

Georgia Milestones Assessment System

The Georgia Milestones Assessment System (Georgia Milestones) is a comprehensive summative assessment program spanning grades 3 through high school.

Georgia Milestones measures how well students have learned the knowledge and skills outlined in the state-adopted 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 each of the ten courses designated by the State Board of Education.

Features the Georgia Milestone Assessment System include:

- open-ended (constructed-response) items in English Language Arts and mathematics (all grades and courses);
- a writing component (in response to passages read by students) at every grade level and course within the English Language Arts assessment;
- norm-referenced items in all content areas and courses, to complement the criterion-referenced information and to provide a national comparison; and
- transition to online administration over time, with online administration considered the primary mode of administration and paper-pencil as back-up until the transition is complete.

What is the purpose of Georgia Milestones?

The Georgia Milestones Assessment System is designed to provide information about how well students are mastering the state-adopted content standards in the core content areas of English Language Arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.

Importantly, Georgia Milestones is designed to provide students with critical information about their own achievement and their readiness for their next level of learning – be it the next grade, the next course, or endeavor (college or career).

Informing parents, educators, and the public about how well students are learning important content is an essential aspect of any educational assessment and accountability system. Parents, the public, and policy makers, including local school districts and boards of education, can use the results as a barometer of the quality of educational opportunity provided throughout the state of Georgia.

As such, Georgia Milestones serves as a key component of the state’s accountability system – the College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI).

What content areas and grade levels are tested?

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 each of the ten courses designated by the State Board of Education.

Students at the high school level will take an end-of-course assessment in the following ten courses:

- English Language Arts
 - Ninth Grade Literature and Composition
 - American Literature and Composition
- Mathematics
 - Algebra I or Coordinate Algebra
 - Geometry or Analytic Geometry
- Science
 - Biology
 - Physical Science
- Social Studies
 - United States History
 - Economics/Business/Free Enterprise

The end-of-course measures are administered at the completion of the course, regardless of the grade level. These measures serve as the final exam for the course, and contribute 20% to the student's final course grade.

Each school district selects a local testing window, based on their local school calendar, from within the state-designated testing window. Middle school students who are enrolled in one or more of these courses are required to take the associated end-of-course (EOC) measure.

If enrolled in a mathematics and/or science EOC course, these middle school students will not take the corresponding content area end-of-grade (EOG) measure.

<http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/Georgia-Milestones-Assessment-System.aspx>

(Taken from the Georgia Department of Education)

Georgia Milestones Study/Resource Guides

The Study/Resource Guides are intended to serve as a resource for parents and students. They contain practice questions and learning activities for each content area. The standards identified in the Study/Resource Guides address a sampling of the state-mandated content standards.

Georgia Milestones End of Grade Study/Resource Guides

<http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/EOG-Study-Resource-Guides.aspx>

Georgia Milestones End of Course Study/Resource Guides

<http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/EOC-Study-Resource-Guides.aspx>

Testing resources

Parents & students can practice by using these tests.

<https://parcc.pearson.com/practice-tests/>

<http://www.gaexperienceonline.com/>

Testing Resources are available to help students get ready for standardized tests. Choose to view the different assessment programs administered at the various grade levels as well as resources to help your students prepare. For general assessment program information, including currently scheduled test administration dates, access the **Testing** web page on the Georgia Department of Education's website.

<https://www.georgiastandards.org/Resources/Pages/Tools/TestingResources.aspx>

(Taken from the Georgia Department of Education)