

March 1, 2007

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** System Test Coordinators  
Special Education Directors

**FROM:** Christopher Domaleski, Ph.D.  
Director of Testing

**SUBJECT:** Georgia Alternate Assessment (GAA): Nominations of Teachers for Standard Setting

The Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) is seeking recommendations for judges in the upcoming GAA Standard Setting event. The Standard Setting session is scheduled for April 30, through May 4, 2007, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Atlanta area. Selected participants will be notified of the location and other relevant information by April 9, 2007.

The Standard Setting will be conducted to determine performance standards in the academic content areas in which the GAA is being implemented. These areas include English/language arts in grades K-8 and 11, mathematics in grades K-8 and 11, science in grades 3-8 and 11, and social studies grades in 3-8 and 11. We are soliciting nominations from school districts for two groups of teachers to serve as judges.

1. The majority of judges will be teachers of students with significant cognitive disabilities. Each district may submit one or two nominations at each of the following grade level bands: K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 11.
2. Nominated teachers from general education at each grade level, K-8 and 11, with content area expertise in English/language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies are also needed.

A minimum of 20 judges will be required for each content area. It is imperative that participants selected for these sessions be committed to attending the entire five days (April 30 – May 4). System Test Coordinators/Special Education Directors should use the attached form to submit the names of qualified teachers as nominees for consideration.

Please complete and submit one form for each person nominated. Nominations must be faxed to Peggy Larson at Questar Educational Systems **no later than March 22, 2007**. The FAX number is 1-866-688-0419, and is also listed on the nomination form. Peggy Larson may also be reached by phone at 1-800-688-0120 ext. 690.

Depending upon the response to this call, the GaDOE may be unable to select all teachers who have been nominated. Participants selected to serve as judges will be notified via email by April 9, 2007. Nominees who are not selected to participate will be notified as well.

Participants who qualify will be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses. Reimbursement for participants will be at the rates authorized by the GaDOE and in accordance with the State of Georgia Travel Regulations. Substitute/stipend reimbursement will also be paid for qualified participants. Lodging expenses will be direct billed to Questar Educational Systems. Breakfast and lunch will be provided each day.

Thank you for your help with this important part of the GAA program. If you have any questions or need additional information related to the Standard Setting event, please contact Deborah Houston at (404) 657-0251 or [dhouston@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:dhouston@doe.k12.ga.us).

CD/dh

cc: System Superintendents  
Curriculum Coordinators  
Psychoeducational Program Directors  
Cynthia Ashby, Ph.D. State Schools  
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