scores are automatically sent to program providers, the GaPSC, and any designated score recipients at that time. A [sample score report](#) is available on the GACE website.

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## PREPARING PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES

### Program Admission Study Companions

On or about July 22, the current Program Admission Reading (200), Writing (202), and Mathematics (201) interactive practice tests will become available for FREE at [Khan Academy](#). Until then, test takers can continue to purchase these practice tests in the [ETS store](#).

Program Admission Reading (210), Writing (212), and Mathematics (211) practice tests will be available for purchase in the [ETS store](#) only, on or about July 22.

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## TEACHER LEADERSHIP ASSESSMENT

### Passing Standard Approved by the Commission

The GaPSC voted on the passing standard for the Revised Format of the Teacher Leadership assessment (Test Code 313) on April 10, 2019. Teacher Leadership score reports for Test Code 313 that are dated June 7, 2019, through August 31, 2021, must reflect a score of 42 points or higher to be considered passing, which is an

estimated -1 SEM below the recommended passing score of the Georgia Teacher Leadership standard setting committee.

Score reports for the Revised Format of the Teacher Leadership assessment (Test Code 313) that are dated on or after September 1, 2021, must reflect a score of 46 points or higher to be considered passing in Georgia, which is equal to the recommended passing score of the Georgia Teacher Leadership standard setting committee. This applies to score reports containing either initial submissions or resubmissions.

The following table represents the Commission's decision on the passing score for the Revised Format of the Teacher Leadership assessment (Test Code 313).

| Reporting Year  | Teacher Leadership Revised Format with Steps (Test Code 313) Passing Standard (72 Points Possible) |
|---|--|
| 6/7/2019 – 8/31/2019<br>(2-month period before end of current reporting year) | 42<br>(-1 SEM below GA recommendation)   |
| 9/1/2019 – 8/31/2020  | 42   |
| 9/1/2020 – 8/31/2021  | 42   |
| On or after 9/1/2021  | 46<br>(at GA recommendation)   |

The passing score for the Original Format of the Teacher Leadership assessment (Test Code 303) remains at 31. Candidates who took the original format of the assessment in fall 2018 or earlier and need to resubmit, must register for the Original Format of the Teacher Leadership (Test Code 303) to resubmit. The fall 2019 administration of Test Code 303 will be the final administration of the Original Format.

### Spring 2019 Score Reporting Dates

Scores for the Spring 2019 administration for Teacher Leadership (Test Code 303) will be released on **June 7, 2019**.

Scores for the initial submissions for Teacher Leadership (Test Code 313) will also be released on **June 7, 2019**. Scores for the Spring 2019 resubmission window will be released on **July 30, 2019**.

Official score reports are available via test takers' testing accounts in the Teacher Leadership submission system. Scores are automatically sent to program providers, the GaPSC, and any designated score recipients at that time. A [sample score report](#) is available on the GACE website.

### Rescheduling a Submission Window

Rescheduling a submission window can only be done if the registration deadline for the initial submission window has not passed, and the new submission window is open for registration. Changing a submission window incurs a \$50 rescheduling fee.

**Note:** Tasks and artifacts uploaded for the original submission window will not transfer automatically to the new submission window. Candidates will be required to re-upload any tasks and artifacts they have previously uploaded. All tasks and artifacts must be submitted by the same deadline date.

## Resubmitting Tasks

Test takers who do not pass the assessment are allowed to resubmit any or all of the six tasks. There is a \$75 resubmission fee for each task that is resubmitted.

Test takers are allowed to resubmit two additional times to attempt to receive a passing score. Tasks may be resubmitted in the resubmission window immediately following the original submission window, or test takers may wait until the next window. The two-resubmission limit still applies. If they do not resubmit within this time frame, they will have to register and pay to retake the assessment.

### Spring 2019 (Test Code 313) Resubmission Window 1

|                     |                              |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Registration        | June 7, 2019 – July 5, 2019  |
| Resubmission Window | June 7, 2019 – July 8, 2019* |

### Spring 2019 (Test Code 313) Resubmission Window 2

|                     |                                    |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Registration        | August 1, 2019 – October 25, 2019  |
| Resubmission Window | August 1, 2019 – November 1, 2019* |

\* All tasks are due by 2 p.m. ET on this date.

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## IMPORTANT REMINDERS

### Change in Induction Passing Score Effective September 1

A passing score for any GACE content assessment can fall into one of two categories. Beginning with the 2019–20 testing year, the following scores are required to pass a content assessment:

- 235 – passing at the induction level
- 250 – passing at the professional level

## Requesting Accommodations

### Disability Accommodations

Test takers who wish to apply for testing accommodations can do the following through their ETS GACE testing account:

- submit accommodations requests
- view approved accommodations
- self-schedule (if approved for extended time, extra breaks, screen magnification, and/or selectable background and foreground colors)\*
- view scheduled test registrations

\* Test takers approved for accommodations other than the four listed above cannot schedule online; however, they will be able to indicate their preferred test date and location online.

### Primary Language Is Not English (PLNE) Accommodations

Beginning with the 2018–19 testing year, test takers whose Primary Language is Not English (PLNE) may request PLNE accommodations. Test takers who are approved will be allowed 50 percent extended testing time. PLNE accommodations are available at all established test centers. See information about [how to apply for PLNE accommodations](#).

This service does not apply to individuals taking any of the GACE language tests, or if their first language is American Sign Language.