



# **Georgia Milestones Achievement Level Descriptors**

# Understanding the Georgia Milestones Achievement Levels

The Georgia Milestones Assessment System utilizes four achievement levels to describe student mastery and command of the knowledge and skills outlined in Georgia's content standards. Most students have at least some knowledge of the content described in the content standards; however, achievement levels succinctly describe how much mastery a student has. Achievement levels give meaning and context to scale scores by describing the knowledge and skills students must demonstrate to achieve each level.

The four achievement levels on Georgia Milestones are *Beginning Learner*, *Developing Learner*, *Proficient Learner*, and *Distinguished Learner*. The general meaning of each of the four levels is provided below:

**Beginning Learners** do not yet demonstrate proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level/course of learning, as specified in Georgia's content standards. The students **need substantial academic support** to be prepared for the next grade level or course and to be on track for post-secondary readiness.

**Developing Learners** demonstrate partial proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level/course of learning, as specified in Georgia's content standards. The students **need additional academic support** to ensure success in the next grade level or course and to be on track for post-secondary readiness.

**Proficient Learners** demonstrate proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level/course of learning, as specified in Georgia's content standards. The students are **prepared** for the next grade level or course and are on track for post-secondary readiness.

**Distinguished Learners** demonstrate advanced proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level/course of learning, as specified in Georgia's content standards. The students are **well prepared** for the next grade level or course and are well prepared for post-secondary readiness.

# Types of Achievement Level Descriptors

**Range ALDs** are narrative descriptions of the knowledge and skills expected at each of the four achievement levels, based on the state-adopted content standards. These detailed and content-specific ALDs are provided for each grade, content area, and course.

**ALDs show a progression of knowledge and skills** for which students must demonstrate competency across the achievement levels. It is important to understand that students should demonstrate mastery of the knowledge and skills within their achievement level *as well as all content and skills in any achievement levels that precede their own*, if any. For example, a Proficient Learner should also possess the knowledge and skills of a Developing Learner *and* a Beginning Learner.

[Click Here to View Range ALDs](#)

**Reporting ALDs** are intended to summarize the concepts and skills for each grade, content area, and course to support parents' understanding of their child's performance.

[Click Here to View Reporting ALDs](#)



# Georgia Milestones Assessment System

## 2025-2026 Range ALDs

### Grade 3

ELA  
Math

### Grade 4

ELA  
Math

### Grade 5

ELA  
Math  
Science

### Grade 6

ELA  
Math

### Grade 7

ELA  
Math

### Grade 8

ELA  
Math  
Science\*  
Social Studies

Literature &  
Composition II

Algebra:  
Concepts &  
Connections

Biology

United States  
History

\*High School Physical Science



# Georgia Milestones Assessment System

## Reporting ALDs (for Parents)

For use with 2024-2025 Score Reports

Grade 3

Grade 4

Grade 5

Grade 6

Grade 7

Grade 8

American  
Literature &  
Composition

Algebra:  
Concepts &  
Connections

Biology

United States  
History