



Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Georgia Milestones Assessment System?

The Georgia Milestones Assessment System (GMAS) is the state-mandated testing program for students in grades 3 through high school. It is designed to measure how well students have mastered the knowledge and skills relative to the state-adopted curriculum in the areas of English/language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. Students in grades 3-8 take the GMAS End of Grade (EOG) tests, while high school students take the GMAS End of Course (EOC) tests.

When do students take the GMAS?

Students taking designated high school GMAS End of Course (EOC) courses test near the end of the course – typically at the end of first semester and second semester. Students in grades 3-8 take the GMAS End of Grade (EOG) during the spring of each school year.

For the 2017-18 school year, the GMAS EOG test window for students in grades 3-8 is April 11-20. The test windows for students enrolled in high school GMAS EOC courses are December 4-15 for courses ending Semester 1, and April 23 – May 4 for courses on a year-long or Semester 2 schedule.

[For more detailed information on the testing calendar, including dates for each subject area, please click here to view the Assessment Calendar on our district website.](#)

How will the GMAS scores impact my student?

The GMAS test scores are used as an indicator of students' mastery of grade-level and course content and readiness for the next level. The scores are also used to meet state and federal requirements for school accountability.

For students taking the high school GMAS End of Course assessments, the GMAS serves as the final exam and counts as 20% of the student's final grade. For students in grades 3, 5, and 8, GMAS End of Grade scores will be considered as one among multiple indicators of student readiness for the next grade level. Other factors that are typically considered include MAP scores, attendance, and course grades.

How can I help my child prepare for GMAS?

GMAS Study Guides include sample items and explanations of correct answers, and are posted in the [Assessment Resources section](#) of our public website.

Students who will be tested online should also be given plenty of opportunities to become familiar with the online testing environment via the [GA Experience Online website](#).

It is also very important to encourage your student to do his or her very best, and to remain positive, calm, and not over-stress about the test.

Will my student have an opportunity to retest?

For the 2017-18 school year, a retest option is planned for both the GMAS End of Grade and GMAS End of Course (EOC) tests.

Students in grades 3, 5, and 8 who score Below Grade Level on the reading section of the ELA EOG test, and students in grade 5 and 8 who score at the Beginning level on the Math EOG test, are eligible to retest May 14-17.

Students who earn a grade conversion score below 70 on a high school End of Course test may retest during the next mid-month testing window, or during the summer if the first test was taken in the spring. Summer retest dates are June 21-27, 2018.

[For more detailed information on the testing calendar, including dates for each subject area, please click here to view the Assessment Calendar on our district website.](#)

Which grade levels test online?

For the 2017-18 school year, high school EOCs and Retests in all grade levels (grades 3, 5, 8, and high school) will continue to be given online. In general, EOGs for students in grades 3, 5, 6, and 8 will also be administered online. However, factors such as a student's IEP accommodations and availability of online testing devices can lead to variations for specific schools and students. Please contact your child's school if you have questions regarding whether your child will be taking the online version of the GMAS.

When will I get my student's GMAS scores?

If your student is eligible for retesting, you will be notified by the school once retest roster reports become available. We expect to receive the EOG retest rosters during the week of April 30 and EOC retest rosters prior to the end of school. Parent/student copies of GMAS score reports taken in the spring typically arrive in late summer, and are distributed near the beginning of the next school year.

If you have [PowerSchool Parent Access](#), you will be also able to access your student's GMAS results via the Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS). Spring test results are typically available in SLDS by the end of July. For information on how to obtain PowerSchool Parent Access, please contact your child's school.

What do the GMAS scores look like?

Georgia Milestones reports scores in multiple ways, including student achievement within the following four levels:

- Beginning Learners -- do not yet demonstrate proficiency in the knowledge and skills specified in Georgia's content standards, and need substantial academic support to be prepared for the next grade level/course and to be on track for college and career readiness
- Developing Learners -- demonstrate partial proficiency in the knowledge and skills specified by Georgia's content standards, and need additional academic support to ensure success in the next grade level/course and to be on track for college and career readiness
- Proficient Learners -- demonstrate proficiency in the knowledge and skills specified in Georgia's content standards, are prepared for the next grade level or course, and are on track for college and career readiness
- Distinguished Learners: -- demonstrate advanced proficiency in the knowledge and skills specified in Georgia's content standards, and are well prepared for the next grade level/course and for college and career readiness.

Your student's GMAS results will also include scale scores, percentile rank scores, and domain level scores. More information on scoring is available on the [Assessment Resources section](#) of the SCCPSS public website.

Where can I go to learn more about the GMAS tests?

[Click here to access additional GMAS information from the Georgia Department of Education.](#)