

Table 3. Overview of Additional Georgia Assessments

Assessment	Description
Georgia Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills (GKIDS)	<p>The Georgia Quality Basic Education Act (QBE) requires that all children enrolled in Georgia public school kindergarten programs be assessed for first-grade readiness.</p> <p>The Georgia Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills (GKIDS) became fully operational in the 2008-2009 school year and will reflect more precise mathematics standards beginning in the 2010-2011 school year. The GKIDS is a year-long, performance-based assessment serving both a summative and formative role. The test is designed to provide feedback about student progress in four GPS aligned domains: English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies; and three additional domains: personal/social development, approaches to learning, and motor skills.</p>
National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)	<p>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).</p> <p>The purpose of the national assessment is to gather information that will aid educators, legislators, and others in improving the education experience of youth in our country. Its primary goals are to measure the current status of the educational attainments of young Americans and to report changes and long-term trends in those attainments.</p> <p>NAEP is administered at least once every two years in reading and mathematics in grades 4, 8, and 12. The assessment is given to statistically representative samples of students from each state.</p>
Iowa Tests of Basic Skills (ITBS)	<p>Georgia law mandates that a nationally norm-referenced test be administered annually to students in grades 3, 5, and 8. The law mandates that such testing include reading, mathematics, science, and social studies. The purpose of the norm-referenced test is to obtain information about how the performance of Georgia’s students compares with that of students in a national sample. The Georgia Department of Education provides the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills to meet this requirement.</p>
ACCESS for English Language Learners (ELLs)	<p>ACCESS for ELLs is administered annually to all English language learners in Georgia. A standards-based, criterion-referenced English language proficiency test, ACCESS measures English language 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 meets the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 mandate requiring states to evaluate ELL students in grades K through 12 on their progress in learning to speak English.</p>
Lexile Framework for Reading	<p>As part of the Georgia Department of Education’s mission to develop good readers, Lexile measures were linked to scores on the Reading Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests (CRCT) and the Language Arts Georgia High School Graduation Test (GHSGT).</p> <p>A Lexile is a standard score that matches a student’s reading ability with difficulty of text material. More than a test score, a Lexile measure is a tool to assist students, their parents, and teachers in selecting material that matches their students’ current reading comprehension level.</p>
<p>Source: Georgia Department of Education Office of Standards, Instruction and Assessment. Retrieved from http://www.gadoe.org.</p>	

