



Division for Special Education Services and Supports

Did you bring your umbrella?

**G-CASE Spring Legal Conference
March 4, 2024**



Georgia Department of Education

Leadership Structure – Federal Programs



Office of Federal Programs - Organizational Chart

Division of Federal ESSA Programs

Division of Special Education Services and Supports



Shaun Owen
Deputy Superintendent



Kathleen Yarbrough
State Director (ESSA)



John Wight
Associate Superintendent



Wina Low
State Director (IDEA)

Program Managers

 Christopher Leonard Title IIA	 Dawna Hatcher Title IVA	 Eric McGhee Grants Unit	 James Barnett 21st CCLC	 Sunita Holloway Outreach
 Margaritta Munoz Title IC	 Ken Banter Title IA	 Meg Baker Title III / ESOL	 Brittan Ayers Coordinated Programs	

Program Managers

 Felicia Peavy RDA Compliance	 Lynn Holland Programmatic Supports	 Vickie Cleveland GNETS	 Malissa Roberts Position Budget/Grants	 Linda Castellanos Data/GO-IEP
 Katherine Johnson Instruction/Systemic Improvement	 Scott Smith Dispute Resolution	 Jamila Pollard Dispute Resolution		

Goals FY24



GaDOE #1 - Ensure access to a well-rounded education for every child in every part of our state.



Reduce the number of students instructed with extended content standards and assessed on GAA 2.0 to 1% or less.



Provide professional learning, resources and coaching for Specially Designed Instruction to address academics and behavior.



Enhance General Supervision Practices to include targeted support.

Goals FY24



GaDOE #4 - Ensure every high school student graduates with a jumpstart on post-secondary success.



Reduce the dropout rate for students with disabilities.



Increase graduation rates for students with disabilities.

Believe

achingwithsimplicity.com

"Every child has a different learning style and pace. Each child is unique, not only capable of learning but also capable of succeeding."

- Robert John Meehan

"We believe all students can achieve."
- Heather Wolpert Gawron, Middle School Teacher



eduimage.org

The best gift you can give a child with special needs is your friendship. To include them, play with them & believe in them!



Friends Uplift The Soul

Spectrum Superstars

BELIEVING IN YOURSELF IS THE FIRST SECRET TO Success



"IF THEY CAN'T LEARN THE WAY WE TEACH, WE TEACH THE WAY THEY LEARN."

DR. O. IVAR LOVAAS

ANDNEXTCOMESL.C

"THERE IS ABILITY IN EVERY DISABILITY"



"It shouldn't matter how slowly some children learn as long as we are encouraging them not to stop."

Robert John Meehan



A lot of disabilities are invisible. Your reaction to them isn't.

LIFE WITH A SIDE OF THE UNEXPECTED

All kids need is a little help, a little hope and someone who believes in them.

Magic Johnson



believe in yourself

There is an ability behind every disability.

“

We rise to great heights by a winding staircase of small steps.

FRANCIS BACON

Brightwater



“YOU ARE BRAVER THAN YOU
BELIEVE, STRONGER THAN
YOU SEEM AND SMARTER
THAN YOU THINK.”

A.A MILNE



Magic

is believing in yourself,
if you can do that, you can
make anything happen.



Did you bring
your umbrella
today?

Focus on Priorities – Professional Learning

Partnership with
Emory Autism Center

Special Education
School
Administrators
Academy (SESAA)

Special Education
Leadership
Development
Academy (SELDA)

Check & Connect
State Initiative for
Drop-Out Prevention

Specially Designed
Instruction (SDI)

FBA/BIP

Back to Basics Series
General Supervision,
Behavior, IEP Writing

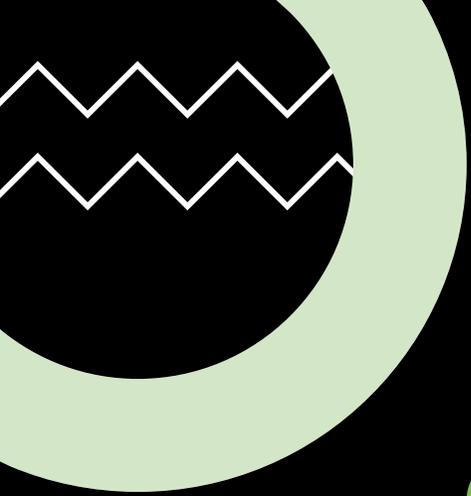
Developing 7 on-
demand, high quality
learning modules

Disproportionality

Disproportionality
Onsite Visits

FY 24 - 3 LEAs -10
years or more

FY25 - 4 LEAs - 6
years or more

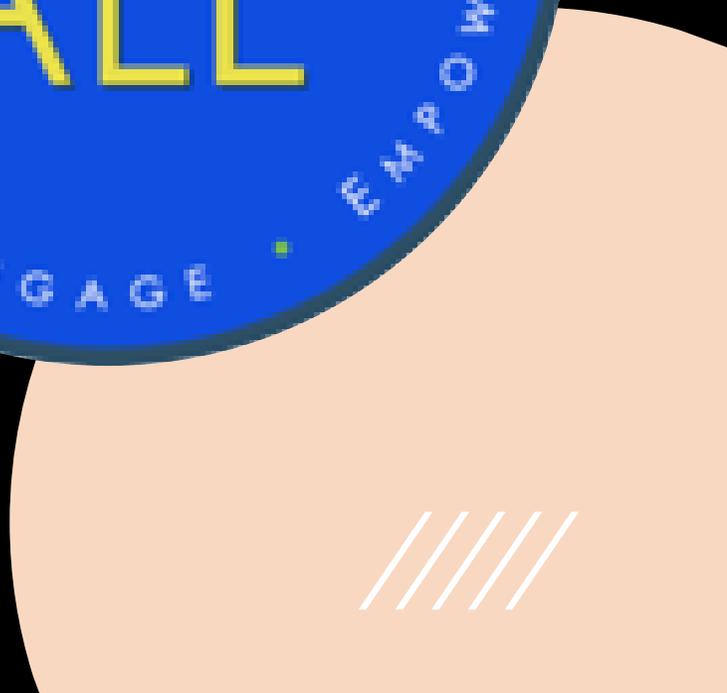


OSEP Call to Action for Transition

BELONGING

BEYOND IDEA AND WIOA

[EXPECT, ENGAGE, AND EMPOWER:
SUCCESSFUL TRANSITIONS FOR
ALL! | OSEP IDEAS THAT WORK](#)



Successful Transitions for All

Access

Role Models

Transportation

Network and
Peers

Communication

Organize Life

Assistive
Technology

Customize
Mobility
Solutions

Autonomy is
dependent on
these factors.

Diverse
Outcomes

Specialized
Programs for
Inclusive
Classrooms

Empowerment
in Technology

Level the
playing field for
individuals with
disabilities

Need tools and
training

Family support
and
involvement is
critical.

Advocate, seek
practical life
solutions and
participation.

Don't overlook
love that is
needed.

Family support
affects the
outcome.

Soft skills are
also essential.

Thrive in
diverse
involvement.

Typical concerns
—organizing,
getting along
with others.

Getting around
and navigating
the
environment.

Understand legal
issues to
support
transition

Credit:
David
Bateman, AIR

Begin With the End in Mind

Begin With the End in Mind means to begin each day, task, or project with a clear vision of your desired direction and destination, and then continue by flexing your proactive muscles to make things happen.

Credit: Franklin Covey





Where does our journey
begin in education?



All our dreams can
come true if we
have the courage
to pursue them.

Walt Disney

EVERYDAY POWER



Partnerships



Center on
**GREAT TEACHERS
& LEADERS**
at American Institutes for Research



D·B·H·D·D

Georgia
Department of
Behavioral Health
& Developmental
Disabilities



Georgia Tech  **Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation**



GEORGIA



Georgia Division of Family
& Children Services





*Believe you can
and you will.*



Transition – Indicator 13

FFY 2022 (FY23) SPP/APR Data

Number of youth aged 16 and above with IEPs that contain each of the required components for secondary transition	Number of youth with IEPs aged 16 and above	FFY 2021 Data	FFY 2022 Target	FFY 2022 Data	Status	Slippage
223	267	93.54%	100%	83.52%	Did not meet target	Slippage

How can we improve Indicator 13 data?

- Transition plans will be checked for compliance during CFM.
- Optional file review if LEA did not demonstrate 100% compliance will now be required.
- Tiered approach to only impact LEAs not reaching 100% during CFM.
- New online modules will be available.
- Technical assistance and professional learning will be provided.



Transition Outcomes – Indicator 14

Measure	Number of respondent youth	Number of respondent youth who are no longer in secondary school and had IEPs in effect at the time they left school	FFY 2021 Data	FFY 2022 Target	FFY 2022 Data	Status	Slippage
A. Enrolled in higher education (1)	3,567	13,326	27.00%	27.80%	26.77%	Did not meet target	No Slippage
B. Enrolled in higher education or competitively employed within one year of leaving high school (1 +2)	8,213	13,326	61.67%	57.00%	61.63%	Met target	No Slippage
C. Enrolled in higher education, or in some other postsecondary education or training program; or competitively employed or in some other employment (1+2+3+4)	11,392	13,326	84.08%	82.00%	85.49%	Met target	No Slippage

Indicator 14

85.49%



- Enrolled in higher education, or in some other postsecondary education or training program; or competitively employed or in some other employment.
- Source: Student Records June 2023

Technical College System of Georgia

- Workforce Certificates
 - Students without a diploma or GED are typically eligible.
- Dual Enrollment can be a great option for many students.
 - Entrance test requirement has been removed.
 - Has to be planned well in advance.
- Good transition planning is key.
- Contact Kim Ellis, Student Experience Manager,
KEllis@tcsge.edu
-

HOPE Career Grant Approved	TCSG Basic/Entry Level Workforce Certificate Approved	HS Diploma or GED not Required	Major Code	Technical Certificate of Credit <i>Employer high school diploma requirements will vary.</i>
Yes	Yes	Not Required	AA71	Auto Transmission/Transaxle Technician Specialist
Yes	Yes	Not Required	AB51	Auto Collision Repair Assistant I
Yes	Yes	Not Required	AE41	Auto Electrical/Electronic Systems Technician
Yes	Yes	Not Required	AE51	Auto Engine Performance Technician
Yes	Yes	Not Required	AE61	Auto Engine Repair Technician
Yes	Yes	Not Required	AH21	Automotive Climate Control Technician
	Yes	Not Required	AS21	Administrative Support Assistant
Yes	Yes	Not Required	ASG1	Automotive Chassis Technician Specialist
Yes	Yes	Not Required	AZ31	Air Conditioning Technician Assistant
Yes	Yes	Not Required	AZ51	Auto Collision Repair Assistant IIE14
	Yes	Not Required	AZ71	Accounting Clerk Assistant
	Yes	Not Required	BA71	Barbering Assistant
Yes	Yes	Not Required	BE41	Basic Electronics Assembler
Yes	Yes		CA21	Camera Assistant
Yes	Yes	Not Required	CA61	<i>CompTIA A+ Certified Preparation</i>
	Yes	Not Required	CC81	Certified Customer Service Specialist
Yes	Yes	Not Required	CCW1	Certified Construction Worker
	Yes	Not Required	CJ71	<i>Criminal Justice Fundamentals</i>
Yes	Yes	Not Required	CN21	Nurse Aide
Yes	Yes	Not Required	CT61	Commercial Truck Driving
Yes	Yes	Not Required	CW11	Certified Warehousing Distribution Specialist

Yes	Yes	Not Required	CW11	Certified Warehousing Distribution Specialist
Yes	Yes	Not Required	CW31	Commercial Wiring
Yes	Yes	Not Required	DA31	Drafters Assistant
Yes	Yes	Not Required	DAM1	Design and Media Production Specialist
Yes	Yes	Not Required	DE11	<i>Diesel Electrical/Electronic Systems Tech</i>
Yes	Yes	Not Required	DE21	<i>Diesel Engine Service Technician</i>
	Yes	Not Required	DP21	Digital PhotographerE31
Yes	Yes	Not Required	DTM1	<i>Diesel Truck Maintenance Tech</i>
Yes	Yes	Not Required	EB71	Emergency Medical Responder
Yes	Yes	Not Required	EC31	Early Childhood Care and Education Basics
Yes	Yes		ECP1	Early Childhood Program Administration
	Yes	Not Required	EH11	Environmental Horticulture Technician
Yes	Yes		EL11	Electrical Lineworker
Yes	Yes		EMH1	Advanced Emergency Medical Technician
Yes	Yes	Not Required	EMJ1	Emergency Medical Technician
	Yes	Not Required	FPW1	Food Production Worker 1
	Yes	Not Required	GC31	Garden Center Technician
Yes	Yes	Not Required	GM31	Gas Metal ARC Welder
Yes	Yes	Not Required	HAA1	Heating and Air Conditioning Installation Technician
	Yes		HD21	Hair Designer
Yes	Yes	Not Required	HD41	Help Desk Specialist

Yes	Yes	Not Required	IC31	Infant/Toddler Child Care SpecialistE47
	Yes	Not Required	LS11	Landscape Specialist
Yes	Yes		LS21	Logistics Specialist
	Yes	Not Required	ME51	Microsoft Excel Application Professional
	Yes	Not Required	MF41	Microsoft Office Applications
	Yes	Not Required	MWA1	Microsoft Word Application Professional
Yes	Yes	Not Required	NS31	Network Support Specialist
Yes	Yes	Not Required	NT21	Network Technician
	Yes	Not Required	OA31	Office Accounting Specialist
Yes	Yes	Not Required	OSM1	Advanced Shielded Metal Arc Welder
	Yes		PA61	Payroll Accounting Specialist
Yes	Yes	Not Required	PC21	Patient Care Assistant
	Yes	Not Required	PC51	Prep Cook
	Yes	Not Required	PPS1	Nursery/Greenhouse Technician
Yes	Yes	Not Required	PR21	PC Repair and Network Technician
Yes	Yes	Not Required	RP11	Plumbing Technician Residential/Commercial
Yes	Yes	Not Required	RW21	Residential Wiring
	Yes		SB51	Small Business Marketing Manager
	Yes	Not Required	ST11	Shampoo Technician
	Yes	Not Required	SUA1	Sustainable Urban Agriculture Technician

Technical College System of Georgia

- Workforce Certificates
 - A list for each technical college in Georgia is available.
 - High school diploma or GED is not required.

believe in possibilities





Thank you for believing in our students!
Talk with Kim Ellis, Student Experience Manager

“Believe you can
and you’re
halfway there.”

– Theodore
Roosevelt

Assistive Technology





Assistive Technology

Is the technology documented in the IEP?

Are AT evaluations required before trying technology with a student?

Do you have access to AT devices, software, high and low tech?

Ensuring Accessibility

Is your webpage
508 compliant?

Are your
presentations and
resources 508
compliant?

Universal Design
for Learning (UDL)

Are you removing
barriers for
students with
disabilities?

Do you routinely
use technology in
your classroom?

Do students have
access to AT?

Consider AT to
remove
communications
barrier.

Georgia Alternate Assessment 2.0

- The Georgia Alternate Assessment 2.0 (GAA 2.0) is designed to ensure that students with the **most significant cognitive disabilities** are provided access to the state academic content standards and given the opportunity to demonstrate achievement of the knowledge, concepts, and skills inherent in the standards.

Alternate Assessment Federal Law Requirements

- Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) provides funds for our state's elementary and secondary education system. ESSA requirements must be followed including those about state and district assessments.
- The GAA 2.0 is one part of our state's assessment system
- ESSA placed a **1.0% state-level cap** on participation in the GAA 2.0, by subject area and across all grades at the state level.
- The purpose of the GAA 2.0 is to provide students with the **most significant cognitive disabilities** with an assessment specifically designed for them.
- The alternate assessment is based on the extended content standards which are aligned to the state's content standards at a reduced depth, breadth and complexity.

Implications for Districts

- ESSA requires districts with more than 1.0% participation in the GAA 2.0 in a subject area to provide to the state:
 - Assurance that IEP teams are adhering to the state's participation guidelines.
 - Justification for the participation rate over 1.0%.
 - Assurance that parents are informed about implications for their child's of participation in the GAA 2.0.

GAA File Review During CFM

- Two to five files will be selected for review during CFM.
- Criteria for participation in the GAA will be reviewed.
 - Student must have a most significant cognitive disability.
 - Instructed on extended content standards.



Believe



Learning Knows No Bounds

Significant Developmental Delay (SDD)

- Georgia is leading the nation in students identified as SDD but not evaluated or receiving a new eligibility by the end of the school year the student turns 9 years old.





Working
Together

Exciting News for Facilitated IEP Professional Learning



Professional learning for FIEP is coming to a location near you!



FIEP training will be provided for each GLRS region during FY25.



GLRS directors will work with their LEAs to determine the best timing for the training.



The two-day training will be at no cost to the LEAs.



State facilitators will be available for FIEP requests as usual.



The FIEP training for LEAs is to build capacity through the techniques learned during this training.

Students Incarcerated in Local Jails

Vickie Cleveland and Lakesha Stevenson will provide a series of sessions at the Federal Programs Conference in June designed to address responsibilities of LEAs for serving students with disabilities incarcerated in local jails.

Data reporting requirements will be discussed as well as a documentation review added to CFM.

Session plans include panel discussion with like size districts.

Speech Language Associate (SLA)

- Approved by Georgia Professional Standards Commission.
- Next step, education preparation programs must apply to offer courses leading to the requirements as outlined in the rule.
- Individuals with a bachelor's degree in Communications Disorders may only require school clinical hours.

Speech Language Associate (SLA)

- Can be certified to work under the supervision of a SLP in a school setting.
- Scope will be limited.
 - Eligibility and assessment - SLP
 - Plan of care - SLP
 - Will not serve voice, fluency, swallowing
 - Other areas as determined by supervising SLP
- Can carry a caseload and serve students for areas trained.
- Will be a **4-year certified position** recognized by LEAs.



Georgia Professional Standards Commission

Protecting Georgia's Higher Standard of Learning

Addressing Shortages with Our Partners
Thank you, GaPSC!

School Psychologists

GEORGIA ASSOCIATION
OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS



Department of Family and Children's Services Needs Your Assistance

- Access for records is changing from the state level.
- Please provide records to DFCS within 48 hours or less.
 - Same day is requested.
- Some concerns about delaying enrollment.
- Special rules for enrolling homeless and foster children.
 - Should be without delay.

Federal Programs Conference - June 2024



The event will be supported by cross-divisional collaboration.



Two days of the conference will be designed for teachers and other instructional personnel.



Will also have sessions designed for leaders.



Although not a replica of the IDEAS Conference, there will be sessions for teachers such as make and take with Jesse!



Dr. Samuel Ortiz will be back for two days of professional learning with school psychologists and ESOL teachers and coordinators.

ALWAYS
BELIEVE
IN
YOUR
SELF

At the end of the day

“
THE ROAD TO
SUCCESS
IS ALWAYS
UNDER
CONSTRUCTION.”

”
LILY TOMLIN

#JUSTWISE

Just Wise

DON'T BE AFRAID TO
GIVE UP THE GOOD TO GO
FOR THE GREAT.

John D. Rockefeller

"The future
belongs to those
who believe in the
beauty of their
dreams." —

Eleanor Roosevelt

I believe in you!

*Just believe
in yourself.
Even if you
don't, pretend
that you do and,
at some point,
you will.*

-VENUS WILLIAMS



Don't
forget
your
umbrella.



Thank you!

**I am so
proud of
your
commitment
and
dedication.**

DON'T STOP BELIEVING

Contact Information

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State Director

Division for Special Education Services and Supports

Georgia Department of Education

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470.316.8636
