

Table 2 Georgia’s Primary State-Level Assessments

Assessment	History	Description	Grade Level & Subject Area		Outcome/Consequence	Used for CCRPI Determination
CRCT (Criterion Referenced Competency Tests)	Mandated by Georgia law, as amended by the A+ Education Reform Act of 2000.	Measures how well students acquire the skills and knowledge described in the Georgia Performance Standards (GPS) and the Quality Core Curriculum (QCC). Used to diagnose individual student strengths and weaknesses as related to the instruction of the GPS/QCC, and to gauge the quality of education throughout Georgia.	1-2** 3-8	Reading English/ Language Arts Mathematics Reading English /Language Arts Mathematics Science Social Studies	CRCT results impact student retention at some levels. Student performance on 3 rd grade reading and 5 th and 8 th grades mathematics determines grade-level promotion.	Yes
EOCT (End of Course Tests)	Mandated by the A+ Educational Reform Act of 2000.	Assesses specific content knowledge and skills related to core academic courses. Provides diagnostic information to help students identify strengths and areas of need in learning, therefore improving performance in all high school courses and on other assessments, such as the GHSGT. Provides data to evaluate the effectiveness of classroom instruction at the school and system levels.	9-12*	Mathematics: Algebra I Geometry Social Studies: US History Economics Science: Biology Physical Science English/ Language Arts: 9 th grade Lit/Comp American Lit/Comp	* Any student enrolled in and/or receiving credit for an EOCT course, regardless of grade level, is required to take the EOCT upon completion of that course. A student’s EOCT score is averaged in as 15% of the final course grade.	No
GHSGT (Georgia High School Graduation Test)	Mandated by 1991 Georgia law.	Measures mastery of the knowledge and skills that educators agree constitute a comprehensive high school education. Ensures that students who earn a Georgia diploma meet performance standards established for graduation.	11-12	English /Language Arts Mathematics Science Social Studies	Students seeking a Georgia high school diploma, who entered high school prior to July 2011, must pass the Georgia High School Graduation Tests (GHSGT) in four content areas as well as the Georgia High School Writing Test.	No
GAA (Georgia Alternative Assessment)	Re-designed to meet mandates of NCLB and IDEA.	Based on alternate achievement standards, allowing for the unique learning characteristics of students with significant cognitive disabilities. Consists of a portfolio of student work showing achievement and progress students have made in knowledge and skills aligned to the state’s curriculum.	K-2 3-8, 11	English/ Language Arts Mathematics English/ Language Arts Mathematics Science Social Studies	Students with significant cognitive disabilities must earn a proficient score on the high school (11 th grade) GAA to receive a high school diploma.	Yes
Writing	Required	Performance-based assessment	3, 5,	Various writing	Students seeking	No

Assessments <i>*11th grade assessment is the Georgia High School Writing Test</i>	by Georgia law.	of a student's writing skills. Provides diagnostic feedback to teachers, students, and parents about individual performance.	8, and 11**	genres at different grade levels (including narrative, informational, persuasive, and response to literature).	high school diploma must pass 11 th grade writing assessment.	
<p>Source: Georgia Department of Education Office of Standards, Instruction and Assessment. Retrieved from http://www.gadoe.org. The CRCT in 1st and 2nd grades, and the writing assessment in 3rd and 5th grades were eliminated in the FY 2011 budget.</p>						