

Kathy Cox, State Superintendent of Schools

October 14, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: System Test Coordinators
Title III/ESOL Coordinators

FROM: Jeff Barker, Ph. D.
Director, Assessment Administration Division

SUBJECT: Pre-Administration Training for Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State to State for English Language Learners (ACCESS for ELLs)

In preparation for the 2009 administration of ACCESS for ELLs the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) will be conducting pre-administration training for ACCESS for ELLs on November 18-20, 2008. These sessions will be presented via Elluminate, an interactive, web-based classroom. There will be three sessions, one on each day. The schedule for the sessions is listed below.

November 18, 2008	9:00am-12:00 pm
November 19, 2008	1:00-4:00 pm
November 20, 2008	9:00am-12:00 pm

The workshop will be hosted by Deborah Houston from the Assessment Administration Division with presentations by Ms. Houston and Maureen Keithley, from the World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) consortium. The purpose of the training is to review and update System Test Coordinators on the administration requirements for this year's ACCESS for ELLs. Because several System Test Coordinators have the dual responsibility for managing their system's Title III/ESOL program, a brief review and update of the administration of the W-APT will also be included in the presentation.

System Test Coordinators are expected to attend one of the scheduled sessions. Title III/ESOL Coordinators (or their designee) are invited to attend any one of the three sessions.

The *ACCESS for ELLs District and School Test Administration Manual, 2008-2009* and the *Test Administrator's Directions for Kindergarten, 2008-2009* will be available to download from the GaDOE web site on November 12, 2008.

The sessions can be located at <http://illuminate.gavirtualschool.org/testing/> and may be accessed by clicking on the name of the meeting 10 minutes before the scheduled start time. Attached are instructions on how to access this Elluminate session. If you cannot attend the session on the scheduled date and time, a recording will be archived for users to review at their convenience.

Testing Web Page

http://www.gadoe.org/ci_testing.aspx



EliminateQuickStartv2.pdf

Thank you in advance for making plans to attend one of these important sessions. If you have questions regarding ACCESS for ELLs and the assessment of ELL students in Georgia or need additional information related to these sessions, 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. Chris Scott, Program Manager, Title III/ESOL Programs by phone at 404-656-2067 or by email at clscott@doe.k12.ga.us.

JB/dmh

cc: Kathy Cox, State Superintendent of Schools
Martha Reichrath, Ph.D., Deputy State Superintendent, Office of Standards, Instruction, and Assessment
Stephen Pruitt, Associate Superintendent, Assessment and Accountability
Garry McGiboney, Ph.D., Associate Superintendent, Innovative Instruction
Chris Scott, Ed. D., Program Manager, Title III/ESOL
Georgia Network for Educational and Therapeutic Support (GNETS) Program Directors
RESA Directors