



Dr. John D. Barge, State School Superintendent

July 25, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: Assessment Directors
Special Education Directors

FROM: Tony Eitel
Director for Assessment Administration

SUBJECT: Georgia Alternate Assessment (GAA) Fall 2011 Training

In preparation for the 2011-2012 administration of the GAA, the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) will be conducting pre-administration training online, via webinar, on ElluminateLive! The purpose of these webinars is to provide information to guide the appropriate system-level and school-level staff in the development of portfolios that showcase the achievement and progress of students with significant cognitive disabilities. Topics will also include ethics and portfolio validation, peer review, and guidance regarding redelivery in your local system. Representatives from the GaDOE and Questar Assessment, Inc. will be presenting the webinars.

The ElluminateLive! website can be accessed through the following link:

<http://illuminate.gavirtuelschool.org/testing/>

No password is required.

Assessment Directors are expected to collaborate with their Special Education Directors to determine staff attendance, keeping in mind the focus is the redelivery of training in their local system. Assessment Directors are encouraged to attend one full-day session.

Six webinars will be offered, the last of which will be specifically for those who are new to the GAA. The specific dates and times for the webinars are listed on the following page.

Thank you in advance for arranging to attend these important webinars. Should you have any questions regarding this training, please do not hesitate to contact Deborah Houston via email dhouston@doe.k12.ga.us or phone 404-657-0251.

cc: System Superintendents
Dr. John D. Barge, State School Superintendent
Dr. Mike Buck, Chief Academic Officer
Martha Reichrath, Ph.D., Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
Melissa Fincher, Associate Superintendent for Assessment and Accountability
Deborah Gay, Director of Special Education Services
GNETS Testing Directors
RESA Directors
State Schools Testing Coordinators

"Making Education Work for All Georgians"

GAA Pre-Administration Training Dates and Times

DATE	TIME
August 11	1:00pm – 4:00pm
August 12	1:00pm – 4:00pm
August 15	1:00pm – 4:00pm
August 16	1:00pm – 4:00pm
August 17	1:00pm – 4:00pm
August 23 <i>Introduction to the GAA (for new examiners)</i>	1:00pm – 4:00pm