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:

- Registration for Spring Teacher Leadership Submission Window is **April 13**.
- Spring Teacher Leadership Submission Window ends **April 27**.

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

PROGRAM UPDATES

Four Assessments Moving to Continuous Testing

The following assessments will move to continuous testing on September 1, 2018. Test takers will be able to see specific test date availability during the registration process.

- English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
- Middle Grades Reading
- Middle Grades Social Science
- School Counseling

New Educational Leadership Assessment in Development

A new GACE Educational Leadership assessment is being developed to reflect new Georgia Educational Leadership standards. The new assessment, which is scheduled to be launched in the fall of 2019, will align closely with the revised Georgia Educational Leadership Standards for program approval. These standards were initiated on March 8 by the Commission, and will be posted for public comment. The Commission will consider the adoption of these standards at the May 10 Commission meeting.

Changes in GACE Computer Science Assessment

A diverse and representative national committee was established to examine and update ETS's GACE Computer Science assessment to reflect current trends in the field of computer science. Georgia Computer Science teachers and those that prepare Computer Science teachers were also part of that group. Another Georgia Computer Science committee was assembled to examine the assessment for use in the GACE program.

The Georgia committee approved, without change, the GACE Computer Science assessment specifications and the alignment with the Georgia Computer Science Endorsement Program rules. The shift to a new Computer Science assessment (Test Code 555) will take place beginning with test administrations in October 2018. It is important to note that the Computer Science program standards have not changed; the assessment was updated to more closely align with the program rules. See detailed information on the new test specifications.

SAT® Scores Recalibrated for Program Admission Exemption

Program Admission tests may be exempted if sufficient scores are obtained on the SAT. From time to time, the College Board® recalibrates SAT scores based on data, as well as changes in score categories. In the last recalibration, the 1000 minimum required for exemption was recalibrated to 1080. At that time, the College Board also changed the score categories accepted for "Verbal/Critical Reading AND Math" to what is now the equivalent of "Evidence-based Reading/Writing AND Math."

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC) is currently still accepting the 1000 minimum score to exempt the Program Admission assessment. However, the newly calibrated SAT score minimum of 1080 will be required on score reports dated on or after July 1, 2019. See the policy to use the SAT to exempt the Program Admission assessment.

For SAT score reports dated prior to 7/1/19:

- 1000 on Verbal/Critical Reading, and Math, OR
- 1000 on Evidence-based Reading/Writing and Math
- See SAT recentering prior to April, 1995

For score reports dated on or after 7/1/19:

- 1080 on Evidence-based Reading/Writing AND Math

This adjustment does not set a higher standard than the 1000 originally determined; rather, it aligns the minimum exemption score with the standard in place before the recalibration occurred.

PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT FOR SCHOOL LEADERS (PASL)

Spring Submission Window Dates

Registration Opens	March 19, 2018
Registration Closes	April 16, 2018
Reschedule Deadline	April 26, 2018
Cancellation Deadline	April 26, 2018
Task Submission Opens	March 19, 2018
Task Submission Deadline	April 18, 2018

Spring Resubmission Window Dates

Resubmission Registration Opens	May 16, 2018
Resubmission Registration Closes	June 5, 2018
Task Resubmission Deadline	June 6, 2018

For more information about the PASL, see PASL Information for Test Takers and PASL Information for Educator Programs.

Passing Standards for PASL

Score reports will indicate a total score instead of a passed/not passed status. The total number of points possible for all three tasks combined is 64. See the chart below for the minimum number of total points needed to pass the assessment in the state of Georgia.

Score Report Date	Passing Score
On or before August 31, 2020	42 points or higher
After September 1, 2020	46 points or higher

TEACHER LEADERSHIP ASSESSMENT

Spring 2018 Registration and Submission Window

Registration	June 13, 2017 – April 13, 2018
Submission Window	January 22, 2018 – April 27, 2018

Spring 2018 Submission Window Score Reporting Date

Scores for the spring 2018 submission window will be released on June 12, 2018. Official score reports are made 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 task that received a score of 5 or lower or Nonscorable. Scored tasks that received scores of 6 and above cannot be resubmitted. There is a $75 resubmission fee for each task that is resubmitted.

Test takers must resubmit tasks and pass the assessment in the next two submission windows after their initial submission. If they do not do so within that time, they will have to pay another registration fee and take the assessment all over again.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

ID Documents

Test takers are responsible for bringing valid and acceptable identification each time they report to a test center. To be admitted to a test center, they must bring the correct documents and ensure that they are **up to date on the date of the test**. If the documents are expired, or the name on the documents doesn't match their MyPSC account, they will not be admitted. Documents presented on a cell phone or any other electronic device are not acceptable. Identification document requirements are outlined in the *GACE® Registration Bulletin* and on the GACE website at gace.ets.org/test_day/id.

Personal Items in the Testing Room

To ensure security and fairness to everyone, enhanced security policies have been implemented at all testing centers. Test takers are required to remove their eyeglasses for close visual inspection by test center administrators. These inspections only take a few seconds and will be done at check-in and again upon return from breaks.

Wedding and engagement rings and small earrings are permitted to be worn in the testing room after visual inspection. Test takers wearing large jewelry items, such as pendants or other hanging jewelry, objects and bracelets, will be asked to remove and store them before entering the testing room. Hair accessories such as clips, combs, barrettes and headbands will be closely inspected. Test takers wearing large hair clips or other objects in the hair such as buttons or other objects will be asked to remove and store them before entering the testing room. This policy has been implemented due to the many different types of spy devices that are now available for use to capture and remove test content. Please remind your teacher candidates about this policy so that they are prepared when they arrive at the test center.