

One Year Practicum

North Georgia RESA offers the One-Year Practicum as an alternative route to certification. We do not offer the TAPP Program.

The One-Year Practicum is a test-based program and requires passing scores on GACE Basic Skills Test, GACE Subject Knowledge Test (applicable to the certification field being sought) and the GACE Pedagogy Test.

How to Exempt Basic Skills Testing

Basic skills testing may be exempted if high enough scores are obtained on the SAT, ACT or GRE. Exemption scores are as follows:

- SAT exemptions: minimum combined verbal and mathematics score of 1000.
- GRE exemption: minimum combined verbal and quantitative score of 1030.
- ACT exemption: minimum combined English and mathematics score of 43.

(This information taken from PSC web site.)

To obtain employment you must contact the system Personnel Director where you want to teach.

The applicant must:

- Be employed or have a promise of a full-time teaching position in a certification field closely **related to their degree/major**.
- Have a bachelor's degree with an overall GPA of 2.5 or higher or can verify acceptance into a PSC accepted accredited institution's master's degree program.
- Have passing scores on all GACE tests.
- Have completed and submitted all application forms to North Georgia RESA at the appropriate time (see schedule of dates).

APPLICATION DATES/DEADLINES:

June 1 – August 1 to begin when school starts

August 2 – December 1 to begin January 2

Upon being accepted into the program the participant, school system and PSC will be notified. The participant will submit an application fee of \$20.00 with package and will be billed for the practicum. The practicum charge will be due in full at the end of the first month in the practicum program, payable to North Georgia RESA.

Other Practicum Requirements

Other test/course requirement to be taken before or during the practicum:

- House Bill 671 course (The Identification of Exceptional Students)
- Technology Course (In-Tech) or test.
- Teaching of Reading: Course work in the teaching of reading is required for the fields of Elementary Education, Early Childhood Education, Middle Grades, Mental Retardation, Learning Disabilities, Behavior Disorders, Interrelated Special Education, and Interrelated Special Education/Early Childhood. This course, a basic course in teaching literacy, may be completed for college credit or Georgia professional learning units in the local system or RESA.

During the Practicum

The participant will develop a teaching portfolio to document the 24 required competencies:

- Log 150 hours of work on the practicum
- Read at least six readings from a required reading list and write reflections for each one
- Attend all mandatory meetings at North Georgia RESA
- Observe at least six master teachers in the school and write reflections on each observation
- Work closely with all team members, a RESA supervisor, school mentor and an administrator

All other requirements are included in the North Georgia RESA One-Year Supervised Practicum Manual Revised 2007. This will be furnished to all participants at the orientation meeting held at North Georgia RESA. The manual is also on this web site.

Other helpful web sites:

www.gace.nesinc.com

www.gapsc.com -click on #7 on the right side of page, to find teaching fields to match your degree major.

Click on the **One-Year Practicum Application** link (on the Certification Web Page) to download a One-Year Practicum application.

North Georgia RESA serves seven school systems and will supervise public school teachers in those systems. An additional charge will be added to private school teachers or teachers in other nearby systems not in the North Georgia RESA service area, who apply with North Georgia RESA for the One-Year Practicum.

Lynn Weaver is the Practicum Coordinator for this program. All applications should be sent to her attention at North Georgia RESA, 4731 Old Highway 5 South, Ellijay, GA 30540.