



The GKIDS Readiness Check

Reminders and Considerations

The Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE), in partnership with the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL), is pleased to announce the operational launch of the GKIDS Readiness Check.

The GKIDS Readiness Check is a new component of the Georgia Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills (GKIDS) and is designed to provide teachers with important information about children’s learning and development as they enter kindergarten. As part of the GKIDS, the GKIDS Readiness Check offers an early assessment window to support teachers in designing individualized instruction. The GKIDS Readiness Check is designed to be developmentally appropriate and will be used primarily for planning and instructional purposes.

The following are some reminders and considerations in regard to preparation for the GKIDS Readiness Check.

Reminders

- Districts should decide whether teachers will manually add students at the beginning of the year or, if at the system level, a roster of kindergarten students will be uploaded to the GKIDS website. The roster upload functionality eliminates the need for the pre-ID cycle and the associated “downtime” when the GKIDS platform is unavailable.
- All system coordinator, school coordinator, and teacher information in the GKIDS website for the 2016-17 school year will remain intact unless requested otherwise by systems.
 - School coordinators should assign login names and passwords to new teachers at the beginning of the school year.
 - System coordinators should assign login names and passwords to new school coordinators at the beginning of the school year.
 - If you are a new system test coordinator or, if as a coordinator, you have transitioned to a new system or role, please contact the Georgia Center for Assessment regarding your login credentials.
- The administration window of the GKIDS Readiness Check is unique to each district and is dependent on your district’s start date. The window closes 6 weeks (or 30 school days) from the first day of school. Each district’s assessment window end date will be communicated in early July.
- Certified teachers and paraprofessionals who hold licensure in the state of Georgia may administer the GKIDS Readiness Check. Educators administering the GKIDS Readiness Check **must** complete training, including the required teacher training webinar and Modules 1-6, prior to the administration window.
- The GKIDS Readiness Check resources can be accessed through the GaDOE website GKIDS Readiness Check landing page (beginning in May) and the GKIDS platform (beginning in mid-July). Resources include documents such as the GKIDS Readiness Check Administration Manual, Optional Resources (e.g., checklists which may be used to collect data, a materials list for planning, etc.), Reminders and Considerations, and Next Steps Guide for instructional planning.

<http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/Readiness.aspx>

- Data collection and reporting for the GKIDS Readiness Check will occur through the existing GKIDS platform. Please reference the GKIDS Readiness Check manual and Training Module 5 for screenshots and explicit directions.

Training Considerations

Training for the administration of the GKIDS Readiness Check will be facilitated via online training webinars and modules. Training for the GKIDS Readiness Check should occur prior to the first day of school for all educators who will administer any of the activities.

- Training Modules for the GKIDS Readiness Check are available to teachers in the Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS).
- Modules 1-3 include general information about the GKIDS Readiness Check and administration activities assessed using direct and indirect methods. Module 5 (Data Collection and Reporting) and Module 6 (Using the GKIDS Readiness Check to Inform Instruction), along with Modules 1-3 may be viewed as a group or individually by teachers.
- Module 4, however, **must be viewed individually**. This module provides teachers both guided and independent practice evaluating student performance on the GKIDS Readiness Check. The quiz component included in Module 4 helps to ensure that student performance is being viewed through the same lens by all who administer the GKIDS Readiness Check.
- Onscreen certificates of completion are provided with each module. It is recommended that teachers print and/or save the certificates as a record of completion. These may be housed at the classroom, school or even district level.
- It is recommended that documentation of Module 4 completion by all participating educators be collected and retained at the district level.

Contact Information

GKIDS Readiness Check:

Ashley Hope, Ed.D.
Assessment Specialist
Georgia Department of Education
(404) 657-0312
ahope@doe.k12.ga.us

Jan Reyes, Ed.D.
Program Manager, Test Content Development
Georgia Department of Education
(404) 463-6665
jreyes@doe.k12.ga.us

GKIDS Platform:

Kay Elder, M.Ed.
Assistant Director
Georgia Center for Assessment
Toll free: (888) 392-8977

kselder@uga.edu

SLDS:

Angie Baker
Technology Services Manager, Office of Technology Services
Georgia Department of Education
(404) 656-2135
abaker@doe.k12.ga.us