

# STUDENT TESTING IN GEORGIA

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**The purpose of the Georgia Student Assessment Program** is to measure student achievement of the state-adopted content standards and inform efforts to improve teaching and learning. Results of the assessment program are utilized to identify students failing to achieve mastery of content, to provide teachers with feedback about instructional practice, and to assist school districts in identifying strengths and weaknesses in order to establish priorities in planning educational programs.



## Georgia Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills 2.0 (GKIDS 2.0)

**KIDS 2.0** is a progression-based formative assessment, integrated into classroom work, that is aligned to the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE). GKIDS 2.0 is organized around **big ideas** and **learning progressions**.

-A big idea describes the integration of concepts and skills from kindergarten standards that are most important for success in first grade.

-A learning progression shows where the student is in the learning continuum regarding big ideas.

[GKIDSReadinessCheck.GaDOE.org](http://GKIDSReadinessCheck.GaDOE.org)

The GKIDS Readiness Check is a component of the Georgia Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills (GKIDS). It is designed to be administered during the first six weeks of kindergarten. The GKIDS Readiness Check is aligned to the [Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards \(GELDS\)](#) and correlated to the state content standards for kindergarten. The goal of the assessment is to provide information about the skills of students entering kindergarten.

Georgia Milestones is a grades 3 through high school assessment program. It measures how well students have learned the knowledge and skills outlined in the content standards in English Language Arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.

Students in grades 3 through 8 take an end-of-grade assessment in English Language Arts and mathematics while students in grades 5 and 8 are also assessed in science and social studies. High school students take an end-of-course assessment for the ten courses designated by the State Board of Education.

**ACCESS for ELLs 2.0** is administered, annually, to all English learners in Georgia. It's a standards-based, criterion-referenced English language proficiency test designed to measure English learners' social and academic proficiency in English. It assesses social and instructional English as well as the language associated with language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies within the school context across the four language domains. ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 meets the federal requirements that mandate states to evaluate EL students in grades K through 12 on their progress in learning to speak English.

### Georgia Alternate Assessment 2.0 (GAA 2.0)

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (IDEA) and the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) require that states ensure all students, including those with significant cognitive disabilities, have access to challenging academic standards and participate in the state's assessment program. Teachers may customize learning expectations for students based on GAA results.

### National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

Information on what American students know and can do is generated by NAEP. Commonly known as "The Nation's Report Card", NAEP is a congressionally mandated project of the U.S. Department of Education's [National Center for Education Statistics \(NCES\)](#).

-Reading and math assessments are given every two years with other content areas alternating.

-Grades 4, 8 and 12 are assessed, but results are only calculated in Georgia for grades 4 and 8.

### College Readiness Tests for Students

⇒ [ACT](https://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/ACT-Information-for-Students-and-Parents.aspx)—<https://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/ACT-Information-for-Students-and-Parents.aspx>

⇒ [AP](https://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/AP-Information-for-Students-and-Parents.aspx)—<https://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/AP-Information-for-Students-and-Parents.aspx>

⇒ [PSAT](https://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/PSAT-Information-for-Students-and-Parents.aspx)—<https://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/PSAT-Information-for-Students-and-Parents.aspx>

⇒ [SAT](https://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/SAT-Information-for-Students-and-Parents.aspx)—<https://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Curriculum-and-Instruction/Pages/SAT-Information-for-Students-and-Parents.aspx>