



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 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:

- **April 14, 2017:** Registration closes for spring Teacher Leadership Submission Window

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

PROGRAM UPDATES

New Director of ETS Client Relations.....	2
Two New Quick Reports Available in <i>ETS®</i> Data Manager.....	2
GACE Validity Document	2

PREPARING TEACHER CANDIDATES

Study Companion Updates.....	2
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TEACHER LEADERSHIP ASSESSMENT

Georgia Teacher Leadership Virtual Learning Community	3
Teacher Leadership Scores Released for Fall 2016 Submission Window	3
Spring 2017 Registration and Submission Window	3
Fall 2017 Registration and Submission Window	3
Rescheduling a Submission Window	4

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Cancellation and Rescheduling Fees Change	4
Paraprofessional Fee	4
Cost of Interactive Practice Tests to Increase.....	4

PROGRAM UPDATES

New Director of ETS Client Relations



Rick Cullors is returning to the GACE program as the ETS Director of Client Relations. Rick is taking over for Cory Murphy who is leaving ETS for a new position.

Many of you know Rick from his previous work with GACE. We are thrilled to have him back with us.

Rick can be reached directly at rcullors@ets.org.

Two New Quick Reports Available in ETS® Data Manager

Two new Quick reports are available in the Quick and Custom Analytical Reports function in ETS® Data Manager for GACE.

- Ethics Modules Percent Correct
- Teacher Leadership Pass Rates by Task

Ethics Modules Percent Correct shows the statewide number of examinees and the average percent correct at the module level. Statistics by multiple variables are also available (e.g., Reason for Testing, Repeater Status, Number of Attempts). You can view all modules (includes Educator Ethics Program Entry and Program Exit, and Ethics for Educational Leadership Program Entry and Program Exit), or you can choose any one of these options to display each module within that selection. You may also view the subtopics within each module by selecting “Include Subtopics.”

Teacher Leadership Pass Rates are shown at the overall assessment level, with average scores at the task level — number of possible points, number of examinees, average rating, and percent pass.

Quick and Custom Analytical Reports do not provide scores for individual test takers. Test-taker groups are customized for the individual ETS Data Manager user to ensure the privacy of the test takers as well as the individual educator program providers that serve them.

GACE Validity Document

A document regarding the validity of GACE, called *The GACE Validity Argument*, has been added to Resources in the Program Provider section of the GACE website at www.gace.ets.org/program_providers/resources. This document outlines the test design, test development process, standard setting, administration and scoring, and psychometrics of the GACE assessments.

PREPARING TEACHER CANDIDATES

Study Companion Updates

The following GACE Study Companions have been revised in response to feedback received from recent GACE surveys. Revisions include adding more questions, which will make these study companions more similar to the tests.

- Educational Leadership
- English
- English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
- Middle Grades Language Arts
- Middle Grades Reading
- Middle Grades Science
- Middle Grades Social Science
- Reading
- Special Education General Curriculum

- Special Education Mathematics and Science

Updated study companions for Early Childhood Education, Mathematics, Middle Grades Mathematics, and Special Education Reading, English Language Arts, and Social Studies are in the works and will be posted upon completion.

TEACHER LEADERSHIP ASSESSMENT

Launch of Georgia Teacher Leadership Virtual Learning Community (GTL-VLC)

GaPSC and Georgia Educator Preparation Programs (EPPs) with state-approved Teacher Leadership programs have collaboratively launched the Georgia Teacher Leadership Virtual Learning Community (GTL-VLC), initially with the purpose of scaling up for effective implementation of the GACE Teacher Leadership performance-based assessment. This collaborative initiative provides an avenue to learn and contribute to discussion on targeted topics focused on state policy, collaborative initiatives, and effective practice.

The vision of the GTL-VLC is school communities that embrace the power of teacher leadership to continuously improve the quality of teaching and impact on P–12 learning. The GTL-VLC’s mission priorities are to:

- leverage the work of Tiered Certification and Job-embedded Professional Learning reform to maximize and honor the role, responsibility, and potential of teacher leaders in today’s schools
- foster collaboration while sharing ideas and best practices and addressing challenges across EPPs and partners
- encourage outstanding teachers to pursue teacher leadership roles
- build capacity for effective implementation of performance-based assessments
- ensure program data analysis and use of these data to inform programs and practice

For Teacher Leadership EPPs and Partners: The GTL-VLC meets the third Tuesday of every month at 3:30 p.m.

There is also a virtual learning community for Educational Leadership EPPs and Partners, which is a collaboration of the Georgia Educational Leadership Faculty Association (GELFA) and GaPSC. Established in January 2016, The GELFA/GaPSC Virtual Learning Community (VLC) meets the last Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m.

Teacher Leadership Scores Released for Fall 2016 Submission Window

Scores for the Fall 2016 submission window were released on February 7, 2017. Official score reports are available via test takers’ testing accounts in the Teacher Leadership submission system.

Spring 2017 Registration and Submission Window

Registration	January 2, 2016–April 14, 2017
Submission Window	January 23, 2017–April 28, 2017

Fall 2017 Registration and Submission Window

Registration	July 7, 2016–December 15, 2017
Submission Window	May 22, 2017–December 29, 2017

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.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Cancellation and Rescheduling Fees Change

Effective January 15, 2017:

- Fee for test takers to change their test center, test date, or testing time increased from \$15 to \$25.
- Cancellations processed **at least three calendars days before the test date** are eligible for a refund. Candidates will be refunded their registration fee, the test center fee, and 50 percent of the remaining test fee. The international test site fee is not refundable.

Paraprofessional Fee Increase

The GACE Paraprofessional assessment test fee will increase from \$35 to \$38 effective June 1, 2017.

Cost of Interactive Practice Tests (IPTs) to Increase

Effective June 1, 2017, the cost of an Interactive Practice Test (IPT) will increase from \$15 to \$18.