

**From:** Renee Shaat

**Sent:** Friday, May 13, 2022 2:00 PM

**Subject:** From Matt Arthur: Commission Adopts Program Admission Requirements Removal

Dear Colleagues,

The purpose of this communication is to share *GaPSC's Quarterly Highlights* for 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter, 2022 (attached), and to inform you on May 12, 2022, the Commission adopted rule amendments to:

1. Remove the Program Admission Assessment (PAA) requirement; and
2. Remove the minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) to qualify for a Provisional Certificate and to enter a GaPSC-approved educator preparation program leading to initial certification in a Teaching (T), Leadership (L), or Service (S) field.

These policy actions are part of GaPSC's ongoing streamlining efforts and are aimed at supporting the educator workforce and removing any potential barriers, while still ensuring educator effectiveness.

As shared in our March 31, 2022, [communication](#), although the PAA has value in helping to ensure a candidate has the minimum competency in reading, writing, and mathematics to be successful in a preparation program, we believe admission decisions, including an assessment of basic skills and a minimum GPA requirement, should be the responsibility of the educator preparation provider (EPP), not the state agency. Our focus should be on what new teachers, leaders, and other school personnel know and are able to do upon completion of a program.

For additional details regarding these policy changes, including information about the [Praxis® Core Academic Skills for Educators: Combined Test](#) for EPPs who wish to adopt that assessment in place of the GACE PAA, information about test taker refunds (must be received by ETS by June 3, 2022), and whom to contact for assistance, please refer to the communication available at [https://www.gapsc.com/Downloads/From%20Matt%20Arthur\\_Proposed%20Changes%20to%20Program%20AdmissionRequirements\\_3-31-22.pdf](https://www.gapsc.com/Downloads/From%20Matt%20Arthur_Proposed%20Changes%20to%20Program%20AdmissionRequirements_3-31-22.pdf).

Thank you for your continued commitment and hard work toward continuous improvement.

Matt