



Dr. John D. Barge, State School Superintendent
"Making Education Work for All Georgians"

Transition from CRCT-M to the General Assessment Information for Georgia's Parents

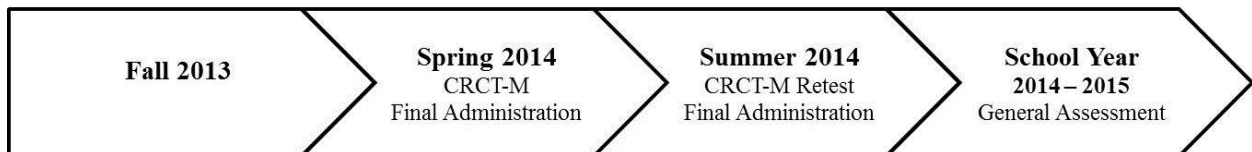
Background

Recently, the United States Department of Education (US ED) announced a proposed revision to its rules regarding Alternate Assessments based on Modified Achievement Standards (AA-MAS). Georgia's AA-MAS is the Criterion-Referenced Competency Test – Modified (CRCT-M). Georgia has administered the CRCT-M in grades 3 – 8 since the 2010-2011 school year.

We anticipate that the last administration of the CRCT-M will be the 2013-2014 administration. The final administration of the CRCT-M for grades 3 – 8 in Reading, English Language Arts (ELA), and Mathematics will occur spring 2014, followed by the final CRCT-M Retest administration for Grade 3 Reading and Grades 5 & 8 Reading and Mathematics in summer 2014.

This document is designed to inform parents as they plan with their student's IEP team for transition from the CRCT-M to the general assessment for Reading, ELA, and Mathematics.

Timeline



Helpful Information

What do I need to know for my next IEP team meeting?

There are some questions you may want to ask members of your student's IEP team during the next IEP meeting. These questions can help guide your understanding of how your student will be supported during the transition from the CRCT-M to the general assessment.

- In what content area(s) is the CRCT-M being used to assess my student?
- What accommodations are currently used to support instruction and assessment for my student?
- What specialized instructional strategies will be used to help my student become more independent in completing academic work?
- What accommodations will my student have when taking the general assessment?

What assessment(s) will my student take instead of the CRCT-M?

Students who currently take the CRCT-M will be assessed using Georgia's general assessment beginning in 2014-2015. It is important to remember that all students who were assessed using the CRCT-M in previous years were still assessed using the general assessment in Science and Social Studies. Thus, students remained familiar with such an assessment. Additionally, it is important to remember that assessment using the CRCT-M was determined by each specific content area in any combination of Reading, ELA, and Mathematics. In short, this means that all students previously tested using the CRCT-M remain familiar with the format and expectations of the general assessment.

What help will be provided to support my student's transition back to the general assessment?

Your student's IEP team can assist in suggesting instructional strategies to support your student with the transition to the general assessment. These instructional strategies may be implemented in the classroom or at home. Inquiring about instructional strategies used daily in school may serve as an additional way to support continued learning at home.

Can my student still receive testing accommodations when they return to the general assessment(s)?

The same accommodations and relevant guidelines that applied to the CRCT-M also apply to the general assessment. This means that accommodations, as outlined in your student's IEP, may remain available for the general assessment. However, a thorough review of your student's testing accommodations would be an appropriate topic at your student's next IEP meeting to ensure that accommodations, for which your student may be eligible, are designated in his or her 2014-2015 IEP.

Helpful Resources and Websites

Below are some resources which may be of use as you support your student for the transition to the General Assessment.

Title	Description	Link
CRCT Study Guides	Grade specific study guides for the State General Assessment	http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/CRCT-Study-Guides.aspx
GaDOE Special Education Service	Information to support guardians of students with disabilities (includes information regarding accommodations)	http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Special-Education-Services/Pages/Information-for-Parents.aspx
The Power of Strategy Instruction	Overview of learning strategies for students with disabilities	http://nichcy.org/research/ee/learning-strategies