

Kathy Cox, State Superintendent of Schools

October 9, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: System Test Coordinators
Title III/ESOL Coordinators

FROM: Jeff Barker, Ph. D.
Director, Assessment Administration Division
Chris Scott, Ed. D.
Program Manager, Title III/ESOL

SUBJECT: Pre-Administration Workshops for Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State to State for English Language Learners (ACCESS for ELLs) and Training for the Administration of the WIDA ACCESS Placement Test (W-APT)

In preparation for the 2008 administration of ACCESS for ELLs and continuing training of the W-APT, the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) will be conducting pre-administration workshops for ACCESS for ELLs in the morning and training sessions for the W-APT in the afternoon during the week of November 13-16, 2007. The dates and locations for the workshops are listed below. Although responsibility for the administration of ACCESS for ELLs falls under the domain of the Division of Assessment and Accountability, and the administration of W-APT lies with the Title III/ESOL Department, this collaborative effort by the two divisions best utilize the resources provided by WIDA.

The morning session will be hosted by Deborah Houston from the Assessment Administration Division and will address the pre-administration of ACCESS for ELLs. The afternoon session will be hosted by Dr. Mae Wlazlinski from the Title III/ESOL Department and will address the administration of the W-APT.

<p>November 13, 2007 8:30am – 11:30am (ACCESS for ELLs)</p> <p>12:30pm-3:00pm (W-APT)</p>	<p>Oconee RESA/Multipurpose Building 206 South Main St. Tennille, GA 31089 478-552-5178</p>
<p>November 14, 2007 8:30am – 11:30am (ACCESS for ELLs)</p> <p>12:30pm-3:00pm (W-APT)</p>	<p>Pierce County Board of Education/Board Room 834 E. Main Street Blackshear, Georgia 31516 912-449-2044</p>
<p>November 15, 2007 8:30am – 11:30am (ACCESS for ELLs)</p> <p>12:30pm-3:00pm (W-APT)</p>	<p>Houston County Board of Education / Board Room 1100 Main St. Perry, GA. 31069 478-988-6200</p>
<p>November 16, 2007 8:30am – 11:30am (ACCESS for ELLs)</p> <p>12:30pm-3:00pm (W-APT)</p>	<p>Capitol Education Center/Auditorium 180 Central Avenue Atlanta, GA 30303 404-463-7720 <i>Use the Underground Atlanta Parking Garage on Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. at Central Ave. The cost is \$8.</i></p>

The purpose of these workshops is twofold: 1) to review and update System Test Coordinators on the administration requirements for this year's ACCESS for ELLs and 2) to review and update Title III/ESOL Coordinators on the administration of the W-APT. Representatives from GaDOE and the World-class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) consortium will be conducting the ACCESS workshops, which are scheduled to begin at 8:30am and conclude at approximately 11:30am and W-APT sessions are scheduled to begin at 12:30pm and conclude at 3:00pm.

While System Test Coordinators and Title III/ESOL Coordinators may attend both sessions, each System Test Coordinator is expected to attend one of the scheduled ACCESS for ELLs workshops and Title III/ESOL Coordinators (or their designee) are expected to attend one of the scheduled W-APT sessions. In order to make certain there is adequate space and materials, please fax or email your completed reservation form to Connie Caldwell in the Assessment and Accountability Division at (404) 656-5976 or ccaldwell@doe.k12.ga.us, **no later than Monday, November 5, 2007**. Attendees are responsible for travel, meals, and lodging expenses.

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The *ACCESS for ELLs District and School Test Administration Manual, 2007-2008* and the *Test Administrator's Directions for Kindergarten, 2007-2008* will be available to download from the GaDOE web site on November 7, 2007. Hard copies will not be available at the workshops.

Thank you in advance for making plans to attend these important workshops.

If you have questions regarding ACCESS for ELLs and the assessment of ELL students in Georgia or need additional information related to these workshops, please contact Deborah Houston in the Assessment Administration Division by phone at 404-657-0251 or by email at dhouston@doe.k12.ga.us.

If you have questions regarding the identification of students for language assistance services or the administration of the W-APT, please contact Dr. Mae Wlazlinski in the Title III/ESOL Department by phone at 404-463-2588 or by email at mwlazlin@doe.k12.ga.us

CS JB/dmh

Enclosures: ACCESS for ELLs Pre-Administration Registration Form
W-APT Administration Training Registration Form

cc: System Superintendents
Kathy Cox, State Superintendent of Schools
Martha Reichrath, Ph.D., Deputy State Superintendent
Chris Domaleski, Ph.D., Associate Superintendent
Marlene R. Bryar, Associate Superintendent
Georgia Network for Educational and Therapeutic Support (GNETS) Program Directors
RESA Directors
Lynn Roberts