

# Georgia Rules and Regulations

## Administrative Bulletin for June 2021

### OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE DIVISION

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	224-3	repealed	May 26, 2021	Jun. 15
375. RULES OF DEPARTMENT OF DRIVER SERVICES	<a href="#">375-3-1-.19</a>	amended	May 19, 2021	Jun. 8
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511. RULES OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH	<a href="#">511-1-3-.23</a>	amended	May 24, 2021	Jun. 23

# **Department 159. DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

## **Chapter 159-1. FILM, MUSIC & DIGITAL ENTERTAINMENT DIVISION**

### **Subject 159-1-1. FILM TAX CREDIT**

#### **159-1-1-.02 Definitions**

(1) 'Alternative Marketing Opportunities' means GDEcD approved promotions for the state in lieu of the inclusion of the legislated GEP Logo placement in order to receive the 10% uplift.

(2) 'Base Certification Letter' means a letter from GDEcD indicating that the initial requirements to earn the "Base Tax Credit" have been met for the specific project named. The Base Certification Letter shall include a unique credit certificate number.

(3) 'Commercial Advertisements' means televised announcements sponsoring or promoting ideas, goods, entertainment projects, or services that have achieved Multimarket Commercial Distribution and are aired, broadcast, or streamed via video on demand, including over-the-top broadcasting, subscription video on demand, ad-based video on demand, and transaction video on demand; individual television stations; groups of stations; networks; cable television stations; or public broadcasting stations.

(4) 'Development' means any activity or expenses incurred in order to prepare the project for the preproduction phase of the project or production.

(5) 'Feature Film' means, but is not limited to, a dramatic, comedic, animated, or documentary film, or high definition digital production with no commercial interruption, and intended for Multimarket Commercial Distribution to motion picture theaters, directly to the home video and/or DVD markets, cable television, premium cable, broadcast television, video on demand, streaming services, or advertiser supported sites.

(6) 'Film Tax Credit' means the tax credits allowed pursuant to the 2008 Georgia Entertainment Industry Investment Act, O.C.G.A. § [48-7-40.26](#).

(a) The 'Base Tax Credit' means the 20% tax credit for productions that meet the minimum investment threshold in a qualified production, as certified by GDEcD and:

(b) The 'Georgia Entertainment Promotion Tax Credit' ("GEP Tax Credit" or "GEP Uplift") means the additional 10% tax credit which may be obtained for projects as outlined in Rule [159-1-1-.07](#).

(7) 'Fully Funded' means that the applicant seeking certification can demonstrate that it has assets that equal or exceed 75% of the total budgeted cost of the project. These assets can be owned by the applicant, be provided by a third-party pursuant to a financing or funding agreement, or a combination of the two. GDEcD will require proof that the project is Fully Funded at the time the applicant applies for certification. Such proof may include, but is not limited to, completion or SAG or IATSE bonds, payroll statements, bank statements, and financing or funding agreements, including in-studio financing letters or agreements.

(8) 'Game Engine' means the software system or code used to create and develop an interactive game with core functionality that typically includes rendering 2D or 3D graphics, sound, scripting, animation, artificial intelligence, physics, and input.

(9) 'Game Platform' means the electronic delivery system used to launch or play the interactive game and includes mobile applications.

(10) 'Interactive Entertainment' means projects produced in Georgia and as defined and approved by GDEcD means those that meet all of the following requirements:

(a) Employs electronics including Game Platforms and Game Engines to create an interactive system with which a user can play;

(b) Contains or creates a computer-controlled virtual universe or simulated environment within which an individual using the program may interact to generate visual feedback and achieve a goal within that universe or environment as determined by the player's skill and or luck;

(c) Contains at least three of the following six elements: animated graphical images, static graphic images, sound, text, 2D or 3D geometry, scoring/leaderboard/badges/trophies system;

(d) Are not products developed by the Qualified Interactive Entertainment Production Company or developer for internal use;

(e) Meets the requirement of Multimarket Commercial Distribution via digital platforms, including advertiser supported websites, designed for the distribution of interactive games.

(i) Projects eligible for certification include: game types/categories traditionally found in videogame or retail stores or Internet-based social, casual, serious, and social networking games on mobile, console, computer, smart device and television platforms.

(ii) Projects not eligible for certification include, but are not limited to the following: Internet sites that do not meet all of the defined requirements of Interactive Entertainment; streamed linear media such as podcasts or audio; interpersonal communications services such as video conferencing, wireless telecommunications, text-based channels, chat rooms, broadcast/streamed viewing enhancements; small-scale games embedded and used exclusively in advertising; and marketing and promotional websites or microsites.

(11) 'Life of the Project' means from any public screening or release date through all ancillary uses, markets, and distribution channels worldwide, unless an exemption is agreed upon by GDEcD.

(12) 'Multimarket Commercial Distribution' means paid commercial distribution with media buys which extend to multiple markets outside the State of Georgia.

(13) 'Music Video' means a filmed or digitally recorded song, often portraying musicians performing the song or including visual images interpreting the lyrics.

(14) 'Pilot' means the initial episode produced for a proposed Series.

(15) 'Preproduction' means the process of preparation for actual physical production in Georgia, and is considered to begin with the establishment of a dedicated commercial production office, the hiring of key crew members including a Unit Production Manager and/or Line Producer, and includes, but is not limited to, activities such as location scouting, hiring of crew, construction of sets, etc. Preproduction does not include the process of 'Development'. (See paragraph (4) of this rule).

(16) 'Principal Photography' means principal ongoing filming within Georgia of significant portions of a qualified film that involves the main lead actor(s) and the director and which is intended to be incorporated into the final product; in the case of animation projects, it means the time from when the script is finalized and continues through the finalization of animatics.

(17) 'Principal Photography Start Date' means the first date within Georgia of principal ongoing filming of significant portions of a qualified film that involves the main lead actor(s) and the director and which is intended to be incorporated into the final product; in the case of animation projects, it means the date that the script is finalized.

(18) 'Production Company' is defined as a company that is primarily engaged in qualified production activities which have been approved by GDEcD.

(19) 'Qualified Interactive Entertainment Production Company' means a company that satisfies the requirements of O.C.G.A. § [48-7-40.26\(b\)\(10\)](#) and which is primarily engaged in qualified production activities related to Interactive Entertainment which has been approved by GDEcD. "Primarily engaged" means a company whose gross income from qualified production activities related to Interactive Entertainment which has been approved by GDEcD exceeds 50% of their total gross income for their taxable year or whose expenses from qualified production activities related to Interactive Entertainment which has been approved by GDEcD exceeds 50% of their total expenses for their taxable year.

(20) 'Series,' which may also be known as episodic programming, means a production intended in its initial run for broadcast on television or streaming.

(21) 'Streamed' or 'Streaming' is video content sent in compressed form over the Internet and displayed by the viewer in real time.

(22) 'Television Film,' which may also be known as a 'Movie of-the-Week,' 'MOW,' 'Television Special,' 'Made for Television Movie,' 'TV Movie,' or 'TV Miniseries,' means a production intended for broadcast on television or streaming.

(23) 'Uplift Certification Letter' means a letter from GDEcD electronically certifying that a project has met the requirements to earn the 'GEP Tax Credit' including that the project achieved multimarket commercial distribution in multiple markets within five years of the date that the first Base Certification Letter was issued, and that the applicant has provided proof of the same. The Uplift Certification Letter shall include a unique credit certificate number.

(24) 'Work for Hire' means an arrangement whereby one Production Company contracts with another Production Company to engage in qualified production activities pursuant to a production services agreement. Merely financing or providing funding to a Production Company does not make the financing/funding company the "hiring" company for purposes of the entertainment tax credit statute. In the instance of co-productions, both companies must provide a written agreement to GDEcD as to which party will be entitled to earn and claim the tax credit. In the instance of a work-for-hire, the hired company will not be eligible for the Film Tax Credit.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 159-1-1-.02

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [48-7-40.26](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Definitions" adopted. F. Mar. 4, 2010; eff. Mar. 24, 2010.

**Amended:** F. May 6, 2013; eff. May 26, 2013.

**Amended:** F. Dec. 4, 2017; eff. Dec. 24, 2017.

**Amended:** F. Mar. 5, 2018; eff. Mar. 25, 2018.

**Amended:** F. Dec. 29, 2020; eff. Jan. 18, 2021.

**Amended:** F. June 18, 2021; eff. July 8, 2021.

## **159-1-1-.03 Film Tax Credit Certification**

### **(1) State Certified Production.**

(a) Project Certification Requirement. Prior to claiming any Film Tax Credit, each new film, video, television or Interactive Entertainment project must be certified as meeting the guidelines and the intent of the Act. Projects are

certified by GDEcD on a project-by-project basis. The type of projects eligible to receive the Base Tax Credits are Feature Films, Television Films, Series or Episodes, Pilots, Commercial Advertisements, Music Videos, and Interactive Entertainment Projects as defined and approved by GDEcD. Producers will be required to provide budget information, funding sources, distribution agreements, production schedules, call sheets, personnel information, and any other documentation as requested by GDEcD. Only one Production Company may claim the tax credit, per project.

Beginning on or after January 1, 2018, the maximum total tax credits allowed for Qualified Interactive Entertainment Production Companies is \$1.5 million per taxable year for a single company and the maximum total tax credits allowed among all Qualified Interactive Entertainment Production Companies is \$12.5 million. The Commissioner of Revenue shall preapprove applications for Interactive Entertainment tax credits based on a first come, first serve basis. Therefore, GDEcD certification of Interactive Entertainment projects does not guarantee that credits will be available.

Each project must be applied for and certified individually once the project is Fully Funded. Certification shall not be used to secure funding. Certification applications for all projects shall be submitted electronically to GDEcD.

(b) Projects Not Eligible for Certification. Certain categories of projects do not qualify for the Film Tax Credit including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Live or prerecorded broadcast of athletic events;
2. Live or prerecorded news or current affairs programming covering news that has recently occurred or is ongoing at the time of the broadcast;
3. Local interview or talk shows or other local interest programming not intended for Commercial Multimarket Distribution;
4. Projects and content consisting solely of footage not shot, recorded, or originally created in Georgia, or content that is primarily post-production in nature;
5. Website development;
6. Corporate marketing, industrial, or training productions;
7. Any productions in violation of Title 16 Chapter 12 of the state's Obscenity Statute;
8. Sole platform arcade video games;
9. Small scale games embedded and used exclusively in advertising, marketing and promotional websites or microsites;
10. Infomercials, Infotainment, or Solicitation-based productions;
11. Certain instructional or how-to-video based content and programming, as determined by GDEcD;
12. Political or Editorial-based content programming;
13. Projects that do not meet the requisite base investment requirement;
14. Marketing or political campaigns;
15. Internet sites and digital media projects that do not meet all of the defined requirements of Interactive Entertainment; interpersonal communications services such as video conferencing, wireless telecommunications, text-based channels, chat rooms, or broadcast/streamed viewing enhancements.



16. Film or television Projects created for a limited audience, including, but not limited to museum presentations;
17. Film or program intended primarily for industrial, corporate or institutional end-users;
18. Any Project that falls outside of industry standards;
19. Any Project where filming is merely incidental or ancillary to the primary purpose of the Project, such as live concerts or events; and
20. The creation of phone, tablet or desktop apps that do not meet the defined requirements of Interactive Entertainment.

(c) Base Certification Letters. Projects that meet the certification requirements will be sent a Base Certification Letter with a project certification number. GDEcD shall use reasonable efforts to make a certification decision and, if appropriate, provide the Base Certification Letter to the Production Company or Qualified Interactive Entertainment Production Company within sixty (60) days of the submission of a completed certification application; provided however, that if such Base Certification Letter is not sent within this sixty (60) day period, the Production Company or Qualified Interactive Entertainment Production Company may deem its application to be denied, and begin the appeals process outlined in Rule [159-1-1-.08](#).

Applicants that voluntarily withdraw Base Tax Credit applications prior to a decision by GDEcD may reapply for the same project in the future. Projects that are denied and fail to appeal within the thirty (30) day timeframe cannot reapply. In the instance of co-productions, both companies must provide an agreement as to which party will earn the tax credits. In the instance of a work-for-hire, the work-for-hire company will not be eligible for the Film Tax Credit. If a film or television project is certified, but does not notify GDEcD or begin filming within thirty (30) days of the submitted schedule, a retraction of the Base Certification Letter may be issued. Amendments to the application must be made in writing to GDEcD.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 159-1-1-.03

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [48-7-40.26](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Film Tax Credit Certification" adopted. F. Mar. 4, 2010; eff. Mar. 24, 2010.

**Amended:** F. May 6, 2013; eff. May 26, 2013.

**Amended:** F. Dec. 4, 2017; eff. Dec. 24, 2017.

**Amended:** F. Mar. 5, 2018; eff. Mar. 25, 2018.

**Amended:** F. Dec. 29, 2020; eff. Jan. 18, 2021.

**Amended:** F. June 18, 2021; eff. July 8, 2021.

### **159-1-1-.04 Base Tax Credit Certification Application Process**

(1) For all feature films and television projects to be considered for approval, film and television Production Companies or studios must submit a completed certification application with a shooting script not earlier than ninety (90) days prior to the Principal Photography Start Date but before the completion of Principal Photography.

Producers of Interactive Entertainment projects must submit a synopsis of each project along with a completed certification application not earlier than ninety (90) days before the beginning of Interactive Entertainment production.

Music video producers must submit a basic outline of the storyline elements, script, and or story board if applicable, along with a completed certification application not earlier than thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled Principal Photography Start Date and before the completion of Principal Photography.

Production Companies submitting applications for Commercial Advertisements must submit a listing of the television commercial(s) being produced, script, and or story board if applicable, along with a completed certification application(s) not earlier than (30) days prior to the Principal Photography Start Date and before the completion of Principal Photography. Production Companies submitting applications for Commercial Advertisements must also submit proof that the commercial was televised.

(2) Projects should strive to be completed within a single tax year. However, for a project that is not completed within the applicant's tax year (fiscal year or calendar year), a new project certification must be applied for in each successive tax year. A Base Certification Letter must be obtained for each project for each year that tax credits are claimed. A single project cannot span more than two tax years, unless given prior written approval by GDEcD. A Production Company seeking a Base Certification Letter for a second tax year must provide proof that qualified production activity was ongoing in the second year. Such letter shall not be issued for deferred or delinquent payments that carried over from the first tax year. This two tax year limitation on a single project shall not apply to projects for animation or Interactive Entertainment. This two tax year limitation applies to all multi-year entertainment productions that qualify for the Film Tax Credits including, but not limited to, Feature Films, Series, and other television productions.

(1) All projects applying for the Base Tax Credit must be Fully Funded and must record content, in whole or part, within Georgia. Projects must also supply documentation verifying that Principal Photography occurred within Georgia. Such documentation must be supplied no later than ninety (90) days after the completion of Principal Photography.

(2) Projects that do not finish or are postponed for an extended period of time, or projects that fail to provide documentation verifying that Principal Photography occurred within Georgia within ninety (90) days from the completion of Principal Photography may have their Base Certification Letter retracted at GDEcD's sole discretion.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 159-1-1-.04

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [48-7-40.26](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Film Tax Credit Certification Application Process" adopted. F. Mar. 4, 2010; eff. Mar. 24, 2010.

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**Amended:** F. Dec. 4, 2017; eff. Dec. 24, 2017.

**Amended:** F. Mar. 5, 2018; eff. Mar. 25, 2018.

**Amended:** New title "Base Tax Credit Certification Application Process." F. Dec. 29, 2020; eff. Jan. 18, 2021.

**Amended:** F. June 18, 2021; eff. July 8, 2021.

### **159-1-1-.05 Qualified Productions & Production Activities**

(1) The Base Tax Credit applies to all qualified and certified entertainment productions, as determined solely by GDEcD, including Feature Films, Pilots, Series, Television Films, Specials, Episodes, Commercial Advertisements, Music Videos and Interactive Entertainment projects which have been approved and certified by GDEcD.

(2) Production Companies that act as a conduit to enable other production companies' projects to qualify for the Film Tax Credit that would not otherwise be eligible on their own will not be certified for Film Tax Credits. Work-for-hire service companies, including postproduction houses, catering companies, equipment rental houses, and motion

picture laboratories are not eligible to receive the Film Tax Credit, but the Production Companies employing them may include these expenditures as part of their project expenses.

(3) Studios designing platforms for outside game developers are not eligible for the Film Tax Credit; however, the studio that buys these platforms from a Georgia vendor may claim them as an expense toward the production of a video game project.

(4) Expenditures incurred in Georgia for postproduction are qualified only on the portion of the project that was shot, recorded, or originally created in whole or in part in the state. Postproduction of footage shot outside the state is not a qualified production expenditure under O.C.G.A. § [48-7-40.26](#). However, post-production companies may pursue tax credits subject to the requirements of O.C.G.A. § [48-7-40.26A](#) so long as the postproduction expenditure was not claimed as a tax credit by a Production Company under this code section.

(5) Expenditures for the Development phase of projects do not qualify for the Film Tax Credit. Projects must have entered 'Preproduction' in order for expenditures to qualify for the Film Tax Credit.

(6) Qualified Commercial Advertisements are eligible for the Base Tax Credit; however, such commercial advertisements are not eligible for the GEP Tax Credit.

(7) Any misrepresentation or material change of project information without written notification to GDEcD or GDOR or the submission of project documentation that does not adhere to industry standards may result in denial or revocation of certification.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 159-1-1-.05

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [48-7-40.26](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Qualified Productions & Production Activities" adopted. F. Mar. 4, 2010; eff. Mar. 24, 2010.

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**Amended:** F. Mar. 5, 2018; eff. Mar. 25, 2018.

**Amended:** F. Dec. 29, 2020; eff. Jan. 18, 2021.

**Amended:** F. June 18, 2021; eff. July 8, 2021.

## **159-1-1-.06 Georgia Entertainment Promotion Tax Credit**

(1) The GEP Tax Credit is available only for projects specified in Rule [159-1-1-.07](#) below, which also comply with the requirements of Rule 159-1-1-.06, have been approved and certified by GDEcD, and are commercially distributed in multiple markets within five (5) years from the date that the first Base Certification Letter was issued.

(2) GEP Tax Credit certification applications must be submitted to GDEcD. In order to be eligible, projects must include the GEP Logo and a link to <http://www.exploregeorgia.org/film> on the promotional website as outlined in O.C.G.A. § [48-7-40.26](#) from any point of initial public screening, and submit proof of the same to GDEcD, or they may offer Alternative Marketing Opportunities of equal or greater marketing value to the State. The decision whether to include the GEP Logo or pursue the Alternative Marketing Opportunity must be made at the time the project submits an application to pursue the GEP Tax Credit. Applications will be reviewed and agreements will be executed. The GEP Logo and link may not be used in a project without GDEcD's prior written approval. Projects that are not eligible or approved for the GEP Tax Credit may still be eligible for the Base Tax Credit. Once all agreed upon obligations have been met, and applicant has provided documentation establishing the same, GDEcD will issue the Uplift Certification Letter. If an applicant seeking the GEP Tax Credit fails to fulfill all of the

obligations of the GEP Logo and link, or the Alternative marketing agreement, or, fails to provide proof of distribution to GDEcD within five (5) years from the date that the first Base Certification Letter was issued, the project will not be eligible for the GEP Tax Credit. In the case of projects that have Base Certification Letters issued for multiple tax years, the five (5) year period shall begin from the date of the first Base Certification Letter for the project.

(3) If the producers of movie content, television content, music video content or interactive game content opt to include the GEP Logo in their project and a link to <http://www.exploregeorgia.org/film> in the promotional website as outlined in O.C.G.A. § [48-7-40.26](#), GDEcD will make available various versions of the GEP Logo and the link to each qualified GEP Tax Credit applicant at no charge. The GEP Logo will only be provided to applicants that GDEcD has certified as being eligible to receive the GEP Tax Credit. The GEP Logo may not be used in a project without prior written GDEcD approval. Furthermore, it is required that each qualified GEP Tax Credit applicant utilizing the logo to fulfill the GEP Tax Credit requirements submit proof of the required placement of the GEP Logo in the completed film, television production, music video or Interactive Entertainment Production to GDEcD. In the instance of any project using Streaming to satisfy the Commercial Multimarket Distribution requirement, the GEP logo shall automatically appear in the end credits in accordance with the requirements outlined in O.C.G.A. § [48-7-40.26](#) and these rules, and shall not require the viewer to take any action to view the GEP logo as a result of the Streaming platform automatically proceeding to the next episode, preview, or production. In the event that the GEP logo is only viewable if the viewer has to take action to stop the automatic proceeding to the next episode, preview or production, such logo placement shall not serve to meet the eligibility requirements for the GEP Tax Credit.

If the inclusion of the GEP Logo or link to <http://www.exploregeorgia.org/film> is prohibited by the Children's Television Act, or any other local, state or federal government policy, or if the Production Company cannot, for any reason, fulfill the placement requirements, GDEcD, under the Alternative Marketing Opportunities, will offer acceptable alternatives to allow the GEP Tax Credit to the applicant and the greatest level of promotion for the State of Georgia. The GEP Logo or agreed upon alternative marketing must be utilized for the life of the project, beginning with any public screening.

(4) If the GEP Logo or agreed upon alternative marketing promotion has not been fulfilled within five (5) years from the date that the first Base Certification Letter was issued, the project will not be eligible for the GEP Tax Credit. Both logo requirements and Alternative Marketing Opportunities must be for the life of the project, beginning with any public screening. However, GDEcD's ability to retract certification is limited by the applicable statute of limitations for assessing income tax for any claiming or carryover year, or in the instance of audited productions, by the prohibition on recapturing credits from transferees or purchasers.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 159-1-1-.06

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [48-7-40.26](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Qualified Productions & Production Activities" adopted. F. Mar. 4, 2010; eff. Mar. 24, 2010.

**Amended:** F. May 6, 2013; eff. May 26, 2013.

**Amended:** F. Dec. 4, 2017; eff. Dec. 24, 2017.

**Amended:** F. Mar. 5, 2018; eff. Mar. 25, 2018.

**Amended:** F. Dec. 29, 2020; eff. Jan. 18, 2021.

**Amended:** F. June 18, 2021; eff. July 8, 2021.

## **159-1-1-.07 Qualified Productions for GEP Tax Credit**

(1) 'Qualified Movie Production' means a Feature Film that has been granted GEP Tax Credit certification by GDEcD. Feature Films must include a shooting script for review along with their Base Tax Credit certification application and GEP Tax Credit application (if applicable). After completion of the project, a digital copy of the project containing the five (5) second long GEP Logo before the below the line crew crawl and the address of the promotional website must be sent to GDEcD for review. Proof of fulfillment for the GEP Logo or agreed upon alternative marketing promotion must be provided to GDEcD no later than five (5) years from the date that the first Base Certification Letter was issued, or the project will not be eligible for the GEP Tax Credit.

(2) 'Qualified TV Production' means Pilot, Series (in whole or in part), Television Films, and specials that have been granted GEP Tax Credit certification by GDEcD. Television productions must include a shooting script for review with their Base Tax Credit certification application and GEP Tax Credit application (if applicable). After completion of the project, a digital copy of the project containing the required GEP Logo with the address of the promotional website must be sent to GDEcD for review. To qualify for the GEP Tax Credit, the production must include a five (5) second long Georgia promotional logo in the body of the program; to be placed in the opening title sequence; as a bumper into or out of a commercial break; or in a prominent position in each single project's end credits with no less than a half screen exposure and not over content. Proof of fulfillment for the GEP Logo or agreed upon alternative marketing promotion must be provided to GDEcD no later than five (5) years from the date that the first Base Certification Letter was issued, or the project will not be eligible for the GEP Tax Credit.

(3) 'Qualified Music Video' means music video projects granted GEP Tax Credit certification by GDEcD. To qualify for the GEP Tax Credit, a minimum of a five (5) second long Georgia logo exposure must occur at the end of the finished product, as well as in all units sold, and included in all online promotions. After completion of the project, a digital copy of the project containing the required GEP Logo and link must be sent to GDEcD for review. Music video producers must provide a song lyric sheet and general outline of the storyboard of the music video in advance of production or prior to approval of the GEP Tax Credit certification. Demonstrated Multimarket Commercial Distribution outside the state of Georgia is required. Proof of fulfillment for the GEP Logo or agreed upon alternative marketing promotion must be provided to GDEcD no later than five (5) years from the date that the first Base Certification Letter was issued, or the project will not be eligible for the GEP Tax Credit.

(4) 'Qualified Interactive Entertainment Project' means an Interactive Entertainment project that has been granted GEP Tax Credit certification by GDEcD, but does not include Prereleased Games. To qualify for the GEP Tax Credit, Interactive Entertainment Projects must include a total of fifteen (15) seconds of GEP logo exposure in units sold, and up to a three (3) second GEP Logo adjacency in all online promotions. The fifteen (15) second requirement may be aggregated and met through up to three (3) separate and distinct displays of the GEP Logo throughout the Interactive Entertainment project totaling fifteen (15) seconds. Prereleased Games do not qualify for the GEP Tax Credit. Placement of the GEP Logo within a Interactive Entertainment Project must be discussed in advance with GDEcD. Interactive Entertainment Projects must provide a synopsis of the Interactive Entertainment project including architecture, navigation and story plotlines before the project can be certified.

(5) For any project seeking the GEP Tax Credit, proof of fulfillment for the GEP Logo or agreed upon alternative marketing promotion must be provided to GDEcD no later than five (5) years from the date that the first Base Certification Letter was issued, or the project will not be eligible for the GEP Tax Credit. GDEcD will have sole authority for the certification of any project; the denial of certification for any project; the denial of certification of the GEP Tax Credit; the agreed upon type, style, length and placement of the GEP Logo, and the settlement of all disputes regarding the GEP Tax Credit.

(6) Every effort will be made to negotiate in good faith with applicants at all times in order to provide the greatest level of promotion, economic impact, and jobs creation for the state of Georgia.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 159-1-1-.07

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [48-7-40.26](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Qualified Productions" adopted. F. Mar. 4, 2010; eff. Mar. 24, 2010.

**Amended:** New title "Qualified Productions for GEP Tax Credit." F. May 6, 2013; eff. May 26, 2013.

**Amended:** F. Dec. 4, 2017; eff. Dec. 24, 2017.

**Amended:** F. Mar. 5, 2018; eff. Mar. 25, 2018.

**Amended:** F. Dec. 29, 2020; eff. Jan. 18, 2021.

**Amended:** F. June 18, 2021; eff. July 8, 2021.

### **159-1-1-.08 Appeals Process**

(1) If the authorized applicant's completed Base Tax Credit application is denied by GDEcD, the Base Certification Letter is retracted by GDEcD, or if GDEcD fails to provide the applicant with a certification decision within the sixty (60) day period, the applicant shall have the right to appeal the denial, retraction, or failure of certification of the Base Tax Credit. Incomplete Base Tax Credit applications or Base Tax Credit applications that have been voluntarily withdrawn by the applicant prior to a decision from GDEcD are not eligible to appeal. An appeal may be made by sending a letter along with supporting documentation outlining applicant's argument as to why the denial, retraction, or failure to certify was improper, to the General Counsel, Georgia Department of Economic Development, 75 Fifth Street, NW, Suite 1200, Atlanta, Georgia 30308, within thirty (30) days from the date of issuance of the Base Tax Credit certification denial or retraction letter by GDEcD or within ninety (90) days from the submission of a Base Tax Credit Application from which no certification decision was issued. Failure to request an appeal within thirty (30) days or ninety (90) days as applicable will finalize the denial decision on the Base Tax Credit, and applicant may not reapply for the same project.

(2) Upon receipt of a timely letter of appeal, the General Counsel will address the merits of the Base Tax Credit appeal and the nature of the dispute with the Commissioner of GDEcD, who will make the final decision. GDEcD shall issue a final opinion and order on the appeal within sixty (60) days of receipt of a timely appeal.

(3) Any further appeals of the Base Tax Credit must be made before the Office of State Administrative Hearings. In the event an applicant pursues further appeal of the Base Tax Credit to the Office of State Administrative Hearings, and such appeal finds in favor of GDEcD, then applicant may be responsible for the payment of any fees and costs charged by the Office of State Administrative Hearings in connection with the appeal.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 159-1-1-.08

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [48-7-40.26](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Appeals Process" adopted. F. Mar. 4, 2010; eff. Mar. 24, 2010.

**Amended:** F. May 6, 2013; eff. May 26, 2013.

**Amended:** F. Dec. 4, 2017; eff. Dec. 24, 2017.

**Amended:** F. Dec. 29, 2020; eff. Jan. 18, 2021.

**Amended:** F. June 18, 2021; eff. July 8, 2021.

# **Department 160. RULES OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

## **Chapter 160-1.**

### **Subject 160-1-4. GRANT PROGRAMS**

#### **160-1-4-.299 Graduate Ready to Attain Success in Postsecondary ("GRASP") Grant**

1. **Purpose of Grant.** The purpose of the grant is to provide financial support to eligible high schools as they work to increase their students' likelihood of graduating high school, completing postsecondary programs, and productively participating in the workforce.

2. **Term and Conditions.** Grants are awarded through a competitive process to local educational agencies ("LEA") that have at least one eligible high school. An "eligible high school" is a high school that has a four-year cohort graduation rate below 75% for the immediately preceding school year.

LEAs will be required to (1) use the funds at the eligible high school to provide an additional counselor focused on assisting at-risk students in achieving academic, personal, social, and career development success and (2) ensure the caseload of the counselor shall comply with all requirements outlined in the application.

The grant awards are one-time funds for use at the eligible high school(s) during the fiscal period outlined in the application. There is no allowability for carryover.

3. **Eligible Recipient(s).** This competitive grant is open to LEAs that have at least one public high school that was awarded GRASP funds in the previous fiscal year and all other LEAs that have an eligible high school, as defined in the Term and Conditions.

4. **Criteria for Award.** Applications are reviewed and scored by the Georgia Department of Education. Funding will be awarded based on the quality of the application, the alignment with the grant rubric, and available funding.

5. **Directions and Deadlines for Applying.** Information about the grant and application process will be shared with all LEAs that have an eligible high school. Information about the grant may also be found on the Division of School and District Effectiveness's webpage (<https://www.gadoe.org/School-Improvement/School-Improvement-Services/Pages/default.aspx>). Completed applications are due in June.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 160-1-4-.299

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-240](#).

**HISTORY:** Original grant description entitled "Graduate Ready to Attain Success in Postsecondary ("GRASP") Grant" submitted June 15, 2021.



# **Department 290. RULES OF DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

## **Chapter 290-7. OFFICE OF CHILD SUPPORT RECOVERY**

### **Subject 290-7-1. RECOVERY AND ADMINISTRATION OF CHILD SUPPORT**

#### **290-7-1-.20 Waiver of Payment of Unreimbursed Public Assistance Administrative Orders Only**

(a) Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § [19-11-5\(b\)](#) the Commissioner of Human Services hereby vests the director of the Department and his or her designees with the authority to waive, reduce or negotiate the payment of unreimbursed public assistance. This is limited to administrative child support orders (not judicial orders) that create a debt owed to the state. In making a recommendation and determination regarding the waiver, reduction or negotiation of a debt owed under code section, the following factors shall be considered:

(1) The Department shall determine whether good cause existed for the nonpayment of the unreimbursed public assistance;

(2) The Department shall determine whether repayment of this debt would result in substantial and unreasonable hardship for the parent owing the debt; and

(3) The Department shall determine the obligor's current ability to pay the debt to include the consideration of the regularity of payments made for the current support of those dependents for whom support is owed.

(b) Any determinations to waive, reduce or negotiate a settlement of the unreimbursed public assistance made pursuant to this rule must be put into writing and approved by the director or designee. These records shall be available for review and subject to audit.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 290-7-1-.20

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [19-11-5](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Waiver of Payment of Unreimbursed Public Assistance - Administrative Orders Only" adopted. F. Nov. 2, 2005; eff. Nov. 22, 2005.

**Repealed:** New Rule of the same title adopted. F. June 15, 2011; eff. July 5, 2011.

**Amended:** F. June 4, 2021; eff. June 24, 2021.



# **Department 300. RULES OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

## **Chapter 300-2. EMPLOYMENT SECURITY LAW**

### **Subject 300-2-1. DEFINITIONS**

#### **300-2-1-.01 Meaning Of Terms Used**

(1) "Law" means the Employment Security Law of Georgia, Official Code of Georgia Annotated (OCGA), Title 34, Chapter 8.

(2) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Labor of Georgia. Where appropriate, Commissioner shall also mean any duly authorized representative of the Commissioner.

(3) "Department" means the Georgia Department of Labor.

(4) "Reimbursable Basis" means the method of payment wherein an employing unit has elected to reimburse this department for the amount of benefits chargeable to such unit in lieu of making quarterly contributions to the department.

(5) Total, Part-Total, and Partial Unemployment.

(a) "Total Unemployment" means the unemployment of any individual in any week during which the individual performs no services and with respect to which no wages are payable to the individual.

(b) "Part-Total Unemployment" means any claim week during which an otherwise qualified individual performs services and earns wages not exceeding the weekly unemployment insurance amount plus Non-deductible earnings.

(c) "Partial Unemployment" means any complete pay-period week during which an individual is attached to the individual's regular employer and works less than full-time, due only to lack of work, and earns wages not exceeding the individual's weekly unemployment insurance amount plus Non-deductible earnings. Partial unemployment claims are initiated by the employer.

**NOTE:** The Georgia Employment Security Law provides for benefit payments to be made in multiples of \$1.00. Therefore, Deductible Earnings must be adjusted to the nearest dollar, i.e., the odd cents .01 through .49 will be adjusted to the next lower dollar; .50 through .99 will be adjusted to the next higher dollar.

(6) Week of Unemployment. Unless otherwise authorized by the Commissioner, a week of unemployment shall be the calendar week beginning on Sunday and ending at midnight the following Saturday.

(7) The following definitions shall apply in the application of the disqualification provisions of OCGA Sections [34-8-194](#) and [34-8-195](#):

(a) "Bodily Injury" is physical harm, damage or injury inflicted on an individual by another individual.

(b) "Conscious Neglect" is a failure to use that degree of care which would be exercised by an ordinarily prudent person under the same or similar circumstances. It does not require a willful intent to abuse an employer's business but it does require a showing of disregard for the normal or acceptable consequences of the action or the failure to perform one's job duties. It is to be distinguished from the claimant's inability to satisfactorily perform the duties of the job. A showing by the employer that the claimant failed to perform a task for which the claimant had previously demonstrated a degree or level of proficiency by satisfactorily performing the task in the past will shift the burden of proof to the claimant to show that the individual had an inability to perform the task in question.

(c) "Fault" is a failure to follow rules, orders or instructions, or failure to discharge the duties for which the claimant was employed. Fault which is of a disqualifying nature cannot be a technical failing, a minor mistake or the mere inability to do the job. Rather, a breach of duty to constitute fault must take into consideration such factors as length of service, nature of duties, prior warnings, equal enforcement of all progressive discipline programs and any other factors which might be used to establish reasonable expectations that the discharge was imminent. The claimant must have been aware that a discharge would likely result from the violation of the rule. In the case of a discharge due to a violation of an employer's rule, order or instruction, an employer has the burden of proving that the claimant knew or should have known that the violation of the rule, order or instruction could have resulted in termination.

(d) "Full-time Continuous Employment" for the purposes of OCGA Section [34-8-24](#) is normally considered to be at least thirty (30) hours of work in a week or such other number of hours as is normal in a particular industry. A claimant who worked full-time during a majority of the weeks of work in the base period shall be expected to look for full-time continuous employment and shall be expected to accept an offer to such work after filing an otherwise valid claim for benefits. A claimant may accept part-time work at any time as long as the part-time work does not unreasonably interfere with the claimant's search for full-time continuous employment, but the claimant must report gross earnings for such work to the Department.

(e) "Intentional Conduct" is that personal behavior or action by an individual which is willful, conscious or deliberate that results in damage to another person's property or results in bodily harm to another individual. A claimant who commits an act which a reasonably prudent person would contemplate to result in damage may be said to intend that result, whether he desired it or not; for every person is presumed to intend the natural consequences of his or her own actions.

(f) "Misconduct" is conduct evincing such willful or wanton disregard of an employer's interest as is found in violation or disregard of standards of behavior which the employer has the right to expect of an employee, or in carelessness or negligence in such degree, or recurrence as to manifest fault, or to show a disregard of the employer's interests or of the employee's duties and obligation to the employer. Misconduct includes but is not limited to a violation of a known work rule which is reasonable and related to the job being performed.

(g) "Part-time Employment" shall be construed to be work which is other than full-time continuous employment as defined above, without regard to whether it is of limited duration as to days, weeks or months. A claimant who worked part-time during a majority of the weeks of work in the base period must be available to work for at least 20 hours per week.

(h) "Physical Assault" is touching the person of another against his/her will with physical force, in an intentional, hostile or aggressive manner.

(i) "Suitable Work" means work in the individual's usual occupation or work for which the individual is reasonably fitted. In determining whether an individual is reasonably fitted for a particular job, the department shall consider the totality of circumstances, including, but not limited to:

1. The degree of risk involved to the claimant's health, safety and morals;
2. The claimant's physical fitness;
3. The claimant's prior training;
4. The claimant's experience;
5. The claimant's prior earnings;
6. The length of the claimant's unemployment;
7. If the work is not directly related to claimant's recent work experience, the claimant's prospects for obtaining local work in such claimant's customary occupation; and

8. The distance and time for commuting.

(j) "Theft" is the taking of an employer's property, or the property of any other employee or the property of any other person while on the employer's premises or otherwise within the scope of the employee's job duties, without the consent of the owner of the property, with the intent to deprive the owner of the value of the property, and to appropriate it for the use and benefit of the person taking the property. The value of the property taken shall be the fair market value at the time of replacement.

(8) "Personal services" mean work performed by an individual for personal remuneration. Work performed by an individual or sole proprietorship is presumed to be personal services unless otherwise exempted by the Employment Security Law or the Rules of the Georgia Department of Labor. Work performed by a corporation or a partnership does not meet the definition of personal services.

(9) "Rate buy down" with respect to voluntary contributions pursuant to OCGA Section [34-8-178](#) means the payment of such additional amounts in response to notice from the Department as to enable an employer to receive a lower rate of contributions.

(10) Most Recent Employer.

(a) "Most Recent Employer" as defined under OCGA [34-8-43](#) shall not include an employer subject to the provisions of the federal Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act.

(b) "Most Recent Employer" as defined by OCGA [34-8-43\(a\)](#) shall mean the last employer for whom an individual worked and was separated.

(c) An entity must be an "Employer", as defined by OCGA [34-8-33](#), to qualify as an individual's "Most Recent Employer".

(11) "Deductible Earnings" means all wages in excess of \$150.00 each week earned by a claimant for services performed, whether or not received by such claimant. Deductible earnings shall be subtracted from the weekly benefit amount of the claim.

(12) "Non-deductible Earnings" means all wages earned each week by a claimant less than or equal to the amount established by the Commissioner for Deductible Earnings.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 300-2-1-.01

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [34-2-6\(a\)\(4\)](#), [34-8-30](#), [34-8-70](#), [34-8-190](#), [34-8-191](#), [34-8-193\(e\)](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Investigation of Accidental Injuries" was filed and effective on May 18, 1965.

**Amended:** Rule renumbered as [300-3-1-.01](#) and Rule [300-1-1-.01](#), entitled "Meaning of Terms Used," renumbered as 300-2-1-.01. Filed May 20, 1966; effective June 8, 1966.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of same title adopted. Filed October 16, 1974; effective November 5, 1974.

**Amended:** Filed November 4, 1976; effective November 24, 1976.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of same title adopted. Filed June 29, 1979; effective July 19, 1979.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of same title adopted. Filed October 24, 1983; effective November 13, 1983.

**Amended:** F. Apr. 5, 1991; eff. Apr. 25, 1991.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Aug. 28, 1992; eff. Sept. 17, 1992.

**Amended:** F. Jun. 25, 1998; eff. Jul. 15, 1998.

**Amended:** F. Dec. 11, 2015; eff. Dec. 31, 2015.

**Amended:** F. Jan. 31, 2017; eff. Jan. 31, 2017, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. Mar. 24, 2017; eff. Apr. 1, 2017, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** New title "Meaning Of Terms Used." F. Jan. 24, 2020; eff. Jan. 19, 2020, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. July 17, 2020; eff. July 19, 2020, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 23, 2021; eff. June 27, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

# **Department 360. RULES OF GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD**

## **Chapter 360-2. LICENSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **360-2-.05 Renewal Applications**

(1) Each licensee shall notify the Board within thirty (30) days, in writing, of all changes of address. An email notice from the Board shall be considered to be served on the licensee when sent to the licensee's email address on file with the Board. The Board does not mail renewal notices. Renewal notices may be sent through email as a courtesy to the email address on file with the Board. It is the licensee's responsibility to make sure that the Board has an accurate email address on file and that licenses are renewed in a timely matter. Failure to renew a license by the designated expiration date shall result in a penalty fee for late renewal as determined by the Board.

(2) All active licenses must be renewed every two years. This may be done via the internet or through mail. A medical licensee may not practice medicine after the expiration date of the license. A license must be renewed biennially by the last day of the month in which the applicant's birthday falls, and the licensee must establish satisfaction of Board-approved continuing education requirements to be eligible for renewal.

(3) Licensees have the right to obtain a late renewal of their licenses during the three (3) month period immediately following the expiration date. During this period, the penalty for late renewal applies. A physician may not practice medicine after the expiration date of his or her license.

(4) The Board shall administratively revoke any license not renewed prior to the expiration of the late renewal period. Such revocation removes all rights and privileges to practice medicine and surgery in this State. A practitioner who is so revoked must apply for reinstatement. Revocation for failure to renew may be reported to the public and to other state licensing boards, and will be reported as a revocation for failure to renew. Revocation for failure to renew is not considered a disciplinary revocation. However, the license may only be reinstated through application.

(5) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (4) of this rule, any service member as defined in O.C.G.A. § [15-12-1](#) whose license to practice medicine expired while on active duty outside the state shall be permitted to practice in accordance with the expired license and shall not be charged with a violation relating to such practice on an expired license for a period of six (6) months from the date of his or her discharge from active duty or reassignment to a location within the state. Such service member shall be entitled to renew such expired license without penalty within six (6) months after the date of his or her discharge from active duty or reassignment to a location within this state. The service member must present to the Board a copy of the official military orders or a written verification signed by the service member's commanding officer to waive any charges.

(6) The fee for renewals and late renewals shall be designated in the fee schedule.

(7) All applicants must provide an affidavit and a secure and verifiable document in accordance with O.C.G.A. [50-36-1\(f\)](#). If the applicant has previously provided a secure and verifiable document and affidavit of United States citizenship, no additional documentation of citizenship is required for renewal. If the applicant for renewal is not a United States citizen, he/she must submit documentation that will determine his/her qualified alien status. The Board participates in the DHS-USCIS SAVE (Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements or "SAVE") program for purpose of verifying citizenship and immigration status information of non-U.S. citizens. If the applicant for renewal is a qualified alien or non-immigrant under the Federal Immigration and Nationality Act, he/she must provide the alien number issued by the Department of Homeland Security or other federal agency.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 360-2-.05

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. [43-1-4](#), [43-1-7](#), [43-1-19](#), [43-1-25](#), [43-1-31](#), [43-34-3](#), [43-34-5](#), [43-34-6](#), [43-34-8](#), [43-34-24](#), [43-34-24.1](#), [43-34-32](#), [43-34-37](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Temporary License" adopted. F. and eff. June 30, 1965.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Oct. 2, 1970; eff. Oct. 22, 1970.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Mar. 28, 1974; eff. Apr. 17, 1974.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Jan. 26, 1976; eff. Feb. 15, 1976.

**Amended:** F. Aug. 17, 1978; eff. Sept. 6, 1978.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Temporary Licenses" adopted. F. Dec. 15, 1982; eff. Jan. 4, 1983.

**Amended:** F. Oct. 15, 1984; eff. Nov. 4, 1984.

**Amended:** F. May 20, 1988; eff. June 9, 1988.

**Amended:** F. July 28, 1989; eff. Sept. 1, 1989, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Renewal" adopted. F. Jan. 24, 2002; eff. Feb. 13, 2002.

**Amended:** F. July 8, 2004; eff. July 28, 2004.

**Amended:** F. Sept. 7, 2005; eff. Sept. 27, 2005. A

**Amended:** F. Aug. 8, 2006; eff. Aug. 28, 2006.

**Amended:** F. Sept. 16, 2008; eff. Oct. 6, 2008. adopted.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Renewal Applications" adopted. F. May, 11, 2012; eff. May 31, 2012.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 13, 2012; eff. Dec. 3, 2012.

**Amended:** F. Jan. 13, 2014; eff. Feb. 2, 2014.

**Repealed:** New Rule with same title adopted. F. June 14, 2021; eff. July 4, 2021.

# **Department 360. RULES OF GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD**

## **Chapter 360-5. PHYSICIAN'S ASSISTANTS**

### **360-5-.03 Application for Physician Utilization of a Physician Assistant**

(1) In order to obtain approval to supervise a physician assistant, the physician who will be responsible for the performance of the Physician Assistant shall submit an application to the Board. The application shall be made upon forms supplied by the Board and must be approved by the Board before the supervising physician(s) may delegate health care tasks to the physician assistant.

(a) The board shall have the authority to approve or deny any primary or alternate supervising physicians.

(2) The supervising physician(s) must certify that he/she has received, read, and is familiar with the Medical Practice Act, Physician Assistant Act and Board rules and regulations by signing the statement on the application.

(3) The application must include:

(a) The name of the primary supervising physician.

(b) Alternate supervising physicians, as designated by the primary supervising physician, if applicable.

1. Unlimited alternate supervising physicians may be added to the approved list by submission of the appropriate form signed by the primary supervising physician, and each alternate to the Board. The Primary Supervising Physician and Physician Assistant signatures must be original however, the Alternate Supervising Physician signatures can be electronic.

2. An alternate supervising physician must have the following relationships with the primary supervising physician:

(i) a similar scope of practice and:

(ii) an affiliation with the primary supervisory physician's medical practice; or

(iii) An established formal call agreement.

(c) The name and location of the medical school from which the primary supervising physician was graduated and the date the degree was received.

(d) The type of practice in which the physician assistant is to provide services;

(e) A Georgia business address for the practice;

(f) A current Georgia medical license number.

(g) Evidence that the physician assistant is licensed in Georgia;

(h) A fee as required by the Board. No fee will be required if the physician assistant will be providing medical services as an employee of the state or of a county government; and

(i) A job description meeting the requirements of law and rules.

- (4) Applications submitted to the Board must be completed in every detail. In order for the Board to complete disposition of the application, the Board, at its discretion, may request additional information which shall be submitted in writing by the applicant.
- (5) At the option of the Board, the physician assistant and the applying supervising physician(s) may be required to appear before the Board for a personal interview.
- (6) The primary supervising physician shall at all times maintain on file, readily available for inspection, documentation from the Board evidencing current approval for supervision of the physician assistant, current license status of both parties, and a copy of the applicable approved job description.
- (7) After receipt of required documents, the board shall provide notification of approval or disapproval of the physician's application for utilization of a Physician Assistant.
- (8) All applications for Board approval should be completed and on file with the Board at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting, in order to be considered by the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee and the Board at the next meeting.
- (9) Upon termination of a physician/physician assistant relationship, the physician assistant and supervising physician are required to give notice and date of termination to the board by certified mail or appropriate verifiable method, and in order to continue practicing, the physician assistant must submit an application to the Board for a new supervising physician.
- a. An alternate supervising physician may not assume the primary supervising physician's role but must submit the appropriate form to the Board and receive its approval before delegating medical tasks to the physician assistant. Failure to notify the Board immediately may result in disciplinary action against the physician assistant and/or the physician(s). Failure to renew the license because of expiration will not be considered an exception to the requirements of this paragraph.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 360-5-.03

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [43-1-25](#), [43-34-5](#), [43-34-8](#), [43-34-24](#), [43-34-102](#), [43-34-103](#), [43-34-104](#), [43-34-108](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Requirements for Board Approval of Physician's Assistant" adopted. F. Sept. 11, 1972; eff. Oct. 1, 1972.

**Amended:** F. Feb. 20, 1973; eff. Mar. 12, 1973.

**Amended:** F. July 17, 1974; eff. Aug. 6, 1974.

**Amended:** F. Apr. 7, 1975; eff. Apr. 27, 1975.

**Amended:** F. Oct. 3, 1975; eff. Oct. 23, 1975.

**Amended:** F. Jan. 26, 1976; eff. Feb. 15, 1976.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Dec. 4, 1981; eff. Jan. 1, 1982, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. Sept. 6, 1985; eff. Sept. 26, 1985.

**Amended:** F. July 15, 1988; eff. Aug. 4, 1988.

**Amended:** F. Aug. 9, 1993; eff. Aug. 29, 1993.

**Amended:** F. Mar. 18, 1998; Apr. 7, 1998.



**Amended:** F. June 23, 2008; eff. July 13, 2008.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Application for Physician Utilization of a Physician Assistant" adopted. F. Jan. 18, 2011; eff. Feb. 7, 2011.

**Repealed:** New Rule with same title adopted. F. Jan. 13, 2012; eff. Feb. 2, 2012.

**Repealed:** New Rule with same title adopted. F. June 16, 2021; eff. July 6, 2021.

### **360-5-.04 General Job Description**

(1) The job description is a document signed and dated by both the primary supervising physician and the physician assistant whom the physician is seeking to utilize or already has approval to utilize.

(a) A job description shall not be required to contain every activity the physician deems the physician assistant qualified to perform, but shall confine the activities of the physician assistant to those in the scope of practice of the primary supervising physician.

(b) The job description shall include a description of the medical acts to be performed by the physician assistant. For physician assistants who do not practice as an anesthesiologist assistant, attachment of the Job Description provided by the Board shall be deemed adequate compliance with this requirement. However, if the physician assistant is performing an act not covered in the Job Description, then a submission of these additional acts is necessary and express approval by the Board is required. The Job Description does not include the delivery of general, spinal or epidural anesthesia and a physician assistant performing these acts would require additional training and express Board approval.

(2) Physician assistants who have completed a board approved Anesthesiologist Assistant program and will be practicing under the supervision of an anesthesiologist shall complete the job description for the Physician Anesthesiologist Assistant. All other physician assistants shall complete the General Job Description.

(3) The job description shall contain a provision for immediate consultation between the physician assistant and primary or alternate supervising physician. "Immediate consultation" means that the supervising physician shall be available for direct communication or by telephone or other means of telecommunication.

(4) In the case of an anesthesiologist assistant delivering general and/or regional anesthesia, the primary or alternate supervising physician must be immediately available in person.

(5) A physician assistant may only perform those tasks which are included in his/her job description currently on file with and approved by the Board; provided, however, that tasks outside the job description may be performed by the physician assistant under the direct supervision and in the presence of the physician(s) utilizing him.

(6) A primary supervising physician may at any time submit a new or amended physician assistant job description to the Board.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 360-5-.04

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [43-1-25](#), [43-34-5](#), [43-34-8](#), [43-34-102](#), [43-34-103](#), [43-34-104](#), [43-34-105](#), [43-34-108](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Changes in Job Descriptions or Applying Physicians" adopted. F. Sept. 11, 1972; eff. Oct. 1, 1972.

**Amended:** F. Sept. 16, 1974; eff. Oct. 6, 1974.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Dec. 4, 1981; eff. Jan. 1, 1982, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. Apr. 8, 1985; eff. Apr. 28, 1985.

**Amended:** F. Sept. 6, 1985; eff. Sept. 26, 1985.

**Amended:** F. July 15, 1988; eff. Aug. 4, 1988.

**Amended:** F. Mar. 18, 1998; eff. Apr. 7, 1998.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "General Job Description" adopted. F. Jan. 18, 2011; eff. Feb. 7, 2011.

**Repealed:** New Rule with same title adopted. F. June 16, 2021; eff. July 6, 2021.

### **360-5-.05 Limitations on Physician Assistant Practice**

(1) No person shall practice as a physician assistant without a license or temporary permit from the Board, Board approval of a supervising physician, and Board approval of his/her job description.

(2) A physician employed by the Department of Community Health, an institution thereof or by a local health department, whose duties are administrative and do not normally include providing health care to patients, shall not be authorized to supervise a physician assistant who is employed by these entities.

(3) A physician may not be an employee of the physician assistant who he/she is required to supervise unless the arrangement was approved by the Board prior to July 1, 2009.

(4) A physician may serve as primary supervising physician to only four physician assistants. A physician may be an alternate supervising physician for any number of physician assistants.

(5) A physician may serve as a primary supervising physician for no more than eight physician assistants who have completed a board approved anesthesiologist assistant program licensed to him or her at a time. A physician may be an alternate supervising physician for any number of anesthesiologist assistants.

(6) When acting as a Primary or Alternate supervising physician, a physician may supervise as many as (4) four physician assistants who have completed a board approved anesthesiologist assistant program at one time, who are working within the scope of practice of the Supervising Physician.

When acting as a Primary or Alternate supervising physician, a physician may supervise as many as (4) four physician assistants at one time, who are working within the scope of practice of the Supervising Physician.

This limitation shall not apply to a Physician Assistant who is practicing:

(A) In a hospital licensed under Title 31;

(B) In any college or university as defined in Code Section [20-8-1](#);

(C) In the Department of Public Health;

(D) In any county board of health;

(E) In any community service board;

(F) In any free health clinic;

(G) In a birthing center;

(H) In any entity:

(i) Which is exempt from federal taxes pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, as defined in Code Section [48-1-2](#), and primarily serves uninsured or indigent Medicaid and Medicare patients; or

(ii) Which has been established under the authority of or is receiving funds pursuant to [42 U.S.C. Section 254b](#) or [254c](#) of the United States Public Health Service Act; or

(I) In a health maintenance organization that has an exclusive contract with a medical group practice and arranges for the provision of substantially all physician services to enrollees in health benefits of the health maintenance organization.

(7) A physician assistant may not perform an abortion or administer, prescribe or issue a drug order that is intended to cause an abortion to occur pharmacologically.

(8) A physician assistant may not be utilized to perform the duties of a pharmacist licensed under Title 26, Chapter 4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to pharmacists, as now or hereafter amended.

(9) A physician assistant may not issue a written prescription for a Schedule II controlled substance. Provided, however, this does not preclude:

(a) a physician assistant from preparing such a prescription for administration of a Schedule II controlled substance for signature by the primary or alternate supervising physician on the date that the prescription is issued to the patient. Such prescriptions may not be pre-signed.

(b) A physician assistant from issuing a written or verbal order for a Schedule II controlled substance within a health care setting. The supervising or an alternate supervising physician must co-sign such orders in compliance with any provisions required by the location where the physician assistant is practicing.

(10) A physician assistant does not have the authority to sign death certificates or assign a percentage of a disability rating.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 360-5-.05

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [43-1-19](#), [43-1-25](#), [43-34-5](#), [43-34-8](#), [43-34-23](#), [43-34-102](#), [43-34-103](#), [43-34-104](#), [43-34-108](#), [43-34-109](#), [43-34-110](#), [43-39-5](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Time Limits for Applications" adopted. F. Sept. 11, 1972; eff. Oct. 1, 1972.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Dec. 4, 1981; eff. Jan. 1, 1982, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. Sept. 19, 2007; eff. Oct. 9, 2007.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Limitations on Physician Assistant Practice" adopted. F. Jan. 18, 2011; eff. Feb. 7, 2011.

**Repealed:** New Rule with same title adopted. F. Jan. 13, 2012; eff. Feb. 2, 2012.

**Repealed:** New Rule with same title adopted. F. June 16, 2021; eff. July 6, 2021.

### **360-5-.11 Standards for Physician Assistant Practice**

(1) The physician assistant is not required to be in the presence of the physician to provide medical services, including the evaluation and treatment of new or established patients.

(2) A physician assistant may make house calls, nursing home visits, perform hospital duties, serve as an ambulance attendant or perform other functions he is qualified to perform.

(3) The physician assistant may issue a prescription drug order, and/or order and initiate medical treatment or diagnostic studies in any health care setting, as authorized by his or her supervising physician.

(4) Any physician, clinic or hospital utilizing physician assistants must post a notice to that effect in a prominent place.

(5) While engaged in medical practice, a physician assistant must clearly identify himself as such. He/she must also wear a clearly legible identification name tag with the words "Physician Assistant" or "Anesthesiologist Assistant" on it. A Physician Assistant is to be addressed as Mr., Mrs., Ms., or Miss.

(6) A physician who has been approved for supervision of a physician assistant is responsible for medical acts performed by that physician assistant.

(7) A physician assistant may pronounce death and certify such pronouncement in the same manner as a physician if he is delegated this by his supervising physician.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 360-5-.11

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ 43-34-3, 43-34-5, 43-34-8, 43-34-102, 43-34-103, 43-34-105, 43-34-106, 43-34-108.

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Compliance" adopted. F. Apr. 6, 1992; eff. Apr. 26, 1992.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Standards for Physician Assistant Practice" adopted. F. Jan. 18, 2011; eff. Feb. 7, 2011.

**Repealed:** New Rule with same title adopted. F. Jan. 13, 2012; eff. Feb. 2, 2012.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Mar. 14, 2013; eff. Apr. 3, 2013.

**Repealed:** New Rule with same title adopted. F. June 16, 2021; eff. July 6, 2021.

### **360-5-.12 Guidelines concerning Prescriptive Authority**

(1) If authorized by his/her job description, a physician assistant may issue a prescription drug order for any medical device as defined by Code Section [26-4-5](#), any dangerous drug as defined in Code Section [16-13-71](#) or any Schedule III, IV, or V controlled substance as defined in Code Section [16-13-21](#).

(2) Any physician assistant who has been authorized to issue a prescription drug order for controlled substances must register with the federal Drug Enforcement Administration ("DEA").

(3) A Physician assistant who has been issued a DEA number, regardless of prescribing habits, must register with the Georgia PDMP (prescription drug monitoring program) within 30 days of obtaining a DEA registration number.

(4) A prescription drug or device order form issued by an authorized physician assistant shall, at a minimum, contain the name, address and telephone number of the primary or alternate supervising physician, the patient's name and address, the drug or device ordered, the directions to the patient for taking the medication, the dosage, the number of refills allowed, the name and DEA number (if applicable) of the physician assistant, and the signature of the physician assistant.

(5) The prescription drug order may be transmitted orally, by telephone, on paper, electronically or via facsimile. Any electronic prescription drug order must comply with the provision of O.C.G.A. Title 16, Chapter 13 and Title 26, Chapter 4. A record of the prescription must be maintained in the patient's medical record.

(6) A physician assistant may authorize refills of any drug or device for up to 12 months from the date of the original prescription unless otherwise provided by law. Scheduled III, IV or V controlled substances may not be refilled more than six months from date of original prescription.

(7) The primary or alternate supervising physician shall evaluate or examine patients receiving controlled substances at least every three months.

(8) The supervising physician shall periodically review patient records. This review may be achieved with a sampling of such records as determined by the supervising physician.

(9) If authorized by the job description, a physician assistant may request, receive, sign for and distribute professional samples. Professional samples means complimentary doses of a drug, medication vouchers or medical devices provided by the manufacturer for use in patient care. If the professional samples are controlled substances, the physician assistant must also be registered with the federal Drug Enforcement Administration and the Georgia PDMP (prescription drug monitoring program).

(a) The office where the physician assistant practices must maintain a general list of all professional samples that the supervising physician has approved the physician assistant to request, receive, sign for and distribute. Such samples must be consistent with the specialty of the supervising physician.

(b) A complete list of the specific drugs or devices provided to a patient by a physician assistant must be noted in the patient's medical record.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 360-5-.12

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [16-13-41](#), [16-13-74](#), [26-4-80](#), [43-34-5](#), [43-34-8](#), [43-34-23](#), [43-34-102](#), [43-34-103](#), [43-34-107](#), [43-34-108](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Carrying Out a Prescription Drug or Device Order" adopted. F. Sept. 11, 1995; eff. Oct. 1, 1995.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Guidelines concerning Prescriptive Authority" adopted. F. Jan. 18, 2011; eff. Feb. 7, 2011.

**Repealed:** New Rule with same title adopted. F. Jan. 13, 2012; eff. Feb. 2, 2012.

**Repealed:** New Rule with same title adopted. F. June 16, 2021; eff. July 6, 2021.

# **Department 375. RULES OF DEPARTMENT OF DRIVER SERVICES**

## **Chapter 375-3. DRIVER LICENSE SERVICES**

### **Subject 375-3-1. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

#### **375-3-1-.02 Applications and Supporting Documentation**

(1) Customers applying for issuance or renewal of any driver's license, permit, or identification card issued by the Department shall complete a written application in a form to be determined by the Department. Such application shall require the applicant to indicate the following:

(a) Whether he or she has ever been issued a driver's license by the State of Georgia or any other state or agency, and if so, the date and place of issuance with the license number, if known;

(b) Whether any previously issued license, whether issued by the State of Georgia or any other state or licensing agency, has ever been revoked, suspended or canceled, or whether any application for a motor vehicle driver's license has ever been denied. The application shall state the cause for revocation, suspension, cancellation or denial, the circumstances surrounding the action taken, the number of times such action has been taken and whether the license has been re-issued or application granted; and

(2) Applications executed pursuant to paragraph (1) shall include a declaration under penalty of perjury that the information contained in the application is true and correct.

(3) Each application must be supported by documentation of the customer's identity, specifically his or her name and date of birth. Documents that are acceptable include the following:

(a) Valid, unexpired U.S. passport;

(b) Certified copy of a birth certificate filed with the State Office of Vital Statistics or equivalent agency in the customer's state of birth;

(c) Consular Report of Birth Abroad issued by the U.S. Department of State, Form FS-240, DS-1350 or FS-545;

(d) Valid, unexpired Permanent Resident Card (Form I-551) issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) or Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS);

(e) Unexpired Employment Authorization Document (Form I-766/EAD) issued by the DHS;

(f) Unexpired foreign passport with a valid unexpired U.S. visa affixed accompanied by the approved I-94 form documenting the applicant's most recent admittance into the United States;

(g) Certificate of Naturalization issued by the DHS, Form N-550 or N-570;

(h) Certificate of Citizenship, Form N-560 or N-561, issued by the DHS; or

(i) An uncertified copy of a state-issued birth certificate or a hospital or other commemorative birth certificate for a birth in the State of Georgia if such can be verified electronically with the records of the Georgia Department of Public Health. The driver's license, permit or identification card issued by the Department shall reflect the full legal name reflected on such documentation. If a customer's name has changed from the name listed in the document presented in satisfaction of this paragraph, such change must be supported by documentation in the form of a marriage license, marriage license application, divorce decree, adoption decree, or other court order. Original or certified copies of documents are required.

(4) Each customer may be required to provide documentation of his or her Social Security number in one of the following forms:

(a) Social Security card;

(b) DDS approved application pursuant to paragraph (1); or

(c) other approved documentation which contains the customer's Social Security number.

(5) Social security numbers provided pursuant to paragraph (4) shall be verified as required by [6 CFR § 37.11\(e\)\(2\)](#) and 6 CFR § 37.13(b)(2). This paragraph shall not apply to non-U.S. citizen customers who are not eligible for issuance of a Social Security number due to their ineligibility to work pursuant to their immigration status. Customers claiming this exemption must provide documentation thereof from the Social Security Administration.

(6) Each customer must provide two (2) documents to substantiate residence in the State of Georgia. Such documents must contain the customer's name and residence address, and they must be dated by the sender or postmarked within six (6) months prior to the date on which they are presented. Renewal customers who are providing such documentation to satisfy the requirements of [6 CFR § 37.11](#) may utilize any previously issued driver's license, permit, or identification card, and they may submit such documents electronically so long as the address reflected therein matches the address already reflected on such person's most recently issued driver's license, permit, or identification card.

The following forms of documentation are examples of what can be used to satisfy the proof of residence requirement.

This is not an exhaustive list as acceptable document types are subject to change.

**\* Mortgage Documents**

**\* Lease**

**\* Military Housing Agreement Letter**

**\* Utility Bills** - Dated within previous six (6) months. Utility bill for services installed at your residential address (water, sewer, gas, electricity, cable/satellite TV, Internet, telephone/cell phone, or garbage collection). **Please redact account numbers.**

**\* Motor Vehicle Information** - Vehicle Registration or Title, Insurance policy or Insurance Card with address displayed.

**\* Documents Issued by Federal, State or Local Governments - From current or preceding calendar year**

(7) Each customer must provide documentation of his or her citizenship or lawful status in the United States. Pursuant to [6 CFR § 37.3](#) a person has lawful status if he or she presents proof that he or she is a citizen or national of the United States; or an alien: lawfully admitted for permanent or temporary residence in the United States; with conditional permanent resident status in the United States; who has an approved application for asylum in the United States or has entered into the United States in refugee status; who has a valid nonimmigrant status in the United States; who has a pending application for asylum in the United States; who has a pending or approved application for temporary protected status (TPS) in the United States; who has approved deferred action status; or who has a pending application for lawful permanent residence (LPR) or conditional permanent resident status.

(a) The following documents shall suffice as proof of citizenship:

(i) Valid, unexpired U.S. passport;

(ii) Certified copy of a birth certificate filed with the State Office of Vital Statistics or equivalent agency in the customer's state of birth;

(iii) Consular Report of Birth Abroad issued by the U.S. Department of State, Form FS-240, DS-1350 or FS-545;

(iv) Certificate of Naturalization issued by the DHS, Form N-550 or N-570; or

(v) Certificate of Citizenship, Form N-560 or N-561, issued by the DHS.

(b) A valid, unexpired Permanent Resident Card (Form I-551) issued by the DHS or USCIS shall suffice as proof of lawful status in the United States. Non-U.S. citizen customers whose identities are proven using an unexpired Employment Authorization Document (Form I-766/EAD) issued by DHS; or an unexpired foreign passport with a valid, unexpired U.S. visa affixed accompanied by the approved I-94 form documenting the applicant's most recent admittance into the United States; or a REAL ID driver's license or identification card issued in compliance with the standards established by [6 CFR § 37.11](#) must also present a second verifiable document issued by the DHS or other Federal agencies demonstrating lawful status as determined by USCIS. All documentation of lawful status is required to be verified with the DHS' Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program (SAVE) in the manner prescribed in [6 CFR § 37.13](#).

(8) (a) The Department shall not accept documents issued outside the United States except foreign passports. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a customer cannot, for reasons beyond his or her control, present any other document as proof of his or her name, including changes thereto, such documentation shall be accepted pursuant to the foregoing exception process. Such documentation must be printed in English or translated into English by a professional translating service, non-profit corporation, consular official of the country of issuance, or other entity approved by the Department. The original certified document and the original English translation document must be presented to the Department.

(b) Customers who have been designated as asylees by the United States Department of Homeland Security may satisfy the requirements for proof of identity, lawful status in the United States, and residence by providing the following:

(i) Original I-94 indicating asylee status; and

(ii) Proof of residence as set forth in paragraph (6).

(c) Customers who have been designated as refugees by the United States Department of Homeland Security may satisfy the requirements for proof of identity, lawful status in the United States, and residence by providing the following:

(i) If the applicant is a refugee initially placed in the State of Georgia upon arrival in the United States:

1) Original I-94 indicating refugee status;

2) Reception and placement form identifying agency responsible for settling applicant in the State of Georgia; and

3) Refugee Affidavit form bearing notarized signature of representative of the placement agency identified in the reception and placement form submitted to satisfy paragraph (8)(c)(i)2) and containing applicant's residence address. The Department will notarize said forms at the Customer Service Center at which the applicant applies for said initial issuance if the placement agency does not have a notary on staff.

(ii) If the applicant is a refugee age eighteen (18) or over who was initially placed in a state other than Georgia upon arrival in the United States, but who has since moved to the State of Georgia:

1) Original I-94 indicating refugee status;

2) Driver's license or identification card issued by previous state of residence; and



3) Proof of residence as set forth in paragraph (6).

(iii) If the applicant is a refugee under age eighteen (18) who was initially placed in a state other than Georgia upon arrival in the United States, but who has since moved to the State of Georgia:

1) Original I-94 indicating refugee status; and

2) Proof of residence as set forth in paragraph (6).

(d) If the applicant is a probationer, parolee or person who has been released from the custody of the Georgia Department of Corrections within the last sixty (60) days, and he or she is unable to provide one or both documents needed to prove his or her residence, he or she may prove his or her residence address by submitting confirmation thereof from an employee of the Department of Corrections or the State Board of Pardons and Paroles on the form designated by the Department.

(e) If the applicant is a resident of a nursing home or other medical care facility, and he or she is unable to provide both documents needed to prove his or her residence, he or she may prove his or her residence address as the address of such nursing home or medical care facility based upon confirmation thereof from the nursing home or medical care facility on its letterhead. Such confirmation must include the customer's name and date of birth, the address of the nursing home, the name and phone number of a representative thereof, and the signature of such representative.

(f) If the applicant is a homeless individual, he or she may utilize the address of a homeless shelter or other service provider upon confirmation thereof from the homeless shelter or care provider. Such confirmation must include the customer's name and date of birth, the address of the homeless shelter or care provider, the name and phone number of a representative thereof, and the signature of such representative.

(g) If the applicant is in the care of the Department of Human Services or the Department of Juvenile Justice, he or she may prove his or her residence address by submitting confirmation thereof from an employee of thereof.

(h) If the applicant is age seventy (70) or more, he or she may prove his or her name and date of birth utilizing an original discharge document from the military or a statement from the Social Security Administration containing the customer's name and date of birth.

(i) If the applicant became a United States citizen pursuant to the Child Citizenship Act of 2000 upon his or her adoption by a Georgia resident, then he or she may satisfy the requirements for proving his or her identity and citizenship by presenting a State of Georgia Certificate of Foreign Birth.

(j) If the applicant possesses a previously issued United States passport that has expired, but the expiration date is less than ten (10) years from the date on which he or she makes application for a license, permit, or identification card, then he or she may satisfy the requirements for proving his or her identity and citizenship by presenting such expired passport.

(k) If the applicant is age sixty (60) or more and has held a Georgia driver's license, permit, or identification card for at least twenty (20) years prior to making application for renewal thereof, he or she may prove his or her name and date of birth utilizing an original discharge document from the military or a statement from the Social Security Administration containing the customer's name and date of birth.

(l) As provided in 6 CFR Part 37 , if for reasons beyond the control of an applicant who has satisfied citizenship and is renewing their Georgia drivers' license, permit, or identification card cannot provide an identity document, the Department may accept a Georgia Driver's license, permit or identification card that is valid or has been expired less than two (2) years provided it bears the name that has previously been and continues to verify through the Social Security Administration and the applicants' photographs continue to match without incident, and use of such card is approved by an authorized managing supervisor of the Department.

(m) In the event a customer is unable to satisfy the documentary requirements set forth herein, he or she may propose the use of alternative documents. Such requests shall contain a specific explanation of why the customer is unable to provide the documents, a showing that the alternative documents are equivalent to the documents required in the regulation and include copies of the documents proposed. The Department shall not accept alternative documentation as proof of lawful status in the United States.

(9) Customers applying for the renewal of a driver's license, permit or identification card by means other than personal appearance, shall be authorized to do so pursuant to Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. [375-3-2-.04](#).

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 375-3-1-.02

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [40-5-4](#), [40-5-101](#), [40-16-2](#), [40-16-3](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Documentation Required for Initial Issuance" adopted. F. Sept. 1, 2004; eff. Sept. 21, 2004.

**Amended:** F. Dec. 14, 2005; eff. Jan. 3, 2006.

**Amended:** F. Sept. 11, 2006; eff. Oct. 1, 2006.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Mar. 22, 2007; eff. Apr. 11, 2007.

**Amended:** F. Oct. 10, 2007; eff. Oct. 30, 2007.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Documentation Required for Issuance" adopted. F. Nov. 23, 2009; eff. Dec. 13, 2009.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Applications and Supporting Documentation" adopted. F. Mar. 30, 2012; eff. Apr. 19, 2012.

**Amended:** F. Jan. 22, 2013; eff. Feb. 11, 2013.

**Amended:** F. Jan. 21, 2014; eff. Feb. 10, 2014.

**Amended:** F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 14, 2014.

**Amended:** F. Aug. 20, 2014; eff. Sep. 9, 2014.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 18, 2014; eff. Dec. 8, 2014.

**Amended:** F. Sep. 15, 2015; eff. Oct. 5, 2015.

**Amended:** F. Sep. 20, 2016; eff. Oct. 10, 2016.

**Amended:** F. June 1, 2020; eff. June 21, 2020.

**Amended:** F. Oct. 15, 2020; eff. Nov. 4, 2020.

**Amended:** F. June 16, 2021; eff. July 6, 2021.

# **Department 375. RULES OF DEPARTMENT OF DRIVER SERVICES**

## **Chapter 375-3. DRIVER LICENSE SERVICES**

### **Subject 375-3-2. RENEWALS**

#### **375-3-2-.01 Term of Driver's License, Permit, and Identification Card**

(1) (a) Except as otherwise provided in this regulation or any Georgia or Federal provision, licenses and identification cards issued to citizens of the United States expire on the person's birthday in the eighth (8th) year after issuance.

(b) (i) Except as provided in paragraph (c), any person who is not a citizen of the United States who provides proof of lawful status in the United States that satisfies the requirements of [6 C.F.R. 37.11](#) and Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. [375-3-1-.02](#), and is otherwise eligible for the issuance of a driver's license, permit, or identification card may be issued a temporary driver's license, permit, or identification card. Such temporary driver's license, permit, or identification card shall be valid only during the lesser of the period of time of the applicant's authorized stay in the United States as reflected on such documentation or the maximum term which is five (5) years and shall reflect that it is issued for a limited term.

(ii) Any person who presents immigration documentation that does not bear an expiration date shall be eligible for a temporary driver's license, permit, or identification card valid for one (1) year, unless the person's immigration documentation, as confirmed pursuant to O.C.G.A. § [40-5-21.2](#), indicates that they are an approved asylee, refugee, or lawful permanent resident. The card shall reflect that it is issued for a limited term.

1) Asylees, refugees, and lawful permanent residents holding verifiable immigration documentation thereof that does not bear an expiration date shall be eligible for a temporary driver's license, permit, or identification card valid for up to five (5) years. The card shall reflect that it is issued for a limited term.

(iii) Pursuant to H.R. 3398, the "Real Id Act Modification for Freely Associated States Act," a citizen of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, or the Republic of Palau who has been admitted to the United States as a nonimmigrant pursuant to a Compact of Free Association between the United States and the Republic or Federated States is eligible for a driver's license or identification card valid for up to eight (8) years or the expiration date of their immigration documents, whichever is sooner. The card shall reflect that it is issued for a limited term. Individuals must provide an unexpired Freely Associated States (FAS) passport with the appropriate country code and one of the following:

1) I-766/Employee Authorization Document (EAD) listing the COA (Class of Admission) Category Code of A08; or

2) I-94 document.

(c) Non-citizen customers who have a limited-term Georgia driver's license, permit, or identification card that has expired or will expire within thirty (30) days of making application for renewal may be issued a temporary driving permit or identification card thereof valid for 120 days if they present documentation showing that they have applied for, but not received, an extension of their previously verified lawful immigration status. No additional temporary driving permits or identification cards shall be issued upon expiration of the 120 day-period pursuant to O.C.G.A. § [40-5-21.1](#). The card shall reflect that it is issued for a limited term.

(d) No temporary license, permit, or identification card issued pursuant to this regulation shall be renewed by any means other than in person.

(e) Veterans' licenses and veterans' identification cards shall be valid for eight (8) years.

(2) Licenses and identification cards may be renewed up to one hundred fifty (150) days prior to the date of expiration. No license or identification card may be renewed prior to that time without prior approval by the Commissioner or his designee. Such a renewal will terminate the license or identification card renewed, and no rebate of fees will be authorized.

(3) Each customer applying for renewal of a license, permit or identification card shall present documentation of his or her identity, citizenship or lawful status in the United States, and residence in the State of Georgia as provided in Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. [375-3-1-.02](#) and the REAL ID Act (as regulated by 6 C.F.R. 37).

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 375-3-2-.01

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [40-5-4](#), [40-16-2](#), [40-16-3](#), [40-16-4](#), [40-16-5](#), [40-5-21.1](#), [40-5-32](#), [40-5-100\(b\)](#), [40-5-172\(a\)](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Renewal of License and Identification Card: When Licenses and Identification Cards May Be Renewed" adopted. F. Sept. 10, 2002; eff. Sept. 30, 2002.

**Amended:** F. Dec. 14, 2005; eff. Jan. 3, 2006.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Mar. 22, 2007; eff. Apr. 11, 2007.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Expiration of License and Identification Card: When Licenses and Identification Cards May Be Renewed" adopted. F. Sept. 3, 2009; eff. Sept. 23, 2009.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Renewal of License and Identification Card: When Licenses and Identification Cards May Be Renewed" adopted. F. Aug. 24, 2010; eff. Sept. 13, 2010.

**Amended:** F. Mar. 30, 2012; eff. Apr. 19, 2012.

**Amended:** Title changed to "Expiration of License and Identification Card: When Licenses and Identification Cards May Be Renewed. Revised." F. Jan. 22, 2013; eff. Feb. 11, 2013.

**Amended:** F. Jun. 4, 2013; eff. Jun. 24, 2013.

**Amended:** F. Jan. 21, 2014; eff. Feb. 10, 2014.

**Amended:** F. Jan. 19, 2018; eff. Feb. 8, 2018.

**Amended:** New title "Term of Driver's License, Permit, and Identification Card." F. June 16, 2021; eff. July 6, 2021.

# **Department 391. RULES OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

## **Chapter 391-1. ADMINISTRATION**

### **Subject 391-1-4. [Repealed]**

#### **391-1-4-.01 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.01

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Applicability and Scope of These Rules" adopted. F. Aug. 15, 2000; eff. Sept. 4, 2000.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 21, 2001; eff. Dec. 11, 2001.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

#### **391-1-4-.02 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.02

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Definitions" adopted. F. Aug. 15, 2000; eff. Sept. 4, 2000.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 21, 2001; eff. Dec. 11, 2001.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

#### **391-1-4-.03 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.03

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Program Purpose" adopted. F. Aug. 15, 2000; eff. Sept. 4, 2000.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 21, 2001; eff. Dec. 11, 2001.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

#### **391-1-4-.04 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.04

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Calculation of Protected Greenspace" adopted. F. Aug. 15, 2000; eff. Sept. 4, 2000.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 21, 2001; eff. Dec. 11, 2001.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Calculation and Allowable Uses of Protected Greenspace" adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.05 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.05

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Duties of the Georgia Greenspace Commission" adopted. F. Aug. 15, 2000; eff. Sept. 4, 2000.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 21, 2001; eff. Dec. 11, 2001.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.06 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.06

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Operation of the Georgia Greenspace Fund" adopted. F. Aug. 15, 2000; eff. Sept. 4, 2000.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 21, 2001; eff. Dec. 11, 2001.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.07 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.07

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Establishment and Operation of Community Greenspace Trust Funds" adopted. F. Aug. 15, 2000; eff. Sept. 4, 2000.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 21, 2001; eff. Dec. 11, 2001.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.08 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.08

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Determination and Notification of a Local Government's Eligibility to Apply for Grants from Appropriated Funds" adopted. F. Aug. 15, 2000; eff. Sept. 4, 2000.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 21, 2001; eff. Dec. 11, 2001.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.09 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.09

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Determination and Publication of Annual Amounts of Awards to Be Granted from Appropriated Funds" adopted. F. Aug. 15, 2000; eff. Sept. 4, 2000.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 21, 2001; eff. Dec. 11, 2001.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.10 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.10

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Development, Submittal and Approval of a Community Program Upon a County's First Becoming Eligible to Participate, or Following a Break in Participation" adopted. F. Aug. 15, 2000; eff. Sept. 4, 2000.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 21, 2001; eff. Dec. 11, 2001.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.11 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.11

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Continuation of a Previously Approved Community Program" adopted. F. Aug. 15, 2000; eff. Sept. 4, 2000.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 21, 2001; eff. Dec. 11, 2001.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.12 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.12

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Biennial Progress Report and Disbursement of Appropriated Funds" adopted. F. Aug. 15, 2000; eff. Sept. 4, 2000.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 21, 2001; eff. Dec. 11, 2001.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.13 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.13

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Disbursement of Appropriated Funds Remaining at the End of Fiscal Year 2001" adopted. F. Aug. 15, 2000; eff. Sept. 4, 2000.

**Amended:** Rule retitled "Disbursement of Appropriated Funds Remaining at the End of a Fiscal Year". F. Nov. 21, 2001; eff. Dec. 11, 2001.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.14 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.14

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Determination of Amounts of Awards from Non-Appropriated Funds" adopted. F. Aug. 15, 2000; eff. Sept. 4, 2000.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 21, 2001; eff. Dec. 11, 2001.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Audits and Investigations" adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.



### **391-1-4-.15 [Repealed]**

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.15

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Audits and Investigations" adopted. F. Aug. 15, 2000; eff. Sept. 4, 2000.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 21, 2001; eff. Dec. 11, 2001.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "State Matching Contributions on Certain Rivers" adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.16 [Repealed]**

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.16

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "State Matching Contributions on Certain Rivers" adopted. F. Aug. 15, 2000; eff. Sept. 4, 2000.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 21, 2001; eff. Dec. 11, 2001.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "State's Acceptance and Administration of Property Acquired by Local Governments" adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.17 [Repealed]**

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.17

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "State's Acceptance and Administration of Property Acquired by Local Governments" adopted. F. Aug. 15, 2000; eff. Sept. 4, 2000.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 21, 2001; eff. Dec. 11, 2001.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "State's Annual Report of Progress" adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.18 through 391-1-4-.29 [Repealed]**

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.18 through 391-1-4-.29

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Rule 391-1-4-.18 through 391-1-4-.29 previously Reserved.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.30 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.30

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Applicability and Scope of These Rules" adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.31 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.31

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Definitions" adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.32 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.32

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Program Purpose" adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.33 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.33

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Duties of the Georgia Greenspace Commission" adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.34 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.34

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Operation of the Supplemental Fund for Matching Grants" adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.35 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.35

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Establishment and Operation of Community Greenspace Trust Funds" adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.36 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.36

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Determination and Notification of a Local Government's Eligibility to Apply for Grants from Appropriated Funds" adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.37 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.37

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Determination of Annual Amount of Grant Funds Available to Be Granted Under the Supplemental Grants for Matching Funds Program" adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.38 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.38

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Solicitation of Grant Applications" adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.39 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.39

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Determination of Amounts of Awards to Be Granted Under the Supplemental Grants for Matching Funds Program" adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.40 through 391-1-4-.49 [Repealed]**

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.40 through 391-1-4-.49

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Rule 391-1-4-.40 through 391-1-4-.49 previously Reserved.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.50 [Repealed]**

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.50

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Applicability and Scope of These Rules" adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.51 [Repealed]**

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.51

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Definitions" adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.52 [Repealed]**

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.52

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Program Purpose" adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.53 [Repealed]**

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.53

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Duties of the Georgia Greenspace Commission" adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021

### **391-1-4-.54 [Repealed]**

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.54

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Operation of the Discretionary Grant Program" adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.55 [Repealed]**

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.55

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Determination of Amount of Funds Available to Be Granted" adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.56 [Repealed]**

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.56

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Determination and Notification of a Local Government's Eligibility to Apply for a Discretionary Grant" adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.57 [Repealed]**

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.57

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Submittal of a Discretionary Grant Application" adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-1-4-.58 [Repealed]**

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-4-.58

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Establishment and Operation of Community Greenspace Trust Funds" adopted. F. Dec. 4, 2002; eff. Dec. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

# **Department 391. RULES OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

## **Chapter 391-1. ADMINISTRATION**

### **Subject 391-1-5. [Repealed]**

#### **391-1-5-.01 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-5-.01

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Historic Preservation" adopted. F. Sept. 30, 1977; eff. Oct. 20, 1977.

**Repealed:** F. Dec. 22, 1980; eff. Jan. 11, 1981.

**Submitted:** Original grant description entitled "Name of Grant Program" received Mar. 6, 2001.

**Submitted:** Jan. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

#### **391-1-5-.02 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-5-.02

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Recreation Planning" adopted. F. Sept. 30, 1977; eff. Oct. 20, 1977.

**Repealed:** F. Dec. 22, 1980; eff. Jan. 11, 1981.

**Submitted:** Original grant description entitled "Citation to Statutory Authority" received Mar. 6, 2001.

**Submitted:** Jan. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

#### **391-1-5-.03 [Repealed]**

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**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original grant description entitled "General Scope and Purpose of the Grant Program" submitted Mar. 6, 2001.

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### **391-1-5-.04 [Repealed]**

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**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original grant description entitled "Terms and Conditions" submitted Mar. 6, 2001.

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### **391-1-5-.05 [Repealed]**

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**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original grant description entitled "Eligible Recipients of the Grant" submitted Mar. 6, 2001.

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### **391-1-5-.06 [Repealed]**

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**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original grant description entitled "Criteria for the Award of the Grant" submitted Mar. 6, 2001.

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### **391-1-5-.07 [Repealed]**

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-1-5-.07

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original grant description entitled "Directions and Deadlines for Applying for Such Grant" submitted Mar. 6, 2001.

**Submitted:** Jan. 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

# **Department 391. RULES OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

## **Chapter 391-2. COASTAL RESOURCES**

### **Subject 391-2-3. COASTAL MARSHLANDS PROTECTION**

#### **391-2-3-.03 Regulation of Marinas, Community Docks and Commercial Docks**

(1) **Purpose.** The purpose of these Rules is to implement the authority of the Board of Natural Resources to promulgate rules and regulations for permitting under and enforcement of the Coastal Marshlands Protection Act. This Chapter establishes standards and procedures to be applied by the Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee when reviewing applications for a permit to construct or modify a marina, commercial dock, or community dock on or over marshlands within the estuarine area of the state.

(2) **Definitions used in this Rule.**

(a) "303(d) listed stream" means a stream, stream segment, or other surface waterbody identified on a list submitted biannually to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, known as the 303(d) list. Inclusion on the 303(d) list denotes the waterbody segment as impaired because it does not meet one or more designated uses (i.e. Fishing, Recreation, etc.) and for which one or more total maximum daily loads needs to be developed.

(b) "Approved Disposal System" means an on-site wastewater disposal system suitable for domestic or other sewage approved by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and/or local sanitation regulatory authority, as applicable.

(c) "Commercial Dock" means a dock providing 500 linear feet or less of docking space for vessels inclusive of commercial vessels.

(d) "Committee" means Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee.

(e) "Community dock" means a dock providing 500 linear feet or less of docking space which is a subdivision or community recreational amenity providing water access for residents, and which may or may not entail a fee. A dock meeting this definition but providing more than 500 feet of docking space is treated as a marina, as defined in these rules.

(f) "Department" means the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

(g) "Effective shading" means the amount of shading realized by utilizing alternative walkway decking material or alternative walkway design when compared to shading associated with traditional planking construction.

(h) "Fixed dock" means a dock, constructed on pilings, that is fixed in elevation, i.e., that does not float on the water.

(i) "Fixed terminal platform" means the platform constructed on pilings at the terminal, waterward end of a dock.

(j) "Floating dock" means a dock that floats on the water to which watercraft are tied for mooring.

(k) "Heritage preserve marshlands" means those marshlands that have been dedicated as a heritage preserve by the Governor pursuant to O.C.G.A. [12-3-75](#).

(l) "Impaired water" means a stream, stream segment, or other surface waterbody that does not meet water quality standards and that is identified in the most recent 303(d) list as an "Impaired Water. "



(m) "Improvements" means additions to or enhancements of raw land or structures that normally increase its usefulness and/or value, which are constructed in accordance with applicable legal requirements at the time of such construction and are intended to remain attached to or associated with the project.

(n) "Manatee Basics for Boaters" means a 3' by 4' manatee educational display sign referenced in certain leases or permits, which contains standardized content pre-approved by the Wildlife Resources Division Wildlife Conservation Section.

(o) "Manatee Travel Corridor" means channel(s) or waterway(s) that manatees are known to frequent and/or travel through, as determined by telemetry studies, aerial surveys and the Wildlife Resources Division's Wildlife Conservation Section's public sightings database.

(p) "Marina" means any dock facility which has any one or more of the following:

1. Includes fueling, maintenance or repair services (regardless of dock length);
2. Is greater than 500 linear feet of dock space; or
3. Has dry storage for boats in an upland storage yard or vertical rack system.

(q) "Minor alteration" means any change in the marshlands which taken singularly or in combination with other changes, involves less than 0.10 acres.

(r) "Model Ordinance within the Guide for Molluscan Shellfish Control in the National Shellfish Sanitation Program" means the requirements which are minimally necessary for the sanitary control of molluscan shellfish, as established by the National Shellfish Sanitation Program, a voluntary and cooperative program established in 1925 and comprised of federal, state and municipal authorities and representatives of the shellfish industry.

(s) "Modification" means a structural change to a community dock, commercial dock, or marina facility, whether existing but not permitted, existing and permitted, or permitted and yet to be constructed.

(t) "Project" means the proposed construction or maintenance activity identified in an application for a marshlands permit within the contemplation of the Coastal Marshlands Protection Act. A project may consist of two components: a marshlands component and an upland component, as defined in Rule [391-2-3-.02\(1\)](#).

(u) "Tier One Community Crab Dock" means a community dock consisting of a single fixed walkway and an "L" or "T" shaped fixed terminal platform, supported on pilings, lacking floats, and from which water dependent activities such as fishing may be conducted.

(v) "Tier Two Community Dock" means a community dock consisting of a single fixed walkway and terminal fixed platform, supported on pilings, connecting ramp(s), and floating dock(s), and from which water dependent activities such as boating and fishing may be conducted.

(w) "Tier Three Community Dock" means a community dock consisting of a single fixed walkway and terminal fixed platform, supported on pilings, connecting ramp(s), and floating dock(s), and which does not qualify under a Tier One Community Crab Dock or a Tier Two Community Dock, and from which water dependent activities such as boating and fishing may be conducted.

### **(3) Tier One Community Crab Dock.**

(a) To qualify for the permitting procedures as set out in paragraph (c) below, a proposed Tier One Community Crab Dock project must comply with the following standards or conditions:

1. There shall be no improvements on the upland component of the project, other than for pedestrian access to the marsh component and driveways and parking area landward of the 50' marshlands buffer, all of which must be pervious.
  2. The community dock must be for water-dependent activities that access a channel with defined banks and not ponded areas or mudflats.
  3. The community dock must terminate at the first channel that is 10 feet wide grass to grass.
  4. If the community dock walkway spans a tributary that can be bridged (a tributary less than 10 feet wide), it must have a minimum clearance of six feet above the mean high water line to the bottom of the walkway bridge. Piling spacing must provide for safe navigation in the channel.
  5. A single "L" or "T" shaped fixed terminal platform up to 180 square feet is allowed.
  6. The width of the fixed terminal platform may not exceed 6 feet.
  7. The fixed terminal platform may not extend more than one-third of the width of the creek at mean high water.
  8. The fixed terminal platform may not be enclosed but may be covered and screened with wainscoting not higher than three feet.
  9. The fixed terminal platform may be roofed; provided, however, the roof may not exceed a maximum height of 12 feet above the fixed terminal platform decking at the lowest deck height.
  10. A second deck, attic, or ceiling storage is not allowed on any roofed section of the fixed terminal platform.
  11. The community dock walkway may not exceed 4 feet in width and may not exceed 500 feet maximum length. The walkway is measured from the delineated marshlands jurisdiction line as determined or verified by the Department, channelward to the fixed terminal platform.
  12. The community dock walkway decking shall be of same material for its entire length, and standardized materials must be used when grating is used.
  13. The community dock walkway must be constructed at a height above all vegetation, but not more than six feet above grade.
  14. No floating dock or docks are allowed as part of the marshland component of the project.
  15. No hoists or lift davits are allowed as part of the marshland component of the project.
  16. No boats are allowed except for kayaks and canoes.
  17. The community dock may not have fish cleaning stations, restrooms, retail or commercial activity.
  18. Lighting if used must be shielded and on a timer.
  19. No dredging is allowed in association with the community dock project.
  20. The community dock may not be located in heritage preserve marshlands.
  21. The applicant must operate and maintain the dock in a manner that will not unreasonably obstruct navigation to and from neighboring properties.
- (b) Professional drawings of the project are required to be submitted as a part of the application. The drawings must be stamped by a Registered Land Surveyor, Professional Engineer, or Architect licensed to do business in Georgia.

(c) Upon receipt of a substantially complete project application and application fee, an abbreviated review and processing period shall apply.

1. Staff to the Committee shall have 21 days to review the project permit application.

2. The Committee shall provide Public Notice of the application for 15 days.

3. Upon a determination that the project application is complete (including staff review and public notice) and the project meets all requirements of the Coastal Marshlands Protection Act and these rules, the Commissioner may issue a Coastal Marshlands Protection Act permit unless a Committee member requests the application be brought to a Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee meeting for broader consideration.

4. Provided the project application is not called to a Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee meeting, total processing time of a Tier One Community Crab Dock shall not exceed 45 days following a preliminary determination by staff of completeness.

(d) No construction or alteration of a Tier One Community Crab Dock may commence until the expiration of 30 days following the date on which the application is approved; provided, however, that if a timely appeal is filed, no construction or alteration may commence until all administrative and judicial proceedings are terminated.

(e) The applicant/permittee must demonstrate the capacity to establish sufficient power and authority to enforce the conditions of the permit.

(f) Any modification to a Tier One Community Crab Dock is subject to review pursuant to the appropriate Tier criteria.

(g) If a proposed project does not qualify as a Tier One Community Crab Dock the application will be processed using the review and processing protocol for a Tier Two Community Dock, Tier Three Community Dock and Commercial Dock, or Marinas, using the lowest tier review and processing protocol for which the proposed project meets the standards. An application for multiple dock structures automatically defaults to the review and processing protocol for a Tier Three Community Dock and Commercial Dock.

(h) Permittee must provide a post-construction survey that locates the Tier One Community Crab Dock as indicated in the application materials. Such survey shall comply with the Georgia Plat Act, O.C.G.A. Sec. [15-6-67](#) et seq.

**(4) Tier Two Community Dock.**

(a) To qualify for the permitting procedures as set out in subparagraph (c) below, a proposed Tier Two Community Dock project must comply with the following standards or conditions:

1. The upland component of the project is limited to pedestrian access and pervious parking landward of the 50' marshland buffer.

2. There shall be no commercial activity at the community dock.

3. The community dock shall provide mooring space on a first come, first served basis and is open to all in the community served by the dock.

4. The community dock does not require a water bottoms lease, i.e., the dock has 500 linear feet or less of mooring space.

5. The community dock walkway shall not exceed 6 feet in width, 750 feet in length, and 3,000 square feet of effective shading impact. The walkway is measured from the delineated marshlands jurisdiction line as determined or verified by the Department, channelward to the fixed terminal platform.

6. The community dock walkway decking shall be of same material for its entire length, and standardized materials must be used when grating is used.
7. The community dock walkway must be constructed at a height above all vegetation, but not more than six feet above grade.
8. The community dock must be for water-dependent activities that access the first channel with defined banks and not ponded areas or mudflats.
9. The creek on which the community dock is located must be a minimum of 25 feet in width mean low water to mean low water.
10. A community dock located in a creek 25 feet to 39 feet width mean low water to mean low water may occupy a maximum of one-fourth of the creek width mean low water to mean low water.
11. A community dock located in a creek 40 feet wide or greater mean low water to mean low water may occupy a maximum of one-third of the creek width mean low water to mean low water.
12. If the community dock walkways spans a tributary that can be bridge d (a tributary less than 10 feet wide, grass to grass), it must have a minimum clearance of six feet above the mean high water line to the bottom of the walkway bridge. Piling spacing must provide for safe navigation in the channel.
13. The community dock may have a single fixed terminal platform at the end of the walkway, which is limited to a maximum of 400 square feet, including screened and/or roofed sections.
14. The fixed terminal platform or floating docks shall not be constructed over vegetation.
15. The fixed terminal platform may not be enclosed but may be covered and screened with wainscoting not higher than three feet.
16. The fixed terminal platform may be roofed; provided, however, the roof may not exceed a maximum height of 12 feet above the fixed terminal platform decking at the lowest deck height.
17. A second deck, attic, or ceiling storage is not allowed on any roofed section of the fixed terminal platform.
18. The community dock may have floating docks, which shall be limited in size to that which is reasonable for the documented, intended use, not to exceed 800 sq. feet maximum floating dock structure. Documentation of need must be submitted to justify the size of the proposed floating dock.
19. Floating docks may not rest on the water bottom at low tide and must be supported on pilings or by cradle at least two feet above the mud.
20. No fish cleaning station, fueling, restrooms, pump-out, or retail activities are allowed.
21. No dredging is allowed in association with the community dock project.
22. Lighting if used must be shielded and on a timer.
23. The community dock may not be located in heritage preserve marshlands.
24. The community dock or its operation shall not cause or create a measurable adverse water quality impact to the waterbody in which it is built, as measured by dissolved oxygen, fecal bacteria, or nutrient enrichment. At a minimum, the community dock must not be in a body of water listed on Georgia EPD's most recent 303(d) list as an "Impaired Water."

25. If the Department determines through its own water quality sampling or other resource analyses that there are environmental impacts of concern associated with the project, the Department may require the applicant/permittee at the applicant/permittee's expense, to have water, substrate, and/or tissue samples collected and analyzed for metals, petroleum hydrocarbons, or other constituents.

(i) Sample collection and analyses must be according to methods approved by the Department.

(ii) All results from such sampling results must be provided to the Department as obtained and may be used by the Department to further restrict the dock to reduce water quality impacts.

26. The permittee must operate and maintain the dock in a manner that will not unreasonably obstruct navigation to and from neighboring properties.

27. The applicant/permittee must post temporary manatee awareness signage during construction of the facility and permanent posting and maintenance of the informational display signage, "Manatee Basics for Boaters" post-construction.

(b) Professional drawings of the project are required to be submitted as a part of the application. The drawings must be stamped by a Registered Land Surveyor, Professional Engineer, or Architect licensed to do business in Georgia.

(c) Upon receipt of a substantially complete Tier Two Community Dock project application and application fee, an abbreviated review and processing period shall apply.

1. Staff to the Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee shall have 60 days to review the project permit application.

2. The Committee shall provide Public Notice of the application for 15 days, which period shall be concurrent with the staff review.

3. Staff to the Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee shall have 15 days to review the public comment received.

4. If the Tier Two Community Dock project is a minor alteration, Committee members shall have 10 days to request broader consideration of the project at a meeting of the Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee.

(i) Upon a determination that the project application is complete (including staff review and public notice) and the project meets all requirements of the Coastal Marshlands Protection Act and these rules, the Commissioner may issue a Coastal Marshlands Protection Act permit for a Tier Two Community Dock which is a minor alteration unless a Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee member requests that the project be heard at a Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee meeting for broader consideration.

(ii) If no Committee member requests the application receive broader consideration at a Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee meeting, the application shall be processed to the Commissioner of Natural Resources for his review and action within 15 days.

(iii) Provided the project application is not called to a Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee meeting, total processing time of a Tier Two Community Dock shall not exceed 115 days following a preliminary determination by staff of completeness.

5. Upon determination that a Tier Two Community Dock project application that is not a minor alteration is complete (including staff review and public notice), the project application shall be placed on the meeting agenda of the Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee.

6. If a second public notice is issued, an additional 15 days would be added to the processing time.

(d) No construction or alteration of a Tier Two Community Dock may commence until the expiration of 30 days following the date on which the application is approved; provided, however, that if a timely appeal is filed, no construction or alteration may commence until all administrative and judicial proceedings are terminated.

(e) The "Minor Alteration" acreage provision of the Coastal Marshlands Protection Act shall not take into consideration any reduction in acreage calculation for the effective shading impact reduction attributable to alternative walkway decking material or alternative walkway design.

(f) The applicant/permittee must demonstrate the capacity to establish sufficient power and authority to enforce the conditions of the permit.

(g) Any modification to a Tier Two Community Dock is subject to review pursuant to the appropriate Tier criteria.

(h) If a proposed project does not qualify as a Tier Two Community Dock the application will be processed using the review and processing protocol for a Tier Three Community Dock and Commercial Dock, or Marinas, using the lowest tier review and processing protocol for which the proposed project meets the standards. An application for multiple dock structures automatically defaults to the review and processing protocol for a Tier Three Community Dock and Commercial Dock.

(i) Permittee must provide a post-construction survey that locates the Tier Two Community Dock as indicated in the application materials. Such survey shall comply with the Georgia Plat Act, O.C.G.A. Sec. [15-6-67](#) et seq.

**(5) Tier Three Community Dock or Commercial Dock.**

(a) To qualify for the permitting procedures as set out in subparagraph (d) below, a proposed Tier Three Community Dock or Commercial Dock project must comply with the following standards or conditions:

1. The community dock walkway or commercial dock walkway shall not exceed 6 feet in width, 1,000 feet in length, and not exceed 3,000 square feet of effective shading impact. The walkway is measured from the delineated marshlands jurisdiction line as determined or verified by the Department, channelward to the fixed terminal platform.

2. The Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee may provide for an exception to the limitations on maximum walkway length and square footage. Documentation of need must be submitted to justify an exception, which shall be granted or denied in the sole discretion of the Committee.

3. The community dock or commercial dock walkway decking shall be of same material for its entire length, and standardized materials must be used when grating is used.

4. The community dock or commercial dock walkway must be constructed at a height above all vegetation, but not more than six feet above grade.

5. If the community or commercial dock walkway spans a tributary that can be bridged (a tributary less than 10 feet wide, grass to grass), it must have a minimum clearance of six feet above the mean high water line to the bottom of the walkway bridge.

6. The fixed terminal platform may not be enclosed but may be covered and screened with wainscoting not higher than three feet.

7. A second story or deck is not allowed on any roofed section of the fixed terminal platform.

8. Floating docks may not rest on the waterbottom at low tide and must be supported on pilings or by cradle at least two feet above the mud.

9. No dredging is allowed in association with the initial community or commercial dock project.

10. The applicant must operate and maintain the dock in a manner that will not unreasonably obstruct navigation to and from neighboring properties.

11. The community dock or its operation shall not cause or create a measurable adverse water quality impact to the waterbody in which it is built, as measured by dissolved oxygen, fecal bacteria, or nutrient enrichment.

12. If the Department determines through its own water quality sampling or other resource analyses that there are environmental impacts of concern associated with the project, the Department may require the applicant/permittee at applicant/permittee's expense, to have water, substrate, and/or tissue samples collected and analyzed for metals, petroleum hydrocarbons, or other constituents.

(i) Sample collection and analyses must be according to methods approved by the Department.

(ii) All results from such sampling results must be provided to the Department as obtained and may be used by the Department to further restrict the dock to reduce water quality impacts.

13. The applicant/permittee must post temporary manatee awareness signage during construction of the facility and permanent posting and maintenance of the informational display signage, "Manatee Basics for Boaters" post-construction.

(b) Professional drawings of the project are required to be submitted as a part of the application. The drawings must be stamped by a Registered Land Surveyor, Professional Engineer, or Architect licensed to do business in Georgia.

(c) A needs assessment must be submitted to justify the size of the proposed community dock or commercial dock. The Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee may opt for phased build out based on demonstrated need. If the permit requires a phased build out based on demonstrated need, the permit may be extended for an additional five years upon a showing that all due efforts and diligence have been made toward completion of the phases authorized to date based on demonstrated need.

(d) Upon receipt of a substantially complete Tier Three Community Dock or Commercial Dock project application and application fee, the application shall be reviewed and processed subject to a higher degree of examination and scrutiny and longer review times than a Tier One Community Crab Dock or a Tier Two Community Dock.

1. The Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee shall provide Public Notice of the application for 30 days.

2. An application is complete when it contains substantially all of the written information, documents, forms, fees, and materials required by the Coastal Marshlands Protection Act, and such additional information as is required by the Committee to properly evaluate the application.

3. The Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee shall act upon an application for a permit within 90 days after the application is complete; provided, however, that this provision may be waived upon the written request of the applicant.

(e) No construction or alteration of a Tier Three Community Dock or Commercial Dock may commence until the expiration of 30 days following the date on which the application is approved; provided, however, that if a timely appeal is filed, no construction or alteration may commence until all administrative and judicial proceedings are terminated.

(f) The "Minor Alteration" acreage provision of the Coastal Marshlands Protection Act shall not take into consideration any reduction in acreage calculation for the effective shading impact reduction attributable to alternative walkway decking material or alternative walkway design.

(g) The applicant/permittee must demonstrate the capacity to establish sufficient power and authority to enforce the conditions of the permit.

(h) Permittee must provide a post-construction survey that locates the Tier Three Community Dock or Commercial Dock as indicated in the application materials. Such survey shall comply with the Georgia Plat Act, O.C.G.A. Secs. [15-6-67](#) et seq.

**(6) Marinas.**

(a) The Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee may issue a permit for a marina in accordance with the requirements of the Coastal Marshlands Protection Act. Unless otherwise determined by the Committee in accordance with subparagraph (h) below, a marina must comply with the following standards or conditions:

1. The marina launch pier shall not exceed 1,000 feet in length. The marina launch pier is measured from the delineated marshlands jurisdiction line as determined or verified by the Department, channelward to the boat launching area.
2. The marina pedestrian walkway shall not exceed 1,000 feet in length and shall not exceed 3,000 square feet of effective shading impact. The walkway is measured from the delineated marshlands jurisdiction line as determined or verified by the Department, channelward to the fixed terminal platform.
3. The Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee may provide for an exception to the limitations on maximum marina launch pier length, and to the limitations on marina pedestrian walkway length and square footage. Documentation of need must be submitted to justify an exception, which shall be granted or denied in the sole discretion of the Committee.
4. The marina may not be sited within 1,000 feet of waters classified as approved for shellfish harvesting by the Coastal Resources Division, or located where its presence or operation would cause a closing of waters classified for shellfish harvest based on the Model Ordinance within the Guide for Molluscan Shellfish Control in the National Shellfish Sanitation Program.
5. A marina to be located on open water must be sited at the first navigable creek that has a defined channel, adequate width and depth for the intended use, and established history of navigational access or use.
6. Any marina component proposed to be constructed on or over coastal marshlands must be for water dependent activities. No restaurants or structures for non-water dependent uses may be constructed on or over coastal marshlands.
7. Floating docks may not rest on the waterbottom at low tide and must be supported on pilings or by cradle at least two feet above the mud.
8. A marina proposed to be located in a manatee travel corridor or on a waterway where manatees may be found must have protective measures to minimize manatee/boat interactions to include:
  - (i) An education plan for boaters using the marina;
  - (ii) Regular monthly maintenance of dock facilities' hoses, faucets, or any apparatus or equipment capable of producing a stream of fresh water in close proximity to the access of the facility;
  - (iii) A contingency plan for emergency repair of freshwater sources;
  - (iv) Temporary manatee awareness signage during construction of the facility and permanent posting and maintenance of the informational display sign, "Manatee Basics for Boaters" post-construction; and
  - (v) Speed zones may be required if the marina is in a manatee travel corridor.
9. No dredging of tidal waterbottoms or vegetated coastal marshlands is allowed in association with the initial marina project.
10. If the marina could require maintenance dredging in the future, a permanent, dedicated spoil site with the capacity for the initial dredge volume and anticipated maintenance needs must be identified at the time of application.



11. Dry boat storage is encouraged as a supplement or alternative to in-water mooring, to the extent feasible.
12. The marina should provide onshore restrooms, shower, and laundry facilities in the upland component of the project. The applicant/permittee must take specific measures (such as, but not limited to, signs or dock regulations) to encourage boaters to use the washrooms, laundromat, and restrooms onshore, if any.
13. A marina must have an approved disposal system for disposal of wastewater generated by boats and upland facilities at the marina.
14. A marina must install, for collection of solid wastes, trashcans, dumpsters, or other suitable containers in compliance with The Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships (33 USCA 1901 and 33 CFR 158). Adequate separate containers for toxic substances shall be available.
15. A marina shall not allow any person to operate a marine toilet at a marina at any time so as to cause or permit to pass or to be discharged into the waters adjacent to the marina any untreated sewage or other waste matter or contaminant of any kind.
  - (i) A marina must have a working pump-out facility and dockside wastewater collection system for sanitary wastes from vessels, adequate for the capacity of the marina (number and size of vessels) and require their use by boats using the marina, unless specific exceptions are allowed by the Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee.
  - (ii) Pump-out facility maintenance logs must be kept.
  - (iii) The marina must prominently display signage showing the location of the nearest pump-out facility.
16. The Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee may permit marina fueling facilities which conform to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and GADNR Environmental Protection Division laws and regulations, and which meet the following requirements:
  - (i) Fuel storage tanks and fuel lines between tank, dock, and vessels shall be equipped with emergency shut-off valves.
  - (ii) Dispensing nozzles shall be the automatic closing type without a hold-open latch.
  - (iii) A marina must have adequate booms available either on-site or under contract to contain any oil spill.
  - (iv) The marina shall have a current "Operations Manual" containing the following:
    - (I) Description of how the applicant meets the conditions of this permit,
    - (II) The geographic location of the dock,
    - (III) A physical description of the facility showing mooring areas, fuel storage and dispensing areas, and locations of safety equipment,
    - (IV) A description and the location of each emergency shut-off system,
    - (V) The names and telephone numbers of the facility, U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Office, Environmental Protection Division Emergency Response Center, and other personnel who may be called by employees of the facility in an emergency, including fire and police, and
    - (VI) The names and telephone numbers of available hazardous spill clean-up contractors nearest the dock.
17. All components of a marina must be designed, installed, operated and maintained in a manner that will not unreasonably obstruct navigation to and from neighboring properties.

18. The marina or its operation shall not cause or create a measurable adverse water quality impact to the waterbody in which it is built, as measured by dissolved oxygen, fecal bacteria, or nutrient enrichment.

19. If the Department determines through its own water quality sampling or other resource analyses that there are environmental impacts of concern associated with the marina project, the marina may be required to have at applicant's/permittee's expense, water, substrate, and/or tissue samples collected and analyzed for metals, petroleum hydrocarbons, or other constituents.

(i) Sample collection and analyses must be according to methods approved by the Department.

(ii) All results from such sampling must be provided to the Department as obtained and may be used by the Department to further restrict the dock to reduce water quality impacts.

(b) Professional drawings of the marina project are required to be submitted as a part of the application. The drawings must be stamped by a Registered Land Surveyor, Professional Engineer, or Architect licensed to do business in Georgia.

(c) A needs assessment must be submitted to justify the size of the proposed marina. The Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee may opt for phased build out based on demonstrated need. If the permit requires a phased build out based on demonstrated need, the permit may be extended for an additional five years upon a showing that all due efforts and diligence have been made toward completion of the phases authorized to date based on demonstrated need.

(d) Upon receipt of a substantially complete marina project application and application fee, the application shall be reviewed and processed subject to a higher degree of examination and scrutiny and longer review times than a Tier One Community Crab Dock or a Tier Two Community Dock.

1. The Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee shall provide Public Notice of the application for 30 days.

2. An application is complete when it contains substantially all of the written information, documents, forms, fees, and materials required by the Coastal Marshlands Protection Act, and such additional information as is required by the Committee to properly evaluate the application.

3. The Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee shall act upon an application for a permit within 90 days after the application is complete; provided, however, that this provision may be waived upon the written request of the applicant.

(e) No construction or alteration of a marina may commence until the expiration of 30 days following the date on which the application is approved; provided, however, that if a timely appeal is filed, no construction or alteration may commence until all administrative and judicial proceedings are terminated.

(f) The applicant/permittee must demonstrate the capacity to establish sufficient power and authority to enforce the conditions of the permit.

(g) Permittee must provide a post-construction survey that locates the marina as indicated in the application materials. Such survey shall comply with the Georgia Plat Act, O.C.G.A. Secs. [15-6-67](#) et seq.

(h) Nothing in these rules shall be construed to preclude the Committee from developing or issuing permits suitable to the circumstances of a particular application.

**(7) Community Dock, Commercial Dock, or Marina Modification.**

(a) A permit modification may be issued by the Committee in accordance with subparagraph (c) below for a community dock, commercial dock, or marina modification that complies with all the following standards or conditions:

1. The project modification entails no improvements to the upland component of the project; and
  2. The project is a modification or addition to an existing dock facility permitted by the Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee for water-dependent activities; and
  3. The project modification involves less than 0.1 acre of new impacts to coastal marshlands; and
  4. The project modification will not affect a change in use of the originally permitted community dock or marina; and
  5. The project modification does not necessitate the issuance of an initial marina lease for the facility undergoing modification; and
  6. No fueling is allowed in association with the community dock, commercial dock, or marina modification; and
  7. No fish cleaning station may be located on or over coastal marshlands in association with the community dock, commercial dock, or marina modification; and
  8. No dredging is allowed in association with the community dock, commercial dock, or marina modification.
- (b) Professional drawings of the project are required to be submitted as a part of the application. The drawings must be stamped by a Registered Land Surveyor, Professional Engineer, or Architect licensed to do business in Georgia.
- (c) Upon receipt of a substantially complete Community Dock, Commercial Dock, or Marina Modification project application and application fee that meets the standards of subparagraph (a), above, an abbreviated review and processing period shall apply.
1. Staff to the Committee shall have 21 days to review the project permit application.
  2. The Committee shall provide Public Notice of the application for 15 days.
  3. Upon a determination that the project application is complete (including staff review and public notice), the Commissioner may issue a Coastal Marshlands Protection Act permit unless a Committee member requests the application be brought to a Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee meeting for broader consideration.
  4. Provided the project application is not called to a Coastal Marshlands Protection Committee meeting, total processing time of a community dock modification, commercial dock modification, or marina modification meeting the standards of subparagraph (a), above, shall not exceed 45 days following a preliminary determination by staff of completeness.
- (d) No construction or alteration of a community dock or marina modification may commence until the expiration of 30 days following the date on which the application is approved; provided, however, that if a timely appeal is filed, no construction or alteration may commence until all administrative and judicial proceedings are terminated.
- (e) The applicant/permittee must demonstrate the capacity to establish sufficient power and authority to enforce the conditions of the permit.
- (f) Any modification not meeting the standards of subparagraph (a) above, shall be reviewed and processed subject to a higher degree of examination and scrutiny applying the standards and review times of the tier that would apply if it were a new project.
- (g) Permittee must provide a post-construction survey that locates the Community Dock, Commercial Dock, or Marina Modification indicated in the application materials. Such survey shall comply with the Georgia Plat Act, O.C.G.A. Secs. [15-6-67](#) et. seq.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-2-3-.03

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-5-285](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Guidelines for Permit Evaluations" adopted as R. [391-4-12-.03](#). F. Jan. 15, 1975; eff. Feb. 4, 1975.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title renumbered as R. 391-2-3-.03. F. Dec. 28, 1979; eff. Jan. 17, 1980.

**Repealed:** F. June 26, 1992; eff. July 16, 1992.

**Amended:** New Rule entitled "Regulation of Marinas, Community Docks and Commercial Docks" adopted. F. Nov. 17, 2009; eff. Dec. 7, 2009.

**Amended:** F. Jun. 27, 2012; eff. Jul. 17, 2012.

**Amended:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

# Department 391. RULES OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## Chapter 391-3. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

### Subject 391-3-1. AIR QUALITY CONTROL

#### 391-3-1-.03 Permits. Amended

##### (1) Construction (SIP) Permit.

(a) **Any person** prior to beginning the construction or modification of any facility which may result in air pollution shall obtain a permit for the construction or modification of such facility from the Director.

(b) **The application** for a construction permit shall be made on forms supplied by the Director, and shall be signed by the applicant. Said application shall be filed with the Director well in advance of any critical date involved in the construction or modification of such facility, so that adequate time will be available for review, discussion, and revision where necessary. Said application shall include and/or be accompanied by all pertinent information as the Director may require for a full evaluation of the proposed construction or modification of the facility, such as: process flow diagrams; plot plans; description of control devices; description of the proposed new or modified operation; type of operation; raw materials and chemicals to be used, the finished products; type, quantity and peak output of fuels to be used; the amount of combustible waste that will be generated and the method of disposing of same; characteristics and amounts of emissions into the atmosphere; engineering reports; plans and specifications; time schedules and reports of progress; records; information regarding any Emission Reduction Credits on which the applicant intends to rely; and related information.

(c) **The permit** for the construction or modification of any facility shall be issued upon a determination by the Director that the facility can reasonably be expected to comply with all the provisions of the Act and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

##### (2) Operating (SIP) Permit.

(a) **Any person** operating a facility or performing an activity which is not exempted under 391-3-1-.03(6) from which air contaminants are or may be emitted shall obtain an Operating (SIP) Permit from the Director.

(b) **Application** for an operating permit must be made within thirty (30) days after commencement of normal operations. Said application for an operating permit shall be accompanied by such plans, specifications, and other information deemed necessary by the Director to make full evaluation of the performance of the facility. If any of the necessary information cannot be provided within the required time, the application shall include a schedule, subject to the approval of the Director, for submission of all such information as soon as practicable.

(c) **An operating permit** will be issued upon evidence satisfactory to the Director of compliance with the provisions of the Act and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder. Said permit shall specify the conditions under which the facility shall be operated in order to comply with the Act and rules and regulations. As a condition for the issuance of an operating permit, the Director may require the applicant to conduct performance tests and monitoring and provide reports concerning operations, to demonstrate compliance with the Act and the rules and regulations. Such tests and monitoring shall be conducted, and such required reports submitted, in accordance with methods and procedures approved by the Director.

(d) **The Director** may grant a temporary operating permit for such period of time and under such conditions as he shall specify in the permit, in order to allow the applicant a reasonable period of time in which to correct deficiencies in any existing facility. The temporary operating permit shall specify a schedule for bringing the existing facility into compliance with the Act and rules and regulations in the shortest practical time period.

(e) **The requirements** of this section (2) shall not apply to any emissions unit as defined in [40 CFR 70.2](#) which has been issued a part 70 permit under the requirements of section (10), unless there is a modification to such unit.

(f) **Any person** operating a facility or performing an activity from which air contaminants are or may be emitted, may be required to obtain a Permit by Rule, a Generic Permit or a Part 70 Permit from the Director in addition to an Operating (SIP) Permit.

(g) **Under penalty** of law, the holder of any Air Quality Permit must adhere to the terms, limitations, and conditions of that permit and subsequent revisions of that permit.

(h) **The limitations**, controls, and requirements in federally enforceable operating permits are permanent, quantifiable, and otherwise enforceable as a practical matter.

(i) **Prior to the issuance** of any federally enforceable operating permit, EPA and the public will be notified and given a chance for comment on the draft permit.

### **(3) Revocation, Suspension, Modification or Amendment of Permits.**

(a) **Any permit** issued by the Director shall be subject to periodic review and the Director may revoke, suspend, modify or amend any permit issued, for cause, including but not limited to, the following:

1. Violation of any condition of said permit, or failure to comply with a final order of the Director;
2. Failure to comply with any applicable rules or regulations in effect pursuant to this Chapter;
3. Obtaining a permit by misrepresentation, or failure to disclose fully all relevant facts, or failure to inform the Division of modifications affecting emissions;
4. Modifications which affect emissions. In the event of modification, amendment, suspension or revocation of a permit, the Director shall serve written notice of such action on the permit holder and shall set forth in such notice the reason for the action.
5. The Director may amend any permit to establish an emission limitation based on existing equipment design and reasonable operation and maintenance practices. Such limitation shall not allow emissions greater than those allowed by other provisions and emission limits specified elsewhere in the Rules, Chapter 391-3-1.

### **(4) Permits Not Transferable.**

A permit is not transferable from one person to another nor from one facility to another facility.

### **(5) Permits Public Records.**

Except as to information required to be kept confidential by O.C.G.A. Section [12-9-19](#), as amended all applications for construction permits and operating permits shall be public record.

### **(6) Exemptions.**

Unless otherwise required by the Director, SIP permits shall not be required for the following source activities. These exemptions may not be used to avoid any emission limitations or standards of the Rules for Air Quality Control Chapter [391-3-1-.02](#), lower the potential to emit below "major source" thresholds or to avoid any "applicable requirement" (i.e., NSPS, NESHAP, etc.) as defined in [40 CFR Part 70.2](#).

#### **(a) Mobile Sources.**

Mobile sources, such as automobiles, trucks, buses, locomotives, airplanes, boats and ships, whether or not designated as subject to mandatory inspection, maintenance, or emission requirements pursuant O.C.G.A. Section [12-9-40](#), et seq., as amended, the Georgia Motor Vehicle Emission Inspection and Maintenance Act. This exemption relates only to the requirement for a permit issued under the Act, not to any other requirement under the Act, and in no way affects any requirement for a permit, license, or a certificate under any other law. This limited exemption from the permit requirements of the Act shall in no way affect the applicability of any other requirement related to mobile sources, or any other requirement or limitation which may affect mobile sources.

**(b) Combustion Equipment.**

1. Fuel-burning equipment having a total heat input capacity of less than 10 MMBtu/hr burning only natural gas, LPG and/or distillate fuel oil containing 0.50% sulfur by weight or less.
2. Fuel-burning equipment rated at less than 5 MMBtu/hr burning a wood or fossil fuel.
3. Any fuel-burning equipment with a rated input capacity of 2.5 MMBtu/hr or less.
4. Equipment used for cooking food for immediate human consumption.
5. Blacksmith forges.
6. Clean steam condensate and steam relief vents.
7. Funeral homes and crematories of any size.
8. Air curtain destructor used for land clearing at a construction site.
9. Open burning.
10. Small incinerators operating as follows:
  - (i) less than 8 MMBtu/hr input, firing types 0, 1, 2 and/or 3 waste; or
  - (ii) less than 8 MMBtu/hr input with no more than 10% pathological (type 4) waste by weight combined with types 0, 1, 2 and/or 3 waste; or
  - (iii) less than 4 MMBtu/hr heat input firing Type 4 waste.
11. Stationary engines
  - (i) Burning natural gas, LPG, gasoline, dual fuel, or diesel fuel which are used exclusively as emergency generators;
  - (ii) Burning natural gas, LPG, and/or diesel fuel and used for peaking power (including emergency generators used for peaking power) where the peaking power use does not exceed 200 hours-per-year except in the counties of Banks, Barrow, Bartow, Butts, Carroll, Chattooga, Cherokee, Clarke, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, Dawson, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Floyd, Forsyth, Fulton, Gordon, Gwinnett, Hall, Haralson, Heard, Henry, Jackson, Jasper, Jones, Lamar, Lumpkin, Madison, Meriwether, Monroe, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Paulding, Pickens, Pike, Polk, Putnam, Rockdale, Spalding, Troup, Upson, and Walton where such engines with a rated capacity equal to or greater than 100 kilowatts are not exempt; or
  - (iii) Used for other purposes provided that the total horsepower of all non-gasoline burning engines combined are less than 1500 engine horsepower and no individual engine operates for more than 1000 hours-per-year; or
  - (iv) Used for other purposes provided that the total horsepower of all gasoline burning engines combined are less than 225 horsepower and no individual engine operates for more than 1000 hours-per-year.

(v) For the purpose of this subsection, the following definitions shall apply:

(I) An "emergency generator" means a generator whose function is to provide back-up power when electric power from the local utility is interrupted and which operates for less than 500 hours-per-year, except in the counties of Banks, Barrow, Bartow, Butts, Carroll, Chattooga, Cherokee, Clarke, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, Dawson, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Floyd, Forsyth, Fulton, Gordon, Gwinnett, Hall, Haralson, Heard, Henry, Jackson, Jasper, Jones, Lamar, Lumpkin, Madison, Meriwether, Monroe, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Paulding, Pickens, Pike, Polk, Putnam, Rockdale, Spalding, Troup, Upson, and Walton where such generator operates less than 200 hours-per-year.

(II) "Used for peaking power" means used to reduce the electrical power requirements on the local utility grid. This could be for supplying power during the local utility's peak demand periods, or for peak shaving by the facility.

12. Boiler water treatment operations.

13. Firefighting equipment, including fire pumps or other emergency/safety equipment used to fight fires or train firefighters or other emergency personnel.

14. Temporary stationary engines used to generate electricity that are used to replace main stationary engines during periods of maintenance or repair (provided the actual and potential emissions of the temporary sources do not exceed that of the main sources).

15. Temporary fuel-burning equipment (i.e., boilers) that are used to replace main fuel-burning equipment during periods of maintenance or repair (provided the actual and potential emissions of the temporary sources do not exceed that of the main sources.) Temporary fuel-burning equipment that remains at a location for more than 180 consecutive days is no longer considered to be a temporary boiler. Temporary fuel-burning equipment that replaces temporary fuel-burning equipment at a location and is intended to perform the same or similar function will be included in calculating the consecutive time period.

16. Onsite air curtain incinerators with mist controls used for the purpose of decontamination and disposal of livestock and materials contaminated with the avian flu virus where on-site composting and burial are not viable methods of disposal.

**(c) Storage Tanks.**

1. All petroleum liquid storage tanks storing a liquid with a true vapor pressure of equal to or less than 0.50 psia as stored.

2. All petroleum liquid storage tanks with a capacity of less than 40,000 gallons storing a liquid with a true vapor pressure of equal to or less than 2.0 psia as stored.

3. All petroleum liquid storage tanks with a capacity of less than 10,000 gallons storing a petroleum liquid.

4. Pressurized vessels designed to operate in excess of 30 psig storing a petroleum fuel.

5. Gasoline storage and handling equipment at loading facilities handling less than 20,000 gallons per day or at vehicle dispensing facilities.

6. Portable drums and barrels provided that the volume of each container does not exceed 550 gal.

7. All chemical storage tanks used to store a chemical with a true vapor pressure of less than or equal to 10 millimeters of mercury.

**(d) Agricultural Operations.**

1. Farm equipment used for soil preparation, livestock handling, crop tending and harvesting and for other farm related activities.



2. Herbicide and pesticide mixing and application activities for on site use.

**(e) Maintenance, Cleaning & Housekeeping.**

1. Heating, air conditioning and ventilation systems not designed to remove air contaminants generated by or released from process or fuel-burning equipment.

2. Routine housekeeping activities such as painting buildings, roofing or paving parking lots, all clerical activities and all janitorial activities.

3. Maintenance activities such as: vehicle repair shops, brazing, soldering and welding equipment, carpenter shops, electrical charging stations, grinding and polishing operations maintenance shop vents, miscellaneous non-production surface cleaning, preparation and painting operations.

4. Miscellaneous activities such as: aerosol spray cans; air compressors; cafeteria vents; copying, photographic and blueprint machines; decommissioned equipment; dumpsters; fire training activities; fork lifts; railroad flares; refrigerators; space heaters.

5. Cold storage refrigeration equipment.

6. Vacuum-cleaning systems used exclusively for industrial, commercial, or residential housekeeping purposes.

7. Equipment used for portable steam cleaning.

8. Blast-cleaning equipment using a suspension of abrasive in water and any exhaust system or collector serving them exclusively.

9. Portable blast-cleaning equipment.

10. Laundry dryers, extractors, or tumblers for fabric cleaned with only water solutions of bleach or detergents.

11. Non-Perchloroethylene Dry-cleaning equipment with a capacity of 100 pounds per hour or less of clothes.

12. Cold cleaners having an air/vapor interface of not more than 10 square feet and that do not use a halogenated solvent.

13. Steam sterilizers.

14. Portable equipment used for the on site painting of buildings, towers, bridges and roads.

15. Non-routine clean out of tanks and equipment for the purposes of worker entry or in preparation for maintenance or decommissioning.

16. Equipment used for the washing or drying of fabricated products provided that no VOCs are used in the process and that no oil or solid fuels are burned.

17. Devices used exclusively for cleaning metal parts or surfaces by burning off residual amounts of paint, varnish, or other foreign material, provided that such devices are equipped with afterburners.

18. Fresh water cooling towers provided that the total potential emissions from the entire source remain below 10 tons per year of any single hazardous air pollutant and below 25 tons per year of any combination of hazardous air pollutants.

**(f) Laboratories and Testing.**

1. Laboratory equipment used exclusively for chemical or physical analyses;
2. Sampling connections used exclusively to withdraw materials for testing and analysis, including air contaminant detectors and vent lines;
3. Vacuum producing devices;
4. Research and development facilities, quality control testing facilities and/or small pilot projects, where combined daily emissions from all operations are below all of the following thresholds:
  - (i) Less than 125 pounds per day of carbon monoxide;
  - (ii) Less than 0.8 pounds per day of lead;
  - (iii) Less than 50 pounds per day of particulate matter, PM<sub>10</sub>, or sulfur dioxide;
  - (iv) Less than 50 pounds per day of nitrogen oxides or VOCs except in the Counties of Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding, or Rockdale, where less than 15 pounds per day of nitrogen oxides; or VOCs; and
  - (v) Less than 5 pounds per day of any single hazardous air pollutant and less than 12.5 pounds per day of any combination of hazardous air pollutants.

**(g) Pollution Control.**

1. Sanitary wastewater collection and treatment systems, except incineration equipment, that are not subject to any standard, limitation or other requirement under section 111 or section 112 (excluding section 112(r)) of the federal Clean Air Act.
2. On site soil or groundwater decontamination units that are not subject to any standard, limitation or other requirement under Section 111 or 112 [excluding 112(r)] of the Federal Act.
3. Bioremediation operations.
4. Garbage compactors and garbage handling equipment.
5. Municipal Solid Waste Landfills which meet the following criteria:
  - (i) The total design capacity of the landfill is less than or equal to 2.756 million tons (2.5 million megagrams) or 3.27 million cubic yards (2.5 million cubic meters) of solid waste; and
  - (ii) The emissions of VOC are less than 25 tons per year for landfills located within Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding, or Rockdale counties; and
  - (iii) The emissions of nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) from operations other than the final control device are less than 25 tons per year for landfills located within Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding, or Rockdale counties.

**(h) Industrial Operations.**

1. Concrete block, brick plants, concrete products plants, and ready mix concrete plants producing less than 125,000 tons per year of product.
2. Small aluminum scrap metal reclaimers (non-smelters).

3. Any of the following processes or process equipment which are electrically heated or which fire natural gas, LPG or distillate (#2) fuel oil at a maximum total heat input rate of not more than 10 MMBtu/hr.

(i) Furnaces for heat treating glass or metals, the use of which does not involve molten materials, oil-coated parts, or oil quenching.

(ii) Porcelain enameling furnaces or porcelain enameling drying ovens.

(iii) Kilns for firing ceramic ware.

(iv) Crucible furnaces, pot furnaces, or induction melting and holding furnaces with a capacity of 1,000 pounds or less each, in which sweating or distilling is not conducted and in which fluxing is not conducted utilizing free chlorine, chloride or fluoride derivatives, or ammonium compounds.

(v) Bakery ovens and confection cookers.

(vi) Feed mill or grain mill ovens.

(vii) Surface coating drying ovens.

4. Grain, metal, or mineral extrusion process.

5. Equipment used exclusively for rolling, forging, pressing, stamping, spinning, or extruding either hot or cold metals or plastic such as drop hammers or hydraulic presses for forging or metalworking.

6. Die casting machines.

7. Equipment used exclusively for sintering of glass or metals, but not exempting equipment used for sintering metal-bearing ores, metal scale, clay, fly ash, or metal compounds.

8. Equipment for the mining and screening of uncrushed native sand and gravel.

9. Ozonization process or process equipment.

10. Electrostatic powder coating booths with an appropriately designed and operated particulate control system.

11. Equipment used for the application of a hot melt adhesive.

12. Equipment used exclusively for mixing and blending water-based adhesives and coating at ambient temperatures.

13. Equipment used for compression, molding and injection of plastics.

14. Wood products operations in the following SIC categories (combustion equipment and coatings operations are not included in this exemption):

(i) 2426 Dimensional Hardwood Lumber Mills,

(ii) 2431 Lumber Millwork,

(iii) 2434 Wood Kitchen Cabinets,

(iv) 2439 Structural Wood Trusses,

(v) 2441 Wood Boxes,

- (vi) 2448 Wood Pallets,
- (vii) 2449 Wood Containers, and
- (viii) 2499 Miscellaneous Wood Products.

15. Industrial process equipment used exclusively for educational purposes at educational institutions.

(i) **Other.**

1. Facilities where the combined emissions from all non-exempt source activities [i.e., not listed in 391-3-1-.03(6)(a)-(h)] are below the following for all pollutants:

- (i) 50 tons per year of carbon monoxide;
- (ii) 300 pounds per year of lead total; with a 3.0 pound per day maximum emission;
- (iii) 20 tons per year of particulate matter, PM<sub>10</sub>, or sulfur dioxide;
- (iv) 20 tons per year of nitrogen oxides or VOCs except in the counties of Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding, or Rockdale, where less than 5 tons per year of nitrogen oxides or VOCs is exempted; and
- (v) 2 tons per year total with a 15 pound per day maximum emission of any single hazardous air pollutant and less than 5 tons per year of any combination of hazardous air pollutants.

2. Facilities where the combined emissions from all source activities are below the thresholds in "1" above for one or more pollutants, are not required to list those pollutants in the permit application.

3. Cumulative modifications not covered in an existing permit to an existing permitted facility where the combined emission increases (excluding any contemporaneous emission decreases, i.e., "netting" is not allowed) from all nonexempt modified activities are below the following thresholds for all pollutants:

- (i) 25 tons per year of carbon monoxide;
- (ii) 150 pounds-per-year total with a 1.5 pound-per-day maximum emission of lead;
- (iii) 10 tons per year of particulate matter, PM<sub>10</sub> or sulfur dioxide;
- (iv) 10 tons per year of nitrogen oxides or VOCs except in the counties of Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding, or Rockdale, where less than 2.5 tons per year of nitrogen oxides or VOCs is exempted; and
- (v) 2 tons per year total with a 15 pound per day maximum emission of any single hazardous air pollutant and less than 5 tons per year of any combination of hazardous air pollutants.

4. As an alternative to subparagraph 3, cumulative modifications not covered in an existing permit to an existing permitted facility where the combined emissions increases, including any contemporaneous emission decreases (i.e., "netting is allowed") from all nonexempt modified activities are less than 10 tons per year of particulate matter and PM<sub>10</sub>. For the purpose of this subparagraph, "contemporaneous" means within that period beginning on the date of issuance of the most recent permit through the date of reissuance of such permit. This shall exclude any amendment to such permit unless such amendment incorporates the previously exempted modification(s) in which case the amendment shall be considered a reissuance of such permit for the purpose of this subparagraph. Facilities using this exemption shall maintain records of all emissions increases and decreases and shall notify the Division, in writing, within 7 days after making any modification covered by this subparagraph. The Division may require the use of a Division approved form for tracking the emissions increases and decreases. If a facility elects to use this

subparagraph in lieu of subparagraph 3, it shall not use subparagraph 3 with respect to particulate matter and PM<sub>10</sub> until such time that all modifications exempted from SIP permitting under subparagraph 4 have been incorporated into the permit. A facility may use subparagraph 3 with respect to any pollutant other than particulate matter and PM<sub>10</sub> while using this subparagraph. Only the following facilities are eligible for this exemption:

(i) Facilities with an SIC code of 1422 or 1423 that are not a major source subject to the provisions of 391-3-1-.03(10) (i.e., a minor or synthetic minor source).

5. Changes in a process or process equipment which do not involve installing, constructing, or reconstructing an emission unit or the primary air cleaning device of an air pollution control system provided that such changes do not result in the increase of emissions from any emission unit or the emissions of a pollutant not previously emitted. Examples of such changes in a process or process equipment include the following:

(i) Change in the supplier or formulation of similar raw materials, fuels, or paints and other coatings;

(ii) Changes in product formulations;

(iii) Change in the sequence of the process;

(iv) Change in the method of raw material addition;

(v) Change in the method of product packaging;

(vi) Change in process operating parameters;

(vii) Replacement of a fuel burner in a boiler with a more efficient burner; or

(viii) Lengthening a paint drying oven to provide additional curing time.

6. Sources of minor significance as specified by the Director.

7. Sources for which there is no applicable emission limit, standard or other emission requirement established under, by, or pursuant to the Act.

**(j) Construction Permit Exemption for Pollution Control Projects.**

Projects listed in subparagraphs [391-3-1-.01\(qqqq\)1.](#) and [2.](#) of these rules are exempt from the requirement to obtain a construction (SIP) permit as specified in paragraph 391-3-1-.03(1) of this rule provided that the project is not subject to the provisions of paragraph [391-3-1-.02\(7\)](#), Prevention of Significant Deterioration of Air Quality, or the non-attainment new source review permitting requirements of subparagraph 391-3-1-.03(8)(c). The Director has the authority to rebut the presumption that projects listed in subparagraphs (qqqq)1. and 2. are environmentally beneficial in accordance with the criteria specified in subparagraph (qqqq) and thus exempt from the requirement to obtain a construction (SIP) permit. Owners and operators of projects exempt from the requirement to obtain a construction (SIP) permit under this subparagraph (6)(j) shall obtain an operating permit or amendment under either paragraph 391-3-1-.03(2) or 391-3-1-.03(10) of this rule, whichever is applicable, prior to commencement of operation of the project.

**(7) Combined Permits and Applications.**

The Director may combine the requirements of and the permits for construction and operation (temporary or otherwise) into one permit. He may likewise combine the requirements of and applications for construction and operating permits into one application.

**(8) Permit Requirements.**

(a) **Each application** for a permit to construct a new stationary source or modify an existing stationary source shall be subjected to a preconstruction or premodification review by the Director. The Director shall determine prior to issuing any permit that the proposed construction or modification will not cause or contribute to a failure to attain (as expeditiously as practicable) or maintain any ambient air quality standard, a significant deterioration of air quality, or a violation of any applicable emission limitation or standard of performance or other requirement under the Act or this Chapter (391-3-1). Each person applying to the Director for a permit to construct a new stationary source or modify an existing stationary source shall provide information required by the Director to make such determination.

(b) **In addition** to any other requirement under the Act, or this Chapter (391-3-1), no permit to construct a new stationary source or modify an existing stationary source shall be issued unless such proposed source meets all the requirements for review and for obtaining a permit prescribed in Title I, Part C of the Federal Act, and Section [391-3-1-.02\(7\)](#) of these Rules.

(c) **In addition** to any other requirement under the Act or this Chapter (391-3-1), no permit to construct a new or modified major stationary source to be located in any area of the State determined and designated by the U.S. EPA Administrator or the Director as not attaining a National Ambient Air Quality Standard or in areas contributing to the ambient air levels of such pollutants in such areas of non-attainment shall be issued unless the following provisions are met. The provisions of [391-3-1-.02\(7\)](#) apply to projects subject to this subparagraph as specified in Subparagraph (g) of this paragraph.

1. The Director determines that by the time the source is to commence operation, sufficient offsetting emissions reductions have been obtained, such that total allowable emissions from existing sources in the non-attainment area or areas designated by the Director as contributing to ambient air levels of such pollutants in the non-attainment area, from new or modified sources which are not major emitting facilities, and from the proposed sources, will be sufficiently less than total emissions from existing sources allowed prior to the application for such permit to construct or modify, so as to represent (when considered together with other air pollution control measures legally enforced in such area or region) reasonable further progress (as defined in Section 171 of the Federal Act); and

2. The proposed source is required to comply with the lowest achievable emission rate; and

3. The owner or operator of the proposed new or modified source has demonstrated that all major stationary sources owned or operated by such person (or by an entity controlling, controlled by, or under common control with such person) in this State, are subject to emission limitations and are in compliance, or on a schedule for compliance, with all applicable emission limitations and standards under the Act; and

4. An analysis (by the person proposing such construction or modification) of alternative sites, sizes, production processes and environmental control techniques for such proposed source demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Director that benefits of the proposed source significantly outweigh the environmental and social costs imposed as a result of its proposed location, construction, or modification; and

5. The State's Implementation Plan (approved by the Administrator pursuant to the Federal Act) is being carried out in the non-attainment area or an area designated by the Director as contributing to the ambient air level of any such pollutant in a non-attainment area in which the proposed source is to be constructed or modified in accordance with the requirements of Title I, Part D of the Federal Act.

6. The offset baseline for determining credits for emission reductions at a source is either the applicable emission limits in the Chapter or the actual emissions, in tons per year, at the time the application to construct is filed, whichever is less. The time period used to calculate the baseline emissions shall be the 24-month period immediately preceding the date the application to construct is filed. The Division may allow the use of a different time period upon a determination that such period is more representative of normal source operation.

7. (i) Emission reductions achieved by shutting down an existing source or permanently curtailing production or operating hours below baseline levels may be credited provided that the work force to be affected has been notified of the proposed shutdown or curtailment.

(ii) In addition, emissions reductions achieved by shutting down an existing emission unit or curtailing production or operating hours may be generally credited for offsets if they meet the requirements in subparagraphs (I) and (II) of this subparagraph:

(I) Such reductions are surplus, permanent, quantifiable, and federally enforceable.

(II) The shutdown or curtailment occurred after the last day of the base year for the most recently submitted attainment demonstration, maintenance plan, reasonable further progress plan, or rate of progress plan. For purposes of this paragraph, the Division may choose to consider a prior shutdown or curtailment to have occurred after the last day of the base year if the projected emissions inventory used to develop the attainment demonstration, maintenance plan, reasonable further progress plan, or rate of progress plan explicitly includes the emissions from such previously shutdown or curtailed emission units. However, in no event may credit be given for shutdowns that occurred before August 7, 1977.

(iii) Emission reductions achieved by shutting down an existing emission unit or curtailing production or operating hours and that do not meet the requirements in subparagraph 7.(ii)(II) of this subparagraph may be generally credited only if:

(I) The shutdown or curtailment occurred on or after the date the construction permit application is filed; or

(II) The applicant can establish that the proposed new emissions unit is a replacement for the shutdown or curtailed emissions unit, and the emissions reductions achieved by the shutdown or curtailment met the requirements of subparagraph 7.(ii)(I) of this subparagraph.

8. No emission offset credit may be allowed for replacing one VOC compound with another of less reactivity.

9. Procedures relating to the permissible location of offsetting emissions shall be followed which are at least as stringent as those contained in 40 CFR, Part 51, Appendix S, Section IV.D.

10. Offset credit for an emission reduction can be claimed to the extent that the Director has not relied on it in issuing any other permit or has not relied on it in demonstrating attainment of reasonable further progress.

11. The Director may elect not to consider fugitive emissions, to the extent they are quantifiable, in calculating the potential to emit from a stationary source or modification in determining whether the source is major and the source does not belong to any of the following categories:

(i) Coal cleaning plants (with thermal dryers);

(ii) Kraft pulp mills;

(iii) Portland cement plants;

(iv) Primary zinc smelters;

(v) Iron and steel mills;

(vi) Primary aluminum ore reduction plants;

(vii) Primary copper smelters;

(viii) Municipal incinerators capable of charging more than 250 tons of refuse per day;

(ix) Hydrofluoric, sulfuric, or nitric acid plants;

(x) Petroleum refineries;

- (xi) Lime plants;
- (xii) Phosphate rock processing plants;
- (xiii) Coke oven batteries;
- (xiv) Sulfur recovery plants;
- (xv) Carbon black plants (furnace process);
- (xvi) Primary lead smelters;
- (xvii) Fuel conversion plants;
- (xviii) Sintering plants;
- (xix) Secondary metal production plants;
- (xx) Chemical process plants;
- (xxi) Fossil-fuel boilers (or combination thereof) totaling more than 250 million British thermal units per hour heat input;
- (xxii) Petroleum storage and transfer units with a total storage capacity exceeding 300,000 barrels;
- (xxiii) Taconite ore processing plants;
- (xxiv) Glass fiber processing plants;
- (xxv) Charcoal production plants;
- (xxvi) Fossil fuel-fired steam electric plants for more than 250 million British thermal units per hour heat input; and
- (xxvii) Any other stationary source category which, as of August 7, 1980, is being regulated under Section 111 or 112 of the Act.

## 12. Offsets.

(i) The owner or operator of a new or modified major stationary source may comply with any offset requirement in effect under this subsection for increased emissions of any air pollutant only by obtaining emission reductions of such air pollutants from the same source or other sources in the same non-attainment area, except that the Director may allow the owner or operator of a source to obtain such emission reductions in another non-attainment area if:

- (I) The other area has an equal or higher non-attainment classification than the area in which the source is located;
- (II) Emissions from such other area contribute to a violation of the national ambient air quality standard in the non-attainment area in which the source is located; and
- (III) Such emission reductions shall be, by the time a new or modified source commences operation, in effect and enforceable and shall assure that the total tonnage of increased emissions of the air pollutant from the new or modified source shall be offset by an equal or greater reduction, as applicable, in the actual emissions of such air pollutant from the same or other sources in the area.

(ii) Emission reductions otherwise required by the Federal Act shall not be creditable as emissions reductions for purposes of any such offset requirement. Incidental emission reductions that are not otherwise required by the



Federal Act shall be creditable as emission reductions for such purposes if such emission reductions meet the requirements of subparagraph (8)(c)1.

(iii) In order to be used as an offset under this subsection, emission reductions must satisfy the criteria in section (13), subsections (a) and (b).

(iv) At least 30 days prior to commencement of operation of the new or modified stationary source permitted under this subparagraph, the owner or operator shall provide documentation to the Division of the possession of sufficient offsets required under subparagraph (c)1. and as specified under subparagraph (c)14. or 15., whichever is applicable, as follows:

(I) If offsets are obtained from the Emission Reduction Credit Banking Program specified under paragraph 391-3-1-.03(13), the owner or operator shall submit an application or applications for Use of Emission Reduction Credits as required under 391-3-1-.03(13)(f) using forms specified by the Division. If said offsets are not currently owned by the owner or operator, the current owner/operator must submit an application or applications to Transfer Ownership of Emission Reduction Credits as required under 391-3-1-.03(13)(g) using forms specified by the Division simultaneously with or prior to submittal of the application or applications to withdraw Emission Reduction Credits.

(II) If offsets are not obtained from the Emission Reduction Credit banking program, the owner or operator shall submit the following information. (If offsets are obtained from one or more enforceable mechanisms, items I through VI shall be submitted for each enforceable mechanism.):

I. The name of the permittee that generated the offsets.

II. The name of the plant or facility at which the offsets were generated.

III. The address (street address, city, state, zip code, and county) of the plant or facility at which the offsets were generated. (This should be for the physical location of the plant or facility.)

IV. Identification of the enforceable mechanism (permit number and date of issuance, permit amendment number and date of issuance, or date of permit revocation) that resulted from creation of the offsets.

V. The number of offsets from the permit, permit amendment, or permit revocation identified in IV, above, that will be used for the new or modified stationary source permitted under this subparagraph.

VI. If the offsets were created by an owner or operator other than the owner or operator which will be using the offsets for the new or modified stationary source permitted under this paragraph, a letter from the owner or operator that created the offsets shall be submitted to the Division stating that the offsets have been transferred to the owner or operator that will be using the offsets, the date of such transfer, the number of offsets transferred, and the information contained in I through IV above.

(v) [reserved]

(vi) When multiple new or modified emissions units are permitted at the same time but commence operation on different dates, the documentation required under subparagraph (iv) shall be submitted to the Division at least 30 days prior to commencement of each new or modified emissions unit in order to demonstrate that adequate offsets have been obtained for each new or modified emissions unit prior to commencement.

13. [reserved]

14. Additional Provisions for Ozone Non-Attainment Areas.

(i) In Bartow, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Newton, Paulding, and Rockdale counties the terms "major source" and "major stationary source" include any stationary source or group of sources located within a contiguous area and under common control that emits, or has the potential to emit, at least 100 tons per year of volatile organic compounds or nitrogen oxides. Any physical

change that would occur at a stationary source not qualifying as a major stationary source as defined in this subparagraph shall be considered a "major stationary source" if the change would constitute a major stationary source by itself.

(ii) Any physical change in or change in the method of operation of a major stationary source located in these counties that results in a net emissions increase of volatile organic compounds or nitrogen oxides equal to or exceeding 40 tons per year of such air pollutant shall be considered a modification when determining the applicability of the permit requirements established by this subsection. "Net emissions increase" shall have the meaning defined in subparagraph (8)(g)1.(iii) of this rule.

(iii) [reserved]

(iv) For purposes of satisfying the emission offset requirements of this subsection, the ratio of total emission reductions of volatile organic compounds or nitrogen oxides to total increased emissions of such pollutants shall be at least 1.15 to 1 for emission offsets external or internal to the contiguous area under common control at which the proposed new emission point is located.

#### 15. Additional Provisions for Electrical Generating Units Located in Areas Contributing to the Ambient Air Level of Ozone in the Metropolitan Atlanta Ozone Non-Attainment Area.

(i) In Banks, Barrow, Butts, Carroll, Chattooga, Clarke, Dawson, Floyd, Gordon, Hall, Haralson, Heard, Jackson, Jasper, Jones, Lamar, Lumpkin, Madison, Meriwether, Monroe, Morgan, Oconee, Pickens, Pike, Polk, Putnam, Spalding, Troup, Upson, and Walton counties, the terms "major source" and "major stationary source" include any stationary source or group of sources located within a contiguous area and under common control, containing an electrical generating unit, and that emits, or has the potential to emit, at least 100 tons per year of nitrogen oxides from electrical generating units. Any physical change that would occur at a stationary source not qualifying as a major stationary source as defined in this subparagraph shall be considered a "major stationary source" if the change would constitute a major stationary source by itself.

(ii) Any physical change or change in the method of operation at a major stationary source in these counties that results in a net emissions increase of nitrogen oxides equal to or exceeding 40 tons per year of such air pollutant from the installation or modification of one or more electrical generating units shall be considered a modification when determining the applicability of the permit requirements established by this subsection. "Net emissions increase" shall have the meaning defined in subparagraph (8)(g)1.(iii) of this rule.

(iii) In the case of any new electrical generating unit or modified existing electrical generating unit located at a new or modified major stationary source in these counties, the requirements of 391-3-1-.03(8)(c)2. shall only apply to that electrical generating unit and best available control technology (BACT), as defined by the Federal Act, shall be substituted for the lowest achievable emission rate (LAER).

(iv) For purposes of satisfying the emission offset requirements of this subsection, the ratio of total emission reductions of nitrogen oxides to total increased emissions of such pollutant from the new or modified electrical generating units shall be at least 1.1 to 1 for emission offsets external or internal to the contiguous area under common control at which the proposed new or modified major stationary source is located.

(v) [reserved]

(vi) [reserved]

(vii) For the purpose of this subsection, "electrical generating unit" means a fossil fuel fired stationary boiler, combustion turbine, or combined cycle system that serves a generator that produces electricity for sale.

16. [reserved]

(d) [reserved]

(e) **The Director** shall, upon analysis of the ambient air in the State, determine, and so designate, those areas of the State, if any, which are not attaining any National Ambient Air Quality Standards specified under the Federal Act, and any area contributing to the ambient air level of any such pollutant (for which such a standard has been established) in such areas of non-attainment. The Director's analyses determinations, and designations hereunder shall be used for the purpose of implementing the requirements of this section, shall be continuing, and shall be conducted in a manner sufficient to meet the requirements of Title 1, Part D of the Federal Act.

1. The counties of Banks, Barrow, Butts, Carroll, Chattooga, Clarke, Dawson, Floyd, Gordon, Hall, Haralson, Heard, Jackson, Jasper, Jones, Lamar, Lumpkin, Madison, Meriwether, Monroe, Morgan, Oconee, Pickens, Pike, Polk, Putnam, Spalding, Troup, Upson, and Walton have been determined by the Director as areas contributing to the ambient air level of ozone in the following metropolitan Atlanta counties: Bartow, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Newton, Paulding, and Rockdale. No permit to construct an electric generating unit at a new or modified major stationary source in this area shall be issued unless such proposed source meets all the requirements of Subsection (8)(c).

(f) **In addition** to any other requirement under the Act, or this Chapter 391-3-1, no permit to construct a new stationary source or modify an existing stationary source shall be issued unless such proposed source or modification meets all the requirements for review and for obtaining a permit prescribed in Paragraph [391-3-1-.02\(9\)\(b\)16](#). of this Rule.

(g) **The following provisions** of paragraph [391-3-1-.02\(7\)](#) apply to projects subject to the permitting requirements of subparagraph (c) of this paragraph with respect to those pollutants subject to Subparagraph (c).

1. [391-3-1-.02\(7\)\(a\)2](#). Definitions, with the following exceptions and additions:

(i) The definition of "Major Stationary Source" does not apply.

(ii) Within the definition of "Major Modification,"

(I) The date within the "capable of accommodating" provision shall be December 21, 1976; and

(II) Paragraphs [40 CFR 52.21\(b\)\(2\)\(iii\)](#) (j) and (k) do not apply.

(iii) The definition of "Net Emissions Increase," as it pertains to subparagraphs 8(c)14.(ii) and 8(c)15.(ii) of this rule, shall have the meaning defined in [40 CFR 51.165\(a\)\(1\)\(vi\)](#) with the following exceptions:

(I) In lieu of (a)(1)(vi)(A)(1), the following shall apply: The increase in emissions from a particular change or change in the method of operation at a stationary source pursuant to paragraph 52.21(a)(2)(iv) as adopted in subparagraph (7)(a)3. of this rule; and

(II) In (a)(1)(vi)(A)(2), baseline actual emissions shall be determined as provided in subparagraph (7)(a)2.(i) of this rule, except that sub paragraphs (7)(a)2.(i)(I)III. and (7)(a)2.(i)(II)IV. do not apply.

(iv) To the definition of "Secondary Emissions," the following sentence is added: "Secondary emissions must be specific, well defined, quantifiable, and impact the same general area as the stationary source or modification which causes the secondary emissions."

(v) The definition of "Significant" does not apply.

(vi) "Lowest achievable emission rate" or "LAER" means, for any source, the more stringent rate of emissions is based on the following:

(I) The most stringent emission limitation which is contained in the implementation plan of any State for such class or category of stationary source, unless the owner or operator of the proposed stationary source demonstrates that such limitations are not achievable; or

(II) The most stringent emission limitation which is achieved in practice by such class or category of stationary sources. This limitation, when applied to a modification, means the lowest achievable emission rate for the new or modified emission units within the stationary source. In no event shall the application of this term permit a proposed new or modified stationary source to emit any pollutant in excess of the amount allowable under applicable new source standards of performance.

2. [391-3-1-.02\(7\)\(a\)3.](#), Applicability procedures, with the following exception:

(i) The term "significant amount" in subparagraph (7)(a)3. shall mean an increase that is considered as a modification as specified in 391-3-1-.03(8)(c)14.(ii) or 15.(ii).

3. [391-3-1-.02\(7\)\(a\)4.](#)

4. [391-3-1-.02\(7\)\(b\)14.](#), Public participation.

5. [391-3-1-.02\(7\)\(b\)15.](#), Source obligation, with the following exception:

(i) The term "significant amount" in subparagraph (7)(b)15.(i)(V) shall mean an increase that is considered as a modification as specified in 391-3-1-.03(8)(c)14.(ii) or 15.(ii).

6. [391-3-1-.02\(7\)\(b\)21.](#), Actual PALs, with the following exception:

(i) Under the provision for "Setting the 10-year actual PAL level" specified in paragraph [40 CFR 52.21\(aa\)\(6\)](#), the amount added to the baseline actual emissions shall be the amount that is considered not to be a modification as specified in 391-3-1-.03(8)(c)14.(ii) or 15.(ii).

**(9) Permit Fees.**

(a) **The owner** or operator of any stationary source subject to the provisions of Georgia Air Quality Rule 391-3-1-.03 "Permits. Amended." shall pay to the Division an annual fee or its equivalent (e.g. quarterly payments).

(b) **The dollar-per-ton fee** rate for each calendar year is specified in the table below. Each calendar year's emissions and annual permit fees shall be determined and submitted in accordance with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources' Fee Manual specified below.

Calendar Year	\$/Ton Rate	Fee Manual
1991	\$25/Ton	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees" dated July 1, 1992.
1992	\$25/Ton	"Procedures for Calculating 1992 Air Permit Fees" dated May 1, 1993.
1993	\$25/Ton	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Year 1993" dated February 1, 1994.
1994	\$25/Ton	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Year 1994" dated May 1, 1995.
1995	\$25/Ton	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Year 1995" dated April 2, 1996.
1996	\$25/Ton	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Years 1996 and 1997" dated August 1, 1997.

<b>Calendar Year</b>	<b>\$/Ton Rate</b>	<b>Fee Manual</b>
1997	\$28/Ton	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Years 1996 and 1997" dated August 1, 1997.
1998	\$28/Ton	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Years 1998 and 1999" dated January 19, 1999.
1999	\$28/Ton	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Years 1998 and 1999" dated January 19, 1999.
2000	\$31/Ton	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Year 2000" dated April 30, 2001.
2001	\$31/Ton	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Year 2001" dated February 26, 2002.
2002	\$32.50/Ton	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Year 2002" dated March 25, 2003.
2003	\$32.50/Ton	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Year 2003" dated April 20, 2004.
2004	\$32.50/Ton	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Year 2004" dated March 22, 2005.
2005	\$33.00/Ton	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Year 2005" dated March 15, 2006.
2006	\$28.50/Ton	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Year 2006" dated February 7, 2007.
2007	\$34.00/Ton	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Year 2007" dated April 2, 2008.
2008	\$34.00/Ton	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Year 2008" dated February 12, 2009.
2009	\$34.00/Ton	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Year 2009" dated January 26, 2010.
2010	\$35.84/Ton for coal-fired electric generating units; \$34/Ton for all other sources	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Year 2010" dated January 31, 2011.
2011	\$35.84/Ton for coal-fired electric generating units; \$34/Ton for all other sources	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Year 2011" dated March 2, 2012.
2012	\$37.34/Ton for coal-fired electric generating units; \$35.50/Ton for all other sources	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Year 2012" dated February 5, 2013.
2013	\$37.34/Ton for coal-fired electric generating units; \$35.50/Ton for all other sources	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Year 2013" dated January 14, 2014.
2014	\$37.34/Ton for coal-fired electric generating units; \$35.50/Ton for all other sources	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Year 2014" dated January 12, 2015.

Calendar Year	\$/Ton Rate	Fee Manual
2015	\$37.34/Ton for coal-fired electric generating units; \$35.50/Ton for all other sources	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Year 2015" dated February 22, 2016.
2016	\$37.34/Ton for coal-fired electric generating units; \$35.50/Ton for all other sources	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Year 2016" dated February 8, 2017.
2017	\$37.34/Ton for coal-fired electric generating units; \$35.50/Ton for all other sources	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Application & Annual Permit Fees for Calendar Year 2017" dated February 8, 2018.
2018	\$37.34/Ton for coal-fired electric generating units; \$35.50/Ton for all other sources	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Application & Annual Permit Fees for Fees Due Between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020" dated December 26, 2018.
2019	\$37.34/Ton for coal-fired electric generating units; \$35.50/Ton for all other sources	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Application & Annual Permit Fees for Fees Due Between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021" dated February 3, 2020.
2020	\$37.34/Ton for coal-fired electric generating units; \$35.50/Ton for all other sources	"Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Application & Annual Permit Fees for Fees Due Between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022" dated February 3, 2021.

When no applicable calculation method or procedure is published therein, the Director may specify or approve an applicable method or procedure prior to its use.

(c) **For the purpose** of this section, the following definitions shall apply:

1. "Criteria Pollutant" means volatile organic compounds, sulfur dioxide, particulate matter, and nitrogen oxides.
2. "Stationary source" means all of the pollutant-emitting activities which belong to the same industrial grouping, are located on one or more contiguous or adjacent properties, and are under the control of the same person (or persons under common control) except the activities of any vessel. Pollutant-emitting activities shall be considered as part of the same industrial grouping if they belong to the same "Major Group" (i.e., which have the same first two digit code) as described in the most recent Standard Industrial Classification Manual, published by the U.S. Government Printing Office.

(d) **No annual fee shall** be collected for more than 4,000 tons per year per stationary source of any individual criteria pollutant as calculated in accordance with the Fee Manual.

(e) **The Director** may reduce any permit fee required under this Chapter to take into the account the financial resources of small businesses stationary sources.

(f) **The collection** of fees pursuant to this Chapter shall preclude collection of any air quality control permit fee by any other state or local government authority.

(g) **The collection** of annual fees pursuant to this section shall begin on or after July 1, 1995, and shall be for the calendar year ending December 31, 1994. Thereafter, annual permit fees for each calendar year are due no later than September 1 of the following calendar year. Fees shall be paid in accordance with the procedures specified in the Fee Manual.

(h) **The owner** of a stationary source subject to this paragraph (9), "Permit Fees" shall make a one-time payment on or before April 30, 2001, in accordance with the following schedule. This one-time payment shall serve as a credit toward the calendar year 2000 permit fees (which are to be adopted at a later date). The procedures and methods contained in the Georgia Department of Natural Resources **Procedures for Calculating Air Permit Fees for Calendar Years 1998 and 1999 dated January 19, 1999** (1998/1999 Fee Manual), which is hereby incorporated by reference, along with calendar year 2000 activities and emissions shall be used to determine which, if any, of the following one-time payments are applicable to each stationary source.

1. Any Stationary Source subject to one or more Federal Standard of Performance for New Stationary Sources (NSPS) that is not classified as a Part 70 major source is defined in [40 CFR 70.2](#) shall pay a one-time payment of \$400 unless ALL of the equipment at the stationary source that is subject to an NSPS standard is listed in the exception list found in section 2.0(a) of the 1998/1999 Fee Manual and/or did not operate during calendar year 2000.

2. Any Stationary Source that is classified as a Part 70 major source, as defined in [40 CFR 70.2](#), that operated for any period of time in calendar year 2000, and whose calculated emissions (calculated using the Methods of Calculation contained in section 3.2 of the 1998/1999 Fee Manual and calendar year 2000 activities) of EACH OF THE FOUR criteria pollutants (as defined in section 1.0 of the 1998/1999 Fee Manual: particulate matter, sulfur dioxide, volatile organic compounds, and nitrogen oxides) are less than or equal to the threshold values listed in section 3.16 of the 1998/1999 Fee Manual shall pay a one-time payment of \$600.

3. Any Stationary Source that is classified as a Part 70 major source, as defined in [40 CFR 70.2](#), that operated for any period of time in calendar year 2000, whose calculated emissions (calculated using the Methods of Calculation contained in section 3.2 of the 1998/1999 Fee Manual and calendar year 2000 activities) of AT LEAST ONE of the four criteria pollutants (as defined in section 1.0 of the 1998/1999 Fee Manual: particulate matter, sulfur dioxide, volatile organic compounds, and nitrogen oxides) are above the applicable threshold value listed in section 3.16 of the 1998/1999 Fee Manual, and whose COMBINED calculated emissions (calculated using the Methods of Calculation contained in section 3.2 of the 1998/1999 Fee Manual and calendar year 2000 activities) is less than 700 tons shall pay a one-time payment of \$1150. For the purpose of determining this one-time payment, the calculated emissions of any single criteria pollutant shall not be considered when determining if the calculated emissions are less than 700 tons if the calculated emissions for that criteria pollutant are less than or equal to the applicable threshold value listed in section 3.16 of the 1998/1999 Fee Manual.

4. Any Stationary Source that is classified as a Part 70 major source, as defined in [40 CFR 70.2](#), that operated for any period of time in calendar year 2000, whose total calculated emissions (calculated using the Methods of Calculation contained in section 3.2 of the 1998/1999 Fee Manual and calendar 2000 activities) of AT LEAST ONE of the four criteria pollutants (as defined in section 1.0 of the 1998/1999 Fee Manual: particulate matter, sulfur dioxide, volatile organic compounds, and nitrogen oxides) is above the applicable threshold value listed in section 3.16 of the 1998/1999 Fee Manual, and whose COMBINED calculated emissions (calculated using the Methods of Calculation contained in section 3.2 of the 1998/1999 Fee Manual and calendar year 2000 activities) are greater than or equal to 700 tons shall pay a one-time payment of \$3000. For the purpose of determining this one-time payment, the calculated emissions of any single criteria pollutant shall not be considered when determining if the calculated emissions are greater than or equal to 700 tons if the calculated emissions for that criteria pollutant are less than or equal to the applicable threshold value listed in section 3.16 of the 1998/1999 Fee Manual.

(i) **As part of the annual permit fees** required under this paragraph, the owner or operator of any stationary source shall also pay administrative fees in accordance with the following subparagraphs in addition to the permit fees determined in accordance with the Fee Manual(s) specified in Subparagraph (b) of this paragraph.

1. The owner or operator shall pay an administrative fee of 0.05 percent of the total fee due determined in accordance with the Fee Manual(s) specified in Subparagraph (b) of this paragraph for each calendar day in which the air permit fee form is submitted to the Division after October 1 of the calendar year in which the fee was due or October 1, 2010, which is later.

2. For air permit fee forms submitted using the online Georgia air emissions fee reporting form, that date on which the air permit fee form is submitted to the Division shall be the date in which the owner or operator completes a final submittal on the online reporting form. For air permit fee forms that were submitted using a hard-copy paper form,

the date on which the air permit fee form is submitted to the Division shall be the date on which the permit fee form and required payment are received at the address specified in the Fee Manual or at the office of the Division's Air Protection Branch.

(j) **Beginning with calendar year 2009 fees**, when the ownership of any stationary source is transferred to a new owner or operator, the new owner or operator of the stationary source shall be responsible for paying any past due fees.

(k) **Beginning on March 1, 2019**, the owner or operator of any stationary source subject to the provisions of Georgia Air Quality Rule 391-3-1-.03 "Permits. Amended" shall pay to the Division a processing fee when submitting an application for the following permit application types:

Permit Type
Minor Source Permit or Amendment
Synthetic Minor Source Permit or Amendment
Major Source Permit or Amendment (but not subject to PSD or 112(g))
Name Change
Permit-by-Rule
Title V 502(b)(10) Permit Amendment
Title V Minor Modification with Construction
Title V Minor Modification without Construction
Title V Significant Modification with Construction
Title V Significant Modification without Construction
PSD Permit per <a href="#">391-3-1-.02(7)</a>
Nonattainment New Source Review Permit per 391-3-1-.03(8)(c)
112(g) permit per <a href="#">391-3-1-.02(9)(b)16.</a>

1. Fees shall be paid in accordance with the procedures specified in the Fee Manual.
2. No final action of the Director shall occur until complete fee payment is received, unless the fee payment is waived or partially waived in accordance with subparagraph 391-3-1-.03(9)(e).
3. Application fees shall not be refunded as the fee is used to cover application processing labor.
4. Title V modification application fees are waived for applicants submitting PSD/112(g) or Nonattainment NSR permit applications via Title V permit applications. The PSD/112(g) or Nonattainment NSR fee still applies.

(l) **Beginning on July 1, 2020**, the owner or operator of any stationary source subject to the provisions of Georgia Air Quality Rule 391-3-1-.03(10) "Title V Operating Permits" shall pay to the Division an annual maintenance fee for Title V sources. Fees shall be paid in accordance with the procedures specified in the Fee Manual.

**(10) Title V Operating Permits.**

**(a) General Requirements.**

1. The provisions of this paragraph (10) shall apply to any source and the owner and operator of any such source subject to any requirements under 40 Code of Federal Regulations (hereinafter, 40 CFR), Part 70.
2. All sources subject to this paragraph (10) shall have a Part 70 Permit to operate that assures compliance by the source with all applicable requirements. Such Part 70 Permits will be issued consistent with the timing established in subparagraph (10)(c).
3. The requirements of this paragraph (10), including provisions regarding schedules for submission and approval or disapproval of permit applications, shall apply to the permitting of affected sources under the federal acid rain



program except as provided herein or modified in federal regulations promulgated under Title IV of the federal Clean Air Act.

4. Definitions: For the purpose of this paragraph (10), [40 CFR Part 70.2](#) is hereby incorporated and adopted by reference, with the following exception(s):

(i) "Potential to emit" shall have the meaning ascribed in subparagraph (ddd) of rule [391-3-1-.01](#).

(ii) [Reserved.]

(iii) The definition and use of the term "subject to regulation" in [40 CFR, Part 70.2](#) is hereby incorporated by reference; provided, however, that in the event all or any portion of [40 CFR, Part 70.2](#) containing that term is:

(I) declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional or stayed by the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit or for the District of Columbia Circuit; or

(II) withdrawn, repealed, revoked, or otherwise rendered of no force and effect by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Congress, or Presidential Executive Order.

Such action shall render the regulation as incorporated herein, or that portion thereof that may be affected by such action as invalid, void, stayed, or otherwise without force and effect for purposes of this rule upon the date such action becomes final and effective; provided, further, that such declaration, adjudication, stay, or other action described herein, shall not affect the remaining portions, if any, of the regulation as incorporated herein, which shall remain of full force and effect as if such portion so declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional or stayed or otherwise invalidated or effected were not originally a part of this rule. The Board declares that it would have incorporated the remaining parts of the federal regulation if it had known that such portion hereof would be declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional or stayed or otherwise rendered of no force and effect.

5. The subparagraphs of paragraph (10) that incorporate by reference portions of 40 CFR, Part 70 are as promulgated and published in the Federal Register through October 18, 2016, unless otherwise specified.

**(b) Applicability.**

1. The following sources shall be subject to this paragraph (10):

(i) Any major source as defined in [40 CFR Part 70.2](#), which is incorporated by reference in subparagraph (a)4;

(ii) Any source, including an area source, subject to a standard, limitation, or other requirement under Section 111 of the federal Act;

(iii) Any source, including an area source, subject to a standard or other requirement under Section 112 of the federal Act, except that a source is not required to obtain a permit solely because it is subject to regulations or requirements under Section 112(r) of the federal Act;

(iv) Any affected source as defined in [40 CFR Part 70.2](#), which is incorporated by reference in subparagraph (a)4; and

(v) Any source in a source category designated by the EPA Administrator pursuant to [40 CFR Part 70.3](#).

2. The following sources shall not be subject to this paragraph (10):

(i) Any source listed in subparagraph 10(b)1.(ii) that is not a major source;

(ii) Any source required to obtain a permit solely because they are subject to 40 CFR Part 61 , Subpart M, National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Asbestos, 61.145, Standard for Demolition and Renovation, or

solely because they are subject to 40 CFR Part 60, Subpart AAA Standards of Performance for New Residential Wood Heaters; and

(iii) Any source listed in subparagraph (10)(b)1.(iii) that is an area source except those subject to an Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants under 40 CFR Part 63 that does not exempt the owner or operator from the obligation to obtain a Part 70 permit.

3. Emission units and Part 70 permits.

(i) For major sources, Part 70 permits shall include all applicable requirements for all relevant emission units in the major source.

(ii) For any non-major source subject to the requirements of this paragraph (10), Part 70 permits shall include all applicable requirements applicable to emission units that cause the source to be subject to this paragraph (10).

4. Fugitive emissions from a source subject to the requirements of this paragraph (10) shall be included in the permit application and the Part 70 permit in the same manner as stack emissions, regardless of whether the source category in question is included in the list of sources contained in the definition of major source.

5. Any Part 70 source may make Section 502(b)(10) changes as defined in [40 CFR 70.2](#), which is incorporated by reference in subparagraph (a)4, without requiring a Part 70 permit revision, if the changes are not modifications under any provisions of Title I of the federal Act and the changes do not exceed the emissions allowable under the permit (whether expressed therein as a rate of emissions or in terms of total emissions). For each such change, the source shall provide the Director and the EPA Administrator with written notification as required below in advance of the proposed changes and shall obtain any permits required under Rules 391-3-1-.03(1) and (2). The source and the Director shall attach each such notice to their copy of the relevant permit.

(i) For each such change, the source's written notification and application for a construction permit shall be submitted well in advance of any critical date (construction date, permit issuance date, etc.) involved in the change, but no less than seven days in advance of such change and shall include a brief description of the change within the permitted facility, the date on which the change is proposed to occur, any change in emissions, and any permit term or condition that is no longer applicable as a result of the change.

(ii) The permit shield described in subparagraph (d)6. shall not apply to any change made pursuant to this paragraph.

6. Off-permit Changes: Any Part 70 source may make changes that are not addressed or prohibited by the permit, other than those described in subparagraph 7., without a Part 70 permit revision, provided the following requirements are met:

(i) Each such change shall meet all applicable requirements and shall not violate any existing permit term or condition.

(ii) Sources must provide contemporaneous written notice to the Director and EPA Administrator of each such change, except for changes that qualify as insignificant as specified in subparagraph (g). Such written notice shall describe each such change, including the date, any change in emissions, pollutants emitted, and any applicable requirement that would apply as a result of the change.

(iii) The change shall not qualify for the shield under subparagraph (10)(d)6.

(iv) The permittee shall keep a record describing changes made at the source that result in emissions of a regulated air pollutant subject to an applicable requirement, but not otherwise regulated under the permit, and the emissions resulting from those changes.

(v) The source shall obtain any permits required under Rules 391-3-1-.03(1) and (2).

7. No Part 70 source may make, without a permit revision, any changes that are not addressed or prohibited by the Part 70 permit, if such changes are subject to any requirements under Title IV of the federal Act or are modifications under any provision of Title I of the federal Act.

**(c) Permit Applications**

1. For each Part 70 source, the owner or operator shall submit a complete application:

(i) Within 12 months after the U. S. EPA grants approval of this paragraph (10) or on or before such earlier date as the Director may establish, for a source applying for the first time;

(ii) Within 12 months after commencing operation, for a source required to meet the requirements under Section 112(g) of the federal Clean Air Act or to have a permit under the preconstruction review program requirements of Rule 391-3-1-.03(8)(b) or Rule 391-3-1-.03(8)(c). Where an existing Part 70 permit would prohibit such construction or change in operation, the source must obtain a permit revision before commencing operation;

(iii) At least six months, but not more than 18 months prior to the date of permit expiration, for a source subject to permit renewal; or

(iv) By January 1, 1996, for initial Phase II sulfur dioxide acid rain permits and by January 1, 1998, for initial Phase II nitrogen oxide acid rain permits.

(v) within 12 months after commencing operation for a major source which commences operation after the date specified in subparagraph (10)(c)1.(i).

2. Standard Permit Application and Required Information. The application shall be made in a format specified by the Director. It shall be signed by a responsible official, as defined in [40 CFR 70.2](#), which is incorporated by reference in subparagraph (a)4, certifying its truthfulness, accuracy and completeness. For the purpose of this paragraph (10), [40 CFR 70.5\(c\)](#) and [40 CFR 70.5\(d\)](#) are hereby incorporated and adopted by reference. The application may require additional pertinent information which is not specified in [40 CFR 70.5\(c\)](#), as incorporated by reference in this subparagraph, as the Director may require. To be deemed complete, an application must provide all information required pursuant to this subparagraph and subparagraph (g), except that applications for permit revision need supply such information only if it is related to the proposed change.

3. Unless the Director determines that an application, including renewal applications, is not complete within 60 days of receipt of the application, such application shall be deemed to be complete, except as otherwise provided in [40 CFR 70.7\(a\)\(4\)](#) which is hereby incorporated by reference.

4. If, while processing an application that has been determined or deemed to be complete, the Director determines that additional information is necessary to evaluate or take final action on that application the Director may request such information in writing and set a reasonable deadline for a response. The source's ability to operate without a Part 70 permit shall be in effect from the date the application is determined or deemed to be complete until the final permit is issued, provided that the applicant submits any requested additional information by the deadline specified by the Director.

5. Any applicant who fails to submit any relevant facts or who has submitted incorrect information in a permit application shall, upon becoming aware of such failure or incorrect submittal, promptly submit such supplementary facts or corrected information. In addition, an applicant shall provide additional information as necessary to address any requirements that become applicable to the source after the date it filed a complete application but prior to release of a draft permit.

**(d) Permit Content.**

1. Standard Permit Requirements.

(i) For the purposes of this paragraph (10), [40 CFR Part 70.6\(a\)](#) and [40 CFR 70.7\(f\)](#) are hereby incorporated and adopted by reference.

(ii) The permit may include terms and conditions allowing for the trading of emissions changes in the permitted facility solely for the purpose of complying with a federally enforceable emissions cap that is established in the permit independent of otherwise applicable requirements. The permit applicant shall include in its application proposed replicable procedures and permit terms that ensure that the emissions trades are quantifiable and enforceable. The Director shall not be required to include in the emissions trading provisions any emissions units for which emissions are not quantifiable or for which there are no replicable procedures to enforce the emissions trades. The following conditions apply to the emissions trades:

(I) The permittee shall provide written notification to the Director and EPA no less than seven days in advance of any change made pursuant to this subparagraph. The written notification shall state when the change will occur and shall describe the changes in emissions that will result and how these increases and decreases in emissions will comply with the terms and conditions of the permit.

(II) The permit shield described in subparagraph (d)6. may extend to the permit terms and conditions that allow for the emissions increases and decreases described in this subparagraph.

(iii) The permit may include additional elements not specified in [40 CFR Part 70.6\(a\)](#), which is incorporated by reference in subparagraph (d)1.(i), as required by the Director.

2. The Director shall specifically designate as not being federally enforceable under the federal Clean Air Act any terms and conditions included in the permit that are not required under the federal Clean Air Act or under any of its applicable requirements. If the Director does not so designate a term or condition, it shall be deemed federally enforceable.

3. Compliance Requirements. For the purposes of this paragraph (10), [40 CFR 70.6\(c\)](#) is hereby incorporated and adopted by reference.

4. General Permits: For the purpose of this paragraph (10), [40 CFR 70.6\(d\)](#) is hereby incorporated and adopted by reference.

5. The Director may issue a single permit authorizing emissions from similar operations by the same source owner or operator at multiple temporary locations. The operation must be temporary and involve at least one change of location during the term of the permit. No affected source shall be permitted as a temporary source. Permits for temporary sources shall include:

(i) Conditions that will assure compliance with all applicable requirements at all authorized locations;

(ii) Requirements that the owner or operator notify the Director at least 30 days in advance of each change in location; and

(iii) Conditions that assure compliance with all of the provisions of this paragraph.

6. Permit Shield.

(i) Except as provided in this paragraph (10), the Director may expressly include in a Part 70 permit a provision stating that a source which is in compliance with the conditions of the permit shall be deemed to be in compliance with any applicable requirements as of the date of the permit issuance, provided that:

(I) Such applicable requirements are included and are specifically identified in the permit; or

(II) The Director, in acting on the permit application or revision, determines in writing that other requirements specifically identified are not applicable to the source, and the permit includes the determination or a concise summary thereof.

(ii) A Part 70 permit that does not expressly state that a permit shield exists shall be presumed not to provide such a shield.

(iii) Nothing in this paragraph or in any Part 70 permit shall alter or affect the following:

(I) The provisions of Section 303 of the federal Clean Air Act (emergency orders), including the authority of the Administrator under that section or the provisions of O.C.G.A. Section [12-9-14](#);

(II) The liability of an owner or operator of a source for any violation of applicable requirements prior to or at the time of permit issuance; or

(III) The applicable requirements of the acid rain program, consistent with Section 408(a) of the federal Clean Air Act; or

(IV) The ability of EPA to obtain information from a source pursuant to Section 114 of the federal Clean Air Act or of the Director to obtain information from a source pursuant to paragraph [391-3-1-.02\(6\)](#).

7. Emergency Provision: For the purpose of subparagraph (d)7., [40 CFR Part 70.6\(g\)](#) is hereby incorporated and adopted by reference.

**(e) Permit Issuance, Renewal, Reopenings and Revisions.**

**1. Action on application.**

(i) A permit, permit modification, or renewal may be issued only if all of the following conditions have been met:

(I) The Director has received a complete application, except that a complete application need not be received before issuance of a general permit under subparagraph (d);

(II) Except for modifications qualifying for minor permit modification procedures under subparagraphs (e)5.(i) or (e)5.(ii), the Director has complied with the requirements for public participation under subparagraph (e)8.;

(III) The Director has complied with the requirements for notifying and responding to affected States under subparagraph (f);

(IV) The conditions of the permit provide for compliance with all applicable requirements; and

(V) The EPA Administrator has received a copy of the proposed permit and any notices required under subparagraph (f) and has not objected to issuance of the permit under subparagraph (f) within the time period specified therein.

(ii) Except as provided under the initial transition plan or under regulations promulgated under Title IV of the federal Clean Air Act, the Director shall take final action on each permit application (including request for permit modification or renewal) within 18 months after receiving a complete application.

(iii) The Director shall provide a statement that sets forth the legal and factual basis for the draft permit conditions (including references to the applicable statutory or regulatory provisions). The Director shall send this statement to EPA and to any other person who requests it.

(iv) The submittal of a complete application shall not affect the requirement that any source have a preconstruction permit under paragraph [391-3-1-.03\(8\)](#).

**2. Requirement for a permit.**

Except as provided in subparagraphs (b)5., (e)5.(i)(V) and (e)5.(ii)(V), no Part 70 source may operate after the time that it is required to submit a timely and complete application, except in compliance with a permit issued under this paragraph (10). If a Part 70 source submits a timely and complete application for permit issuance (including for renewal), the source's failure to have a Part 70 permit is not a violation until the Director takes final action on the permit application. This protection shall cease to apply if, subsequent to the completeness determination, the applicant fails to submit by the deadline specified in writing by the Director any additional information identified as being needed to process the application.

### 3. Permit renewal and expiration.

(i) Permits being renewed are subject to the same procedural requirements, including those for public participation, affected State and EPA review, that apply to initial permit issuance.

(ii) Permit expiration terminates the source's right to operate unless a timely and complete renewal application has been submitted.

(iii) If a timely and complete application for permit renewal is submitted, but the Director has failed to issue or deny the renewal permit before the end of the term of the previous permit, then the permit shall not expire until the renewal permit has been issued or denied and any permit shield that may be granted pursuant to subparagraph (d)6. shall extend beyond the original permit term until renewal.

### 4. Administrative permit amendments.

(i) Definitions: For the purpose of this paragraph, [40 CFR, Part 70.7\(d\)\(1\)](#) is incorporated and adopted by reference.

(ii) Administrative permit amendments for purposes of the acid rain portion of the permit shall be governed by regulations promulgated under Title IV of the federal Clean Air Act.

(iii) An administrative permit amendment may be made by the Director consistent with the following:

(I) The Director shall take no more than 60 days from receipt of a request for an administrative permit amendment to take final action on such request, and may incorporate such changes without providing notice to the public or affected States provided that it designates any such permit revisions as having been made pursuant to this subparagraph.

(II) The Director shall submit a copy of the revised permit to the EPA Administrator.

(III) The source may implement the changes addressed in the request for an administrative amendment immediately upon submittal of the request.

(iv) The Director may, upon taking final action granting a request for an administrative permit amendment, allow coverage by the permit shield for administrative permit amendments made pursuant to [40 CFR Part 70.7\(d\)\(1\)\(v\)](#), which is incorporated by reference in subparagraph (e)4.(i) of this rule, which meet the requirements for significant permit modifications.

### 5. Permit modification.

A permit modification is any revision to a Part 70 permit that cannot be accomplished under subparagraph 4. A permit modification for purposes of the acid rain program shall be governed by regulations promulgated under Title IV of the federal Clean Air Act.

(i) Minor permit modification procedures.

(I) Minor permit modification procedures may be used only for those permit modifications that:

I. Do not violate any applicable requirement;

II. Do not involve significant changes to existing monitoring, reporting, or recordkeeping requirements in the permit;

III. Do not require or change a case-by-case determination of an emission limitation or other standard, or a source specific determination for temporary sources of ambient impacts, or a visibility or increment analysis;

IV. Do not seek to establish or change a permit term or condition for which there is no corresponding underlying applicable requirement and that the source has assumed to avoid an applicable requirement to which the source would otherwise be subject, including a federally enforceable emissions cap assumed to avoid classification as a modification under any provision of 391-3-1-.03(8), and an alternative emissions limit approved pursuant to regulations promulgated under Section 112(j)(5) of the federal Clean Air Act;

V. Are not modifications under any provision of 391-3-1-.03(8); and

VI. Are not required by this paragraph (10) to be processed as a significant modification.

(II) An application requesting the use of minor permit modification procedures shall meet the requirements of paragraph (8) and shall include the following:

I. A description of the change, the emissions resulting from the change, and any new applicable requirements that will apply if the change occurs;

II. The source's suggested draft permit;

III. Certification by a responsible official, consistent with subparagraph (c), that the proposed modification meets the criteria for use of minor modification procedures and a request that such procedures be used; and

IV. Completed forms for the Director to use to notify the EPA Administrator and affected States as required under subparagraph (f).

(III) Within five working days of receipt of a complete minor permit modification application, the Director shall meet his obligation under subparagraph (f)(1) and subparagraph (f)(2)(i) to notify the EPA Administrator and affected States of the requested permit modification. The Director shall promptly send any notice required under subparagraph (f)(2)(ii) to the EPA Administrator.

(IV) The Director may not issue a final permit modification until after EPA's 45-day review period or until EPA has notified the Director that EPA will not object to issuance of the permit modification, whichever is first, although the Director can approve the permit modification prior to that time. Within 90 days of the Director's receipt of an application under minor permit modification procedures or 15 days after the end of the EPA Administrator's 45-day review period under subparagraph (f)(3), whichever is later, the Director shall:

I. Issue the permit modification as proposed;

II. Deny the permit modification application;

III. Determine that the requested modification does not meet the minor permit modification criteria and should be reviewed under the significant modification procedures; or

IV. Revise the draft permit modification and transmit to the EPA Administrator the new proposed permit modification as required by subparagraph (f).

(V) The source may make changes proposed in its minor permit modification application as follows:

I. For proposed changes that require a permit in accordance with 391-3-1-.03(1), the source may make the change proposed in its minor permit modification application immediately after obtaining a permit for the modification

pursuant to the requirements of 391-3-1-.03(1). After the source makes such change and until the Director takes any of the actions specified in subparagraph (IV), the source must comply with the applicable requirements governing the change, the proposed permit terms and conditions, and requirements of the construction permit issued under 391-3-1-.03(1). During this time period, the source need not comply with the existing permit terms and conditions it seeks to modify. However, if the source fails to comply with its proposed permit terms and conditions and the requirements of the construction permit issued under 391-3-1-.03(1) during this time period, the existing permit terms and conditions it seeks to modify and the requirements of the construction permit issued under 391-3-1-.03(1) may be enforced against it.

II. For proposed changes that do not require a permit in accordance with 391-3-1-.03(1), the source may make the change proposed in its minor permit modification application upon receipt of a letter from the Division acknowledging receipt of said application. If the Director denies the permit modification application in accordance with subparagraph (IV)II, the existing terms and conditions that the applicant seeks to modify may be enforced by the Division.

(VI) The permit shield may not extend to minor permit modifications.

(ii) Group processing of minor permit modifications. The Director may modify the procedure outlined in subparagraph (e)5.(i) to process groups of a source's applications for certain modifications eligible for minor permit modification processing.

(I) Group processing of modifications may be used only for those permit modifications:

I. That meet the criteria for minor permit modification procedures under subparagraph (e)5.(i); and

II. That collectively are below 10 percent of the emissions allowed by the permit for the emissions unit for which the change is requested, 20 percent of the applicable definition of major source in subparagraph (a)4., or 5 tons per year, whichever is least.

(II) An application requesting the use of group processing procedures shall meet the requirements of subparagraph (c)2. and shall include the following:

I. A description of the change, the emissions resulting from the change, and any new applicable requirements that will apply if the change occurs.

II. The source's suggested draft permit.

III. Certification by a responsible official that the proposed modification meets the criteria for use of group processing procedures under a request that such procedures be used.

IV. A list of the source's other pending applications awaiting group processing, and determination of whether the requested modification, aggregated with these other applications, equals or exceeds the threshold set under subparagraph (e)5.(ii)(I)II.

V. Certification that the source has notified EPA of the proposed modification. Such notification need only contain a brief description of the proposed modification.

VI. Completed forms for the Director to use to notify the EPA Administrator and affected States as required under subparagraph (f).

(III) On a quarterly basis or within five business days of receipt of an application demonstrating that the aggregate of a source's pending applications equals or exceeds the threshold level set in subparagraph (e)5.(ii)(I)II., whichever is earlier, the Director promptly shall comply with subparagraphs (f)(1) and (f)(2). The Director shall send any notice required under subparagraph (f)(2)(ii) to the EPA Administrator.



(IV) The provisions of subparagraph (e)5.(i)(IV) shall apply to modifications eligible for group processing, except that the Director shall take one of the actions specified in subparagraphs (e)5.(i)(IV)I through IV. within 180 days of receipt of the application or 15 days after the end of the EPA Administrator's 45-day review period under subparagraph (f)(3), whichever is later.

(V) The provisions of subparagraph 5.(i)(V) shall apply to modifications eligible for group processing.

(VI) The provisions of subparagraph 5.(i)(VI) shall also apply to modifications eligible for group processing.

(iii) Significant modification procedures.

(I) Significant modification procedures shall be used for applications requesting permit modifications that do not qualify as minor permit modifications or as administrative amendments. At a minimum, every significant change in existing monitoring permit terms or conditions and every relaxation of reporting or recordkeeping permit terms or conditions shall be considered significant. Nothing herein shall be construed to preclude the permittee from making changes consistent with this paragraph (10) that would render existing permit compliance terms and conditions irrelevant.

(II) Significant permit modifications shall meet all requirements of this paragraph (10), including those for applications, public participation, review by affected States, and review by EPA, as they apply to permit issuance and permit renewal.

#### 6. Reopening for cause.

(i) A permit shall be reopened and revised under any of the following circumstances:

(I) Additional applicable requirements become applicable to a major Part 70 source with a remaining permit term of three or more years. Such a reopening shall be completed not later than 18 months after promulgation of the applicable requirement. No such reopening is required if the effective date of the requirement is later than the date on which the permit is due to expire, unless the original permit or any of its terms and conditions has been extended under subparagraph (e)3.(iii).

(II) Additional requirements (including excess emissions requirements) become applicable to an affected source under the acid rain program. Upon approval by the Administrator, excess emissions offset plans shall be deemed to be incorporated into the permit.

(III) The Director determines that the permit contains a material mistake or that inaccurate statements were made in establishing the emissions standards or other terms or conditions of the permit.

(IV) The Director determines that the permit must be revised or revoked to assure compliance with the applicable requirements.

(ii) Proceedings to reopen and issue a permit shall follow the same procedures as apply to initial permit issuance and shall affect only those parts of the permit for which cause to reopen exists.

(i) Reopenings shall not be initiated before a notice of such intent is provided to the source by the Director at least 30 days in advance of the date that the permit is to be reopened, except that the Director may provide a shorter time period in the case of an emergency.

#### 7. Reopenings for cause by EPA.

(i) If the EPA Administrator finds that cause exists to terminate, modify or revoke and reissue a permit pursuant to subparagraph 6. and notifies the Director of such finding in writing, the Director shall, within 90 days after receipt of such notification, forward to EPA a proposed determination of termination, modification, or revocation and reissuance, as appropriate. If the EPA Administrator finds that a new or revised permit application is necessary or

that the Director must require the permittee to submit additional information and extends this 90 day period, the Director shall forward the subject determination within 180 days of receipt of EPA's notification.

(ii) Within 90 days from receipt of an EPA objection, the Director shall resolve such objection and terminate, modify, or revoke and reissue the permit in accordance with EPA's objection.

#### 8. Public participation.

[40 CFR Part 70.7\(h\)](#) is hereby incorporated and adopted by reference.

#### (f) **Permit review by EPA and affected states.**

1. The Director shall provide the EPA Administrator a copy of each permit application (including any application for permit modification), each proposed permit, and each final Part 70 permit. The Director may require the applicant to provide a copy of the permit application (including the compliance plan) directly to the EPA Administrator. Upon approval by the EPA Administrator, the Director may submit to the EPA Administrator a permit application summary form and any relevant portion of the permit application and compliance plan, in place of the complete permit application and compliance plan.

#### 2. Review by affected States.

(i) The Director shall give notice of each draft permit to any affected State on or before the time that the Director provides this notice to the public under subparagraph (e)8., except to the extent that subparagraphs (e)5.(i) or (e)5.(ii) require the timing of the notice to be different.

(ii) The Director, as part of the submittal of the proposed permit to the EPA Administrator [or as soon as possible after the submittal for minor permit procedures allowed under subparagraphs (e)5.(i) or (e)5.(ii)], shall notify the EPA Administrator and any affected State in writing of any refusal by the Director to accept all recommendations for the proposed permit that the affected State submitted during the public or affected State comment period. The notice shall include the Director's reasons for not accepting any such recommendation. The Director is not required to accept recommendations that are not based on applicable requirements or the requirements of this paragraph (10).

#### 3. EPA objection.

(i) No permit for which an application must be transmitted to the EPA Administrator under subparagraph (f)1. shall be issued if the EPA Administrator objects to its issuance in writing within a timely manner pursuant to [40 CFR 70.8\(c\)](#) and [40 CFR 70.8\(d\)](#) which are hereby incorporated by reference.

#### (g) **Insignificant Activities List**

Unless otherwise required by the Director, the following air pollutant sources/activities must be listed, but need not be described in detail, in the Part 70 permit application. Exclusion of these emissions from detailed reporting does not exclude them from inclusion in any applicability determination. Additionally, this insignificant listing may not be used to avoid any applicable requirement (i.e. NESHAP, NSPS, etc.) as defined in [40 CFR Part 70.2](#), which is incorporated by reference in subparagraph (a)4.

#### 1. Mobile Sources.

(i) Cleaning and sweeping of streets and paved surfaces.

#### 2. Combustion Equipment.

(i) Firefighting equipment, including fire pumps or other emergency/safety equipment used to fight fires or train firefighters or other emergency personnel.

(ii) Small incinerators that are not subject to any standard, limitation or other requirement under Section 111 or 112 [excluding 112(r)] of the Federal Act and are not considered a "designated facility" as specified in [40 CFR 60.32e](#) of the Federal emissions guidelines for Hospital/Medical/ Infectious Waste Incinerators, that are operating as follows:

(I) Less than 8 million BTUs per hour heat input, firing types 0, 1, 2 and/or 3 waste; or

(II) Less than 8 million BTUs per hour heat input with no more than 10% pathological (Type-4) waste by weight combined with types 0, 1, 2 and/or 3 waste; or

(III) Less than 4 million BTUs per hour heat input firing Type 4 waste.

(IV) For the purpose of this subparagraph, the following definitions apply:

I. "Type 0 waste" means trash. This refers to a mixture of combustible waste such as paper, cardboard, wood and floor sweepings; which contains up to 10% petrochemical waste, 5% non-combustibles and 10% moisture, by weight; which is generated from commercial activities; and having a higher heat value (HHV) of approximately 8,500 BTU/lb.

II. "Type 1 waste" means rubbish. This refers to a mixture of combustible waste such as paper, cardboard, wood foliage and floor sweepings; which contains up to 10% petrochemical waste, 5% non-combustibles and 10% moisture, by weight; which is generated from domestic and commercial activities; and having a HHV of approximately 6,500 BTU/lb.

III. "Type 2 waste" means refuse. This refers to an evenly distributed mixture of rubbish and garbage as usually received in municipal waste; which contains up to 50% moisture content, by weight and 7% non-combustible solids; and having a HHV of approximately 4,300 BTU/lb.

IV. "Type 3 waste" means garbage. This refers to animal and vegetable wastes from restaurants, cafeterias, hotels, markets, and like installations; which contains up to 70% moisture, by weight, and 5% non-combustible solids; and having a HHV of approximately 2,500 BTU/lb.

V. "Type 4 waste" means human and animal remains. This refers to carcasses, organs, and solid organic wastes from hospitals, laboratories, abattoirs, animal pounds; and having a HHV of approximately 1,000 BTU/lb.

(iii) Open burning in compliance with Georgia Rule [391-3-1-.02\(5\)](#).

(iv) Stationary Engines Burning:

(I) Natural gas, gasoline, diesel fuel, or dual fuels which are used exclusively as emergency generators; or

(II) Natural gas, LPG, and/or diesel fuel and used for peaking power (including emergency generators used for peaking power) where the peaking power use does not exceed 200 hours-per-year, except in the counties of Banks, Barrow, Bartow, Butts, Carroll, Chattooga, Cherokee, Clarke, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, Dawson, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Floyd, Forsyth, Fulton, Gordon, Gwinnett, Hall, Haralson, Heard, Henry, Jackson, Jasper, Jones, Lamar, Lumpkin, Madison, Meriwether, Monroe, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Paulding, Pickens, Pike, Polk, Putnam, Rockdale, Spalding, Troup, Upson, and Walton where such engines with a rated capacity equal to and greater than 100 kilowatts are not insignificant activities; or

(III) Natural gas, LPG, and/or diesel fuel used for other purposes, provided that the output of each engine does not exceed 400 horsepower and that no individual engine operates for more than one thousand hours-per-year; or

(IV) Gasoline used for other purposes, provided that the output of each engine does not exceed 100 horsepower and that no individual engine operates for more than 500 hours-per-year except in the counties of Banks, Barrow, Bartow, Butts, Carroll, Chattooga, Cherokee, Clarke, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, Dawson, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Floyd, Forsyth, Fulton, Gordon, Gwinnett, Hall, Haralson, Heard, Henry, Jackson, Jasper, Jones, Lamar, Lumpkin, Madison, Meriwether, Monroe, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Paulding, Pickens, Pike, Polk, Putnam, Rockdale,

Spalding, Troup, Upson, and Walton where such engines with a rated capacity equal to and greater than 100 kilowatts used for peaking power are not insignificant activities.

(V) For the purpose of this subparagraph, the following definitions shall apply:

I. An "emergency generator" means a generator whose function is to provide back-up power when electric power from the local utility is interrupted and which operates for less than 500 hours-per-year, except in the counties of Banks, Barrow, Bartow, Butts, Carroll, Chattooga, Cherokee, Clarke, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, Dawson, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Floyd, Forsyth, Fulton, Gordon, Gwinnett, Hall, Haralson, Heard, Henry, Jackson, Jasper, Jones, Lamar, Lumpkin, Madison, Meriwether, Monroe, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Paulding, Pickens, Pike, Polk, Putnam, Rockdale, Spalding, Troup, Upson, and Walton where such generator operates less than 200 hours-per-year.

II. "Used for peaking power" means used to reduce the electrical power requirements on the local utility grid. This could be for supplying power during the local utility's peak demand periods or for peak shaving by the facility.

### 3. Trade Operations.

(i) Brazing, soldering and welding equipment, and cutting torches related manufacturing and construction activities whose emissions of hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) fall below 1,000 pounds per year.

### 4. Maintenance, Cleaning, and Housekeeping.

(i) Blast-cleaning equipment using a suspension of abrasive in water and any exhaust system (or collector) serving them exclusively.

(ii) Portable blast-cleaning equipment.

(iii) Non-Perchloroethylene Dry-cleaning equipment with a capacity of 100 pounds per hour or less of clothes.

(iv) Cold cleaners having an air/vapor interface of not more than 10 square feet and that do not use a halogenated solvent.

(v) Non-routine clean out of tanks and equipment for the purposes of worker entry or in preparation for maintenance or decommissioning.

(vi) Devices used exclusively for cleaning metal parts or surfaces by burning off residual amounts of paint, varnish, or other foreign material, provided that such devices are equipped with afterburners.

(vii) Cleaning Operations: Alkaline/phosphate cleaners and associated cleaners and burners.

### 5. Laboratories and Testing.

(i) Laboratory fume hoods and vents associated with bench-scale laboratory equipment used for physical or chemical analysis.

(ii) Research and development facilities, quality control testing facilities and/or small pilot projects, where combined daily emissions from all operations are not individually major and are not support facilities making significant contributions to the product of a collocated major manufacturing facility.

### 6. Pollution Control.

(i) Sanitary wastewater collection and treatment systems, except incineration equipment or equipment subject to any standard, limitation or other requirement under Section 111 or 112 [excluding 112(r)] of the Federal Act.

(ii) On site soil or groundwater decontamination units that are not subject to any standard, limitation or other requirement under Section 111 or 112 [excluding 112(r)] of the Federal Act.

(iii) Bioremediation operations units that are not subject to any standard, limitation or other requirement under Section 111 or 112 [excluding 112(r)] of the Federal Act.

(iv) Landfills that are not subject to any standard, limitation or other requirement under Section 111 or 112 [excluding 112(r)] of the Federal Act.

#### 7. Industrial Operations.

(i) Concrete block and brick plants, concrete products plants, and ready mix concrete plants producing less than 125,000 tons per year.

(ii) Any of the following processes or process equipment which are electrically heated or which fire natural gas, LPG or distillate fuel oil at a maximum total heat input rate of not more than five million BTUs per hour:

(I) Furnaces for heat treating glass or metals, the use of which do not involve molten materials or oil-coated parts.

(II) Porcelain enameling furnaces or porcelain enameling drying ovens.

(III) Kilns for firing ceramic ware.

(IV) Crucible furnaces, pot furnaces, or induction melting and holding furnaces with a capacity of 1,000 pounds or less each, in which sweating or distilling is not conducted and in which fluxing is not conducted utilizing free chlorine, chloride or fluoride derivatives, or ammonium compounds.

(V) Bakery ovens and confection cookers.

(VI) Feed mill or grain mill ovens.

(VII) Surface coating drying ovens.

(iii) Carving, cutting, routing, turning, drilling, machining, sawing, surface grinding, sanding, planing, buffing, shot blasting, shot peening, or polishing; ceramics, glass, leather, metals, plastics, rubber, concrete, paper stock or wood, also including roll grinding and ground wood pulping stone sharpening, provided that:

(I) The activity is performed indoors; and

(II) No significant fugitive particulate emissions enter the environment; and

(III) No visible emissions enter the outdoor atmosphere.

(iv) Photographic process equipment by which an image is reproduced upon material sensitized to radiant energy (e.g., blueprint activity, photographic developing and microfiche).

(v) Grain, food, or mineral extrusion processes.

(vi) Equipment used exclusively for sintering of glass or metals, but not including equipment used for sintering metal-bearing ores, metal scale, clay, fly ash, or metal compounds.

(vii) Equipment for the mining and screening of uncrushed native sand and gravel.

(viii) Ozonization process or process equipment.

(ix) Electrostatic powder coating booths with an appropriately designed and operated particulate control system.

(x) Activities involving the application of hot melt adhesives where VOC emissions are less than 5 tons per year and HAP emissions are less than 1,000 pounds per year.

(xi) Equipment used exclusively for mixing and blending water-based adhesives and coatings at ambient temperatures.

(xii) Equipment used for compression, molding and injection of plastics where VOC emissions are less than 5 tons per year and HAP emissions are less than 1,000 pounds per year.

(xiii) Ultraviolet curing processes where VOC emissions are less than five tons per year and HAP emissions are less than 1,000 pounds per year.

#### 8. Storage Tanks and Equipment.

(i) All petroleum liquid storage tanks storing a liquid with a true vapor pressure of equal to or less than 0.50 psia as stored.

(ii) All petroleum liquid storage tanks with a capacity of less than 40,000 gallons storing a liquid with a true vapor pressure of equal to or less than 2.0 psia as stored that are not subject to any standard, limitation or other requirement under Section 111 or 112 [excluding 112(r)] of the Federal Act.

(iii) All petroleum liquid storage tanks with a capacity of less than 10,000 gallons storing a petroleum liquid.

(iv) All pressurized vessels designed to operate in excess of 30 psig storing petroleum fuels that are not subject to any standard, limitation or other requirement under Section 111 or 112 [excluding 112(r)] of the Federal Act.

(v) Gasoline storage and handling equipment at loading facilities handling less than 20,000 gallons per day or at vehicle dispensing facilities that are not subject to any standard, limitation or other requirement under Section 111 or 112 [excluding 112(r)] of the Federal Act.

(vi) Portable drums, barrels, and totes provided that the volume of each container does not exceed 550 gallons.

(vii) All chemical storage tanks used to store a chemical with a true vapor pressure of less than or equal to 10 millimeters of mercury (0.19 psia).

#### (11) **Permit by Rule.**

##### (a) **General Requirements.**

1. Accepting a Permit by Rule does not exempt that facility from the obligation to apply for and obtain a Construction (SIP) Permit and/or an Operating (SIP) Permit unless specifically exempted in the permit by rule. Complying with the requirements of a Permit by Rule does not relieve a facility of having to comply with other requirements of the Rules.

2. The permitting authority may, after notice and opportunity for public participation, issue a Permit by Rule covering numerous similar sources. Any Permit by Rule shall identify criteria and standards by which sources may qualify for the Permit by Rule. Any facility wishing to operate under a Permit by Rule shall certify that in writing to the permitting authority, unless specifically exempted from this requirement in the specific Permit by Rule. To sources that qualify, the permitting authority shall grant the conditions and terms of the Permit by Rule by Certification letter. Notwithstanding the shield provisions of [40 CFR Part 70.6\(f\)](#), the source shall be subject to enforcement action for operation without a Part 70 Permit if the source is later determined not to qualify for the conditions and terms of the Permit by Rule.

3. It is the responsibility of any facility accepting a "Permit by Rule" to submit a report within 15 days following the last day of any month in which the facility exceeds the annual limit during the previous 12 months or monthly limit during the previous month. The report shall include the following:

- (i) Facility name, ID, and location.
- (ii) The "Permit by Rule" name, number and applicable limits.
- (iii) A summary of the records showing the exceedance along with an explanation.
- (iv) What the facility plans to do to prevent future occurrences.

**(b) Permit by Rule Standards.**

**1. Fuel-Burning Equipment Burning Natural Gas/LPG and/or Distillate Oil.**

(i) Notwithstanding any other provision of these Rules, this standard applies to facilities with external combustion fuel burning equipment rated at less than or equal to 100 million BTU per hour, with a potential to emit in excess of the Part 70 major source threshold, without existing permit conditions that are federally enforceable or enforceable as a practical matter limiting the source to below Part 70 major source thresholds. Facilities for which the only source of regulated air pollutants from external combustion fuel-burning equipment (excluding turbines) is from equipment permitted to burn natural gas/LPG and/or distillate oil exclusively shall be deemed to have a Permit by Rule if the conditions in paragraph (I) and (II) are met. Facilities that have potential emissions of greater than major source thresholds even after this rule is met or are not able to meet the conditions in paragraphs (I) and (II) shall obtain a Part 70 Permit. All facilities located in the counties of Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding, and Rockdale, which were granted a Permit by Rule by certification letter dated prior to January 1, 2004 and which seek to continue to operate under this Permit by Rule, shall submit a new written certification of compliance with revised paragraphs (I) and (II) by no later than October 31, 2004.

(I) Monitoring and Record keeping. A log of the monthly fuel use must be kept. The total fuel usage for the previous twelve consecutive months must be included in each month's log. Consumption of distillate oil shall be recorded in gallons, consumption of LPG shall be recorded in gallons and consumption of natural gas shall be recorded in cubic feet. This log shall be kept for five years from the date of last entry. The log shall be available for inspection or submittal to the Division.

(II) Fuel Usage. Facility fuel usage shall be limited to 900 million cubic feet of natural gas (or 7.0 million gallons of LPG) and 1.6 million gallons of distillate oil during any twelve consecutive months except in the counties of Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding, and Rockdale, where fuel usage shall be limited to 300 million cubic feet of natural gas (or 1.5 million gallons of LPG) and 500,000 gallons of distillate oil during any twelve consecutive months.

**2. Fuel-Burning Equipment Burning Natural Gas/LPG and/or Residual Oil.**

(i) Notwithstanding any other provision of these Rules, this standard applies to facilities with external combustion fuel burning equipment rated at less than or equal to 100 million BTU per hour, with a potential to emit in excess of the Part 70 major source threshold without existing permit conditions that are federally enforceable or enforceable as a practical matter limiting the source to below Part 70 major source thresholds. Facilities for which the only source of regulated air pollutants from external combustion fuel burning equipment is from equipment permitted to burn only natural gas/LPG and/or residual fuel oil exclusively shall be deemed to have a Permit by Rule if the conditions in paragraph (I) and (II) are met. Facilities that have potential emissions greater than major source thresholds even after this rule is met or are not able to meet the conditions in paragraphs (I) and (II) shall obtain a Part 70 Permit. All facilities located in the counties of Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding, and Rockdale, which were granted a Permit by Rule by certification letter dated prior to January 1, 2004 and which seek to continue to operate under this Permit by Rule, shall submit a new written certification of compliance with revised paragraphs (I) and (II) by no later than October 31, 2004.

(I) Monitoring and Recordkeeping. A log of the monthly fuel use must be kept. The total fuel usage for the previous twelve consecutive months must be included in each month's log. Consumption of residual fuel oil shall be recorded

in gallons, consumption of LPG shall be recorded in gallons and consumption of natural gas shall be recorded in cubic feet. This log shall be kept for five years past the date of last entry. The log shall be available for inspection or submittal to the Division.

(II) Fuel Usage. Annual facility fuel usage shall be limited to 1,000 million cubic feet of natural gas (or 7.5 million gallons of LPG) and 400,000 gallons residual fuel oil during any twelve consecutive months except in the counties of Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding, or Rockdale, where fuel usage shall be limited to 300 million cubic feet of natural gas (or 1.5 million gallons of LPG) and 200,000 gallons of residual fuel oil.

### 3. On-Site Power Generation.

(i) Notwithstanding any other provision of these Rules, this standard applies to facilities with a potential to emit in excess of the Part 70 major source threshold without existing permit conditions that are federally enforceable or enforceable as a practical matter limiting the source to below Part 70 major source thresholds. Facilities that operate internal combustion engines for purposes of generating emergency power, peaking power, and/or temporary on-site power and where such equipment burns natural gas/LPG, #1 fuel oil (kerosene/JP4 or JP5) and/or #2 fuel oil/diesel exclusively shall be deemed to have a Permit by Rule if the conditions in paragraph (I) and (II) are met. Facilities that have potential emissions of greater than major source thresholds even after this rule is met or are not able to meet the conditions in paragraphs (I) and (II) shall obtain a Part 70 Permit. All facilities located in the counties of Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding, and Rockdale, which were granted a Permit by Rule by certification letter dated prior to January 1, 2004 and which seek to continue to operate under this Permit by Rule, shall submit a new written certification of compliance with revised paragraphs (I) and (II) by no later than October 31, 2004.

(I) Monitoring and Record Keeping. A log of the monthly total horsepower-hours for the facility based on the number of hours of operation of each unit per month times the maximum horsepower rating of that unit must be included in each month's log. The total horsepower-hours for the previous twelve consecutive months must be included in each month's log. This log shall be kept for five years from the date of last entry. The log shall be available for inspection or submittal to the Division.

(II) Power Production Limits. A facility's power generation is limited to a total of no more than 6.7 million horsepower-hours during any twelve consecutive months except in the counties of Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding, and Rockdale counties, where the total is no more than 1.675 million horsepower-hours during any twelve consecutive months.

### 4. Concrete Mixing Plants.

(i) Notwithstanding any other provision of these Rules, this standard applies to facilities with a potential to emit in excess of the Part 70 major source threshold without existing permit conditions that are federally enforceable or enforceable as a practical matter limiting the source to below Part 70 major source thresholds. Concrete mixing plants shall be deemed to have a Permit by Rule if the conditions in paragraph (I) and (II) are met. Facilities that would otherwise have potential emissions of greater than major source thresholds even after this rule is met or are not able to meet the conditions in paragraphs (I) and (II) shall obtain a Part 70 Permit.

(I) Monitoring and Recordkeeping. A log of the monthly production must be kept. The total production for the previous twelve consecutive months must be included in each month's log. This log shall be kept for five years from the date of last entry. The log shall be available for inspection or submittal to the Division.

(II) Annual Production. Production on the plant site shall be limited to 600,000 cubic yards during any twelve consecutive months.

### 5. Hot Mix Asphalt Plants.

(i) Notwithstanding any other provision of these Rules, this standard applies to hot mix asphalt facilities with a potential to emit in excess of the Part 70 major source threshold without existing permit conditions that are federally



enforceable or enforceable as a practical matter limiting the source to below Part 70 major source thresholds. Hot mix asphalt plants shall be deemed to have a Permit by Rule if the conditions in paragraph (I) and (II) are met. Facilities that would otherwise have potential emissions of greater than major source thresholds or are not able to meet the conditions in paragraphs (I) and (II) shall obtain a Part 70 Permit. All facilities located in the counties of Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding, and Rockdale, which were granted a Permit by Rule by certification letter dated prior to January 1, 2004 and which seek to continue to operate under this Permit by Rule, shall submit a new written certification of compliance with revised paragraphs (I) and (II) by no later than October 31, 2004.

(I) Monitoring and Record Keeping.

I. New asphalt plants (which commenced construction or modification after June 11, 1973) permitted to burn natural gas/LPG and/or distillate oil only shall maintain a monthly log of production and hours of operation. The total production and hours of operation for the previous twelve consecutive months must be included in each month's log. These logs shall be kept for five years from the date of last entry and shall be available for inspection and/or submittal to the Division.

II. New and existing asphalt plants permitted to burn natural gas/LPG, distillate oil, and residual oil in any combination shall maintain a monthly log of production, hours of operation and monthly fuel use. The total production, hours of operation and fuel oil usage for the previous twelve consecutive months must be included in each month's log. Fuel oil certifications showing sulfur content equal to or less than 1.5% shall also be maintained. These logs and certifications shall be kept for five years from the date of last entry and shall be available for inspection and/or submittal to the Division.

(II) Annual Production.

I. New asphalt plants (which commenced construction or modification after June 11, 1973) permitted to burn natural gas/LPG and/or distillate oil only shall limit:

- A. Production to 400,000 tons during any twelve consecutive months; and
- B. Operations to 3000 hours during any twelve consecutive months.

II. New and existing asphalt plants permitted to burn natural gas/LPG, distillate oil, and residual oil in any combination shall limit:

- A. Production to 200,000 tons during any twelve consecutive months;
- B. Fuel sulfur content to less than or equal to 1.5%;
- C. Operation to 3000 hours during any twelve consecutive months; and
- D. Fuel oil usage to 678,000 gallons during any twelve consecutive months.

III. New asphalt plants (which commenced construction or modification after June 11, 1973) permitted to burn natural gas/LPG and/or distillate oil only, which are located in the counties of Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding and Rockdale shall limit:

- A. Production to 300,000 tons during any twelve consecutive months; and
- B. Operations to 3000 hours during any twelve consecutive months.

IV. New and existing asphalt plants permitted to burn natural gas/LPG, distillate oil, and residual oil in any combination, which are located in the counties of Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding and Rockdale shall limit:

- A. Production to 125,000 tons during any twelve consecutive months;
- B. Fuel sulfur content to less than or equal to 1.5%;
- C. Operation to 3000 hours during any twelve consecutive months; and
- D. Fuel oil usage to 250,000 gallons during any twelve consecutive months.

#### 6. Cotton Ginning Operations.

(i) Notwithstanding any other provision of these Rules, this standard applies to facilities with a potential to emit in excess of the Part 70 major source threshold without existing permit conditions that are federally enforceable or enforceable as a practical matter limiting the source to below Part 70 major source thresholds. Cotton ginning operations shall be deemed to have a Permit by Rule if the conditions in paragraph (I) and (II) are met. Facilities that have potential emissions greater than major source thresholds even after this rule is met or are not able to meet the conditions in paragraphs (I) and (II) shall obtain a Part 70 Permit.

(I) Monitoring and Record keeping. A log of the monthly production must be kept. The total production for the previous twelve consecutive months must be included in each month's log. This log shall be kept for five years from the date of last entry. The log shall be available for inspection or submittal to the Division.

(II) Annual Production. Production shall be limited to 120,000 standard bales of cotton during any twelve consecutive months.

#### 7. Coating and/or Gluing Operations.

(i) Notwithstanding any other provision of these Rules, this standard applies to facilities with a potential to emit in amounts equal to or exceeding the Part 70 and Part 63 major source thresholds without existing permit conditions that are federally enforceable or enforceable as a practical matter limiting the source to below Part 70 or Part 63 major source thresholds. This standard applies only to facilities:

(I) Where the actual VOC emissions from coating and/or gluing operations represent at least 90 percent of the plant wide actual VOC emissions; and

(II) Where the actual HAP emissions from coating and/or gluing operations represent at least 90 percent of the plant wide actual HAP emissions or where the actual HAP emissions from non-coating and non-gluing operations are less than 1.0 tons per year.

(ii) This standard establishes federally enforceable conditions limiting the potential to emit for VOC and HAPs. Coating and/or gluing operations shall be deemed to have a Permit by Rule if the conditions in one of the following paragraphs (I), (II), (III) or (IV) are met. Facilities that have potential emissions of greater than major source thresholds even after this rule is met or are not able to meet the conditions in paragraphs (I), (II), (III), or (IV) and the remainder of this subsection shall obtain a Part 70 Permit. In accordance with the General Requirements in subparagraph (11)(a)2., the owner or operator of a facility wishing to operate under this Permit-by-Rule must also declare which of the four options are going to be met.

(I) The owner or operator of the source shall consume less than 20,000 pounds of any VOC and/or HAP containing materials during any twelve consecutive months. A log of the monthly consumption of VOC and/or HAP containing material must be kept. The total consumption for the previous twelve consecutive months must be included in each month's log. Records for materials (including but not limited to coatings, thinners, and solvents) shall be recorded in pounds. These records shall be maintained and made readily available for inspection for a minimum of five years upon date of entry and shall be submitted to the Division upon request.

(II) The owner or operator of the facility shall use less than 250 total gallons each month, of coating, gluing, cleaning, and washoff materials at the facility. The owner or operator shall demonstrate compliance by maintaining records of the total gallons of coating, gluing, cleaning, and washoff materials used each month. These records shall

be maintained and made readily available for inspection for a minimum of five years upon date of entry and shall be submitted to the Division upon request.

(III) The owner or operator of the source shall use less than 3,000 total gallons per rolling 12-month period, of coating, gluing, cleaning, and washoff materials at the facility. A rolling 12-month period includes the previous 12 months of operation. The owner or operator of the facility shall demonstrate compliance by maintaining records of the total gallons of coating, gluing, cleaning, and washoff materials used each month and the total gallons used each rolling 12-month period. These records shall be maintained and made readily available for inspection for a minimum of five years upon date of entry and shall be submitted to the Division upon request.

(IV) The owner or operator of the facility shall use materials containing less than 5 tons of any one HAP per rolling 12-month period, less than 12.5 tons of any combination of HAPs per rolling 12-month period, less than 25 tons of VOC per rolling 12-month period for sources located in ozone non-attainment counties (Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding, and Rockdale counties), and less than 50 tons of VOC per rolling 12-month period for facilities not located in ozone non-attainment counties. The owner or operator shall demonstrate compliance by maintaining records that demonstrate that annual emissions do not exceed these levels, including monthly usage records for each finishing, gluing, cleaning, and washoff material used to include the VOC and individual HAP content of each material; certified product data sheets for these materials; summation of VOC and individual and total HAP usage on a monthly basis; and the total VOC and individual and total HAP usage each rolling 12-month period and any other records necessary to document emissions. These records shall be maintained and made readily available for inspection for a minimum of five years upon date of entry and shall be submitted to the Division upon request.

(iii) The owner or operator that chooses to comply with this Permit by Rule for Coating and/or Operations shall maintain all purchase orders and/or invoices of materials containing VOC's and HAP's for a minimum of five years. These purchase orders and/or invoices must be made available to the Division upon request for use in confirming the general accuracy of the records retained and reports submitted.

(iv) For the purpose of this paragraph, the following definitions apply:

(I) "Certified product data sheet (CPDS)" means documentation furnished by coating or adhesive suppliers or an outside laboratory that provides the Volatile Hazardous Air Pollutant (VHAP), as listed in Table 2 of 40 CFR Part 63, Subpart JJ, content of a finishing material, contact adhesive, or solvent, by percent weight, measured using Method 311 of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Procedures for Testing and Monitoring Sources of Air Pollutants (PTM), or an equivalent or alternative method [or formulation data if the coating meets the criteria specified in [40 CFR 63.805\(a\)](#)]; the solids content of a finishing material or contact adhesive by percent weight, determined using data from Method 24 of the Georgia PTM as referenced in this section, or an alternative or equivalent method [or formulation data if the coating meets the criteria specified in [40 CFR 63.805\(a\)](#)]; and the density, measured by Method 24 of the Georgia PTM as referenced in this section or an alternative or equivalent method. Therefore, the reportable VHAP content shall represent the maximum aggregate emissions potential of the finishing material, adhesive, or solvent in concentrations greater than or equal to 1.0 percent by weight or 0.1 percent for VHAP that are carcinogens, must be reported on the CPDS. The purpose of the CPDS is to assist the affected source in demonstrating compliance with the emission limitations presented in subparagraph (11)(b)7.(ii)(IV).

(Note: Because the optimum analytical conditions under Method 311 vary by coating, the coating or adhesive supplier may also choose to include on the CPDS the optimum analytical conditions for analysis of the coating, adhesive, or solvent using Method 311. Such information may include, but not be limited to, separation column, oven temperature, carrier gas, injection port temperature, extraction solvent, and internal standard.)

(II) "Coating" means a protective, decorative, or functional film applied in a thin layer to a surface. Such materials include, but are not limited to, paints, topcoats, varnishes, sealers, stains, washcoats, basecoats, enamels, inks, and temporary protective coatings. Aerosol spray paints used for touch-up and repair are not considered coatings under this section of the rule.

(III) "Gluing" means those operations in which adhesives are used to join components, for example, to apply a laminate to a wood substrate or foam to fabric.

#### 8. Printing Operations.

(i) Notwithstanding any other provision of these Rules, this standard applies to facilities with a potential to emit in excess of the Part 70 major source threshold without existing permit conditions that are federally enforceable or enforceable as a practical matter limiting the source to below Part 70 major source thresholds. Printing operations shall be deemed to have a Permit by Rule if the conditions in paragraph (I), and (II) are met. Facilities that have potential emissions of greater than major source thresholds even after this rule is met or are not able to meet the conditions in paragraphs (I) and (II) shall obtain a Part 70 Permit.

(I) Monitoring and Record keeping. A log of the monthly consumption of VOC and/or Hazardous Air Pollutant containing material must be kept. The total consumption for the previous twelve consecutive months must be included in each month's log. Records for materials (including but not limited to inks, thinners, and solvents) shall be recorded in pounds. This log shall be kept for five years from the date of last entry. The log shall be available for inspection or submittal to the Division.

(II) Annual consumption. The consumption of any VOC and/or Hazardous Air Pollutant emitting materials (including but not limited to inks, thinners, and solvents) by the facility shall be limited to 20,000 pounds during any twelve consecutive months.

#### 9. Non-Reactive Mixing Operations.

(i) Notwithstanding any other provision of these Rules, this standard applies to facilities with a potential to emit in excess of the Part 70 major source threshold without existing permit conditions that are federally enforceable or enforceable as a practical matter limiting the source to below Part 70 major source thresholds. Non-reactive mixing operations shall be deemed to have a Permit by Rule if the conditions in paragraphs (I) through (V) are met. Facilities that have potential emissions of greater than major source thresholds even after this rule is met or are not able to meet the conditions in this rule shall obtain a Part 70 Permit.

(I) Monitoring and Record keeping. A monthly log of materials mixed must be kept. The mixing total for the previous twelve consecutive months must be included in each month's log. Records for materials (including but not limited to coatings, thinners, and solvents) shall be recorded in pounds. This log shall be kept for five years from the date of last entry. The log shall be available for inspection or submittal to the Division.

(II) Annual mixing limit. Materials mixed shall be limited to 500 tons during any twelve consecutive months.

(III) Mixing/blending tanks shall be equipped with lids.

(IV) Tank lids must be closed at all times during operation except when charging raw materials, retrieving samples, or discharging finished product.

(V) Mixing tanks must be maintained at a temperature of less than 150°F.

#### 10. Fiberglass Molding and Forming Operations.

(i) Notwithstanding any other provision of these Rules, this standard applies to facilities with a potential to emit in excess of the Part 70 major source threshold without existing permit conditions that are federally enforceable or enforceable as a practical matter limiting the source to below Part 70 major source thresholds. Fiberglass molding operations shall be deemed to have a Permit by Rule if the conditions in paragraph (I) and (II) are met. Facilities that have potential emissions greater than major source thresholds even after this rule is met or are not able to meet the conditions in paragraphs (I) and (II) shall obtain a Part 70 Permit.

(I) Monitoring and Record keeping. A log of the combined monthly usage of polyester resin and gel coat must be kept. The previous twelve consecutive month material usage total must be included in each month's log. Records for

the combined weight of polyester resin and gel coat shall be recorded in pounds. This log shall be kept for five years from the date of last entry. The log shall be available for inspection or submittal to the Division.

(II) **Material Usage.** Annual facility material usage shall be limited to 89,000 pounds during any twelve consecutive months for any combination of hand and spray lay-up operations. Annual facility material usage shall be limited to 120,000 pounds during any twelve consecutive months for spray lay-up operations only. This material input must represent the combined weight of polyester resin and gel coat used during any twelve consecutive months.

#### 11. Peanut/Nut Shelling Operation.

(i) Notwithstanding any other provision of these Rules, this standard applies to facilities with a potential to emit in excess of the Part 70 major source threshold without existing permit conditions that are federally enforceable or enforceable as a practical matter limiting the source to below Part 70 major source threshold. Peanut/nut shelling facilities shall be deemed to have a Permit by Rule if the conditions in paragraph (I), (II) and (III) are met. Facilities that have potential emissions greater than major source thresholds even after this rule is met or are not able to meet the conditions in paragraph (I), (II) and (III) shall obtain a Part 70 Permit.

(I) **Monitoring and Recordkeeping.** A log of the monthly unshelled peanuts/nuts processed must be kept. The total amount of unshelled peanuts/nuts processed for the previous 12 consecutive months must be included in each month's log. This log shall be kept for five years from the date of last entry. The log shall be available for inspection or submittal to the Division.

(II) **Annual Process input:** Facility process input shall be limited to 130,000 tons of unshelled nuts during any twelve consecutive months.

(III) **Annual hours of operation** shall not exceed 5000 hours during any twelve consecutive months.

(ii) For the purposes of this standard, the term process, as it applies to peanut/nut shelling facilities, shall include all of the activities associated with the nut shelling process from nut drying, cleaning, shelling, to and including product and waste material handling at the facility.

#### (12) **Generic Permit.**

(a) **Under penalty** of law, the holder of any Air Quality General Generic Permit must adhere to the terms, limitations, and conditions of that permit and subsequent revisions of that permit.

(b) **The limitations**, controls, and requirements in federally enforceable operating permits are permanent, quantifiable, and otherwise enforceable as a practical matter.

(c) **Prior to the issuance** of any federally enforceable operating permit, EPA and the public will be notified and given a chance for comment on the draft permit.

#### (13) **Emission Reduction Credits.**

##### (a) **Applicability.**

This section provides for the creation, banking, transfer, and use of nitrogen oxides and VOC Emission Reduction Credits in Federally designated ozone non-attainment areas in Georgia and any areas designated by the Director as contributing to the ambient air level of ozone in Federally designated ozone non-attainment areas in Georgia. The following sources are eligible to create and bank nitrogen oxides and VOC Emission Reduction Credits:

1. [reserved]

2. Any stationary source located within the counties of Bartow, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Newton, Paulding, and Rockdale and which has the potential to emit nitrogen oxides or VOCs in amounts greater than 100 tons-per-year.

3. Electrical Generating Units located at any stationary source within the counties of Banks, Barrow, Butts, Carroll, Chattooga, Clarke, Dawson, Floyd, Gordon, Hall, Haralson, Heard, Jackson, Jasper, Jones, Lamar, Lumpkin, Madison, Meriwether, Monroe, Morgan, Oconee, Pickens, Pike, Polk, Putnam, Spalding, Troup, Upson, and Walton and which has the potential to emit nitrogen oxides in amounts greater than 100 tons-per-year.

**(b) Eligibility of Emission Reductions.**

1. In order to be approved by the Division as an Emission Reduction Credit, a reduction in emissions must be real, permanent, quantifiable, enforceable, and surplus and shall have occurred after December 31, 1996.

2. To be eligible for consideration as Emission Reduction Credits, emission reductions may be created by any of the following methods:

(i) Installation of control equipment;

(ii) A change in process inputs, formulations, products or product mix, or raw materials;

(iii) A reduction in actual emission rate;

(iv) A reduction in operating hours;

(v) Production curtailment;

(vi) Shutdown of emitting sources or facilities; or

(vii) Any other enforceable method as determined by the Division.

**(c) Quantification of Emission Reduction Credits.**

1. For purposes of calculating the amount of emission reduction that can be quantified as an Emission Reduction Credit, the following procedures must be followed:

(i) The source must calculate its average actual annual emissions prior to the emission reduction. Actual emissions prior to the reduction shall be calculated in tons per year. In calculating average actual annual emissions prior to the emission reduction, the source shall use data from the 24-month period immediately preceding the reduction in emissions. The Division may allow the use of a different time period upon determination that such period is more representative of normal source operation.

(ii) The Emission Reduction Credit generated by the emission reduction shall be calculated by subtracting the allowable annual emissions rate following the reduction from the average actual annual emissions prior to the reduction.

**(d) Discounting and Revocation of Emission Reduction Credits.**

1. Except as provided below, the Director shall not discount or otherwise reduce the value of Emission Reduction Credits banked under this section.

(i) [reserved]

(ii) Discounting Based on Time Banked.

Emission Reduction Credits banked under this section will not expire at any time. However, Emission Reduction Credits will be discounted at a rate of 10 percent of the original Emission Reduction Credit value per year beginning on the 11th anniversary of the date on which the reduction in emissions initially occurred, up to a maximum total discount of 50 percent of the original Emission Reduction Credit value on the 15th anniversary of the date on which

the reduction in emissions initially occurred. Annual discounting under this subsection (ii) shall not occur if the affected Emission Reduction Credits have already been discounted by 50% or more under the following subsection (iii) due to the promulgation of more stringent regulations affecting the source category that created the Emission Reduction Credits.

(iii) Discounting for More Stringent Regulations.

If any State or Federal statute, rule, or regulation decreases an allowable emission rate or otherwise requires a reduction in nitrogen oxides or VOC from a particular source category or categories, any banked nitrogen oxides or VOC Emission Reduction Credits created by that source category or categories shall be reduced to reflect the new more stringent allowable emission limit or required reduction.

(iv) Discounting or Revocation for Cause.

The Director may revoke, suspend, or reduce the value of Emission Reduction Credits for cause, including evidence of noncompliance with permit conditions imposed to make the emission reductions permanent and enforceable; failure to achieve in practice the emission reductions on which the Emission Reduction Credits are based; or misrepresentations made in the Emission Reduction Credit application or any other applications on which the Emission Reduction Credits are based, supporting data entered therein or attached thereto, or any subsequent submittal or supporting data.

2. The owner of a Certificate of Emissions Reduction Credit may submit an application to re-evaluate a Certificate of Emission Reduction Credit to determine whether the amount of credits specified in the Certificate of Emission Reduction Credit has been discounted or revoked in accordance with subparagraph 1., above. Such application shall be submitted on forms and contain information specified by the Division.

**(e) Creation and Banking of Emission Reduction Credits.**

1. Sources seeking to create and bank Emission Reduction Credits must submit an application on forms supplied by the Division and signed by the applicant. The application shall include, at a minimum, the following information:

- (i) The company name, contact person and phone number, and street address of the source seeking the Emission Reduction Credit;
- (ii) A description of the type of source, including SIC code, where the proposed emission reduction shall occur;
- (iii) A detailed description of the method or methods to be employed by the source to create the emission reduction;
- (iv) The date the emission reduction occurred or is to occur;
- (v) Quantification of the Emission Reduction Credit, as required under subsection (c);
- (vi) The proposed method for ensuring the reductions are permanent and enforceable, including any necessary application to amend the source's operating permit or, in the case of a shutdown of process equipment or an entire source, request for permit revocation;
- (vii) Whether any portion of the reduction in emissions to be used to create the Emission Reduction Credit has previously been used to avoid New Source Review through a "netting demonstration;" and
- (viii) Any other information that may be required to demonstrate that the reduction in emissions is real, permanent, quantifiable, enforceable, and surplus, as defined in subsection (b).

2. The Division will determine whether the application is complete and will notify the source seeking the Emission Reduction Credit of its determination. A Certificate of Emission Reduction Credit will be issued to the source upon a determination by the Director that the emission reduction meets the requirements of this section. Upon issuance of

the Certificate, the Division will simultaneously take any action required to ensure the reduction is permanent and enforceable, including issuance of a revised permit or revocation of a permit.

3. Certificates of Emission Reduction Credit shall be issued by the Director and shall contain the following information:

- (i) The amount of the credit, in tons per year;
- (ii) The pollutant reduced (nitrogen oxides or VOC);
- (iii) The date the reduction occurred;
- (iv) The street address and county of the source where the reduction occurred; and
- (v) The date of issuance of the Certificate.

4. The Division shall maintain an Emission Reduction Credit registry that constitutes the official record of all Certificates of Emission Reduction Credit issued and all withdrawals made. The registry shall be available for public review. For each certificate issued, the registry will indicate the amount of the Emission Reduction Credit, the pollutant reduced, the location of the facility generating the Emission Reduction Credit, and the facility contact person.

**(f) Use of Emission Reduction Credits.**

1. Emission Reduction Credits may be used in any manner authorized under this subsection (f).

2. Persons holding Emission Reduction Credits may withdraw the Emission Reduction Credits and may dispose of them in any manner not inconsistent with this Section.

3. An Emission Reduction Credit may be withdrawn only by the owner of record or by the Director and may be withdrawn in whole or in part. In the case of a partial withdrawal, the Division shall issue a revised certificate of Emission Reduction Credit to the owner of record reflecting the new amount of the credit and shall revoke the original Certificate.

4. Emission Reduction Credits may be used for the following purposes:

(i) As offsets required by Section 391-3-1-.03(8) for a major new source of nitrogen oxides or VOC in a federally designated ozone non-attainment area, or an area designated by the Director as an area contributing to the ambient concentration of ozone in a federally designated ozone non-attainment area;

(ii) As offsets required by Section 391-3-1-.03(8) for a major modification to an existing major source of nitrogen oxides or VOC in a federally designated ozone non-attainment area, or an area designated by the Director as an area contributing to the ambient concentration of ozone in a federally designated ozone non-attainment area;

(iii) As part of a netting demonstration under the following conditions:

(I) The source using the Emission Reduction Credits is the same source that created and banked the Emission Reduction Credits, and;

(II) The emission reduction represented by the Emission Reduction Credits occurred within the five-year period before construction commences on the modification; or

(iv) As internal offsets under Section 391-3-1-02(8)(c)(13)(iii) and (iv) of these Rules provided that the source using the Emission Reduction Credits is the same source that created and banked the Emission Reduction Credits.



5. Emission Reduction Credits can only be used to offset emissions of the same pollutant that was reduced by the source that created and banked the Emission Reduction Credit.

6. Emission reduction credits used as offsets as required by Section 391-3-1-.03(8) within a federally designated ozone non-attainment area shall have been created within that federally designated ozone non-attainment area. Emission reduction credits created within any area designated by the Director as contributing to the ambient air level of ozone in a federally designated ozone non-attainment area may not be used as offsets as required by Section 391-3-1-.03(8) in that federally designated non-attainment area.

**(g) Transfer of Certificates of Emission Reduction Credit.**

1. If the owner of a Certificate of Emission Reduction Credit transfers the Certificate to a new owner, the Division shall issue a Certificate of Emission Reduction Credit to the new owner and shall revoke the certificate held by the current owner of record.

2. If the owner of a Certificate of Emission Reduction Credit transfers part of the Emission Reduction Credits represented by the Certificate to a new owner, the Division shall issue a Certificate of Emission Reduction Credit to the new owner reflecting the transferred amount and shall issue a Certificate of Emission Reduction Credit to the current owner of record reflecting the amount of Emission Reduction Credit remaining after the transfer. The original Certificate of Emission Reduction credit shall be revoked.

**(h) Administrative Fees.**

1. Any Source or person seeking to create, certify, bank, use, transfer, or re-evaluate Emission Reduction Credits shall pay fees to the Division in accordance with the following schedule:

(i) \$6000 per application to create, certify and bank emission credits in accordance with subparagraph (e) of this paragraph.

(ii) \$3500 per application to use a banked emission credit in accordance with subparagraph (f)4. of this paragraph. If the Certificate of Emission Reduction Credit has either been transferred in accordance with subparagraph (g) of this paragraph or re-evaluated in accordance with subparagraph (d)2. of this paragraph, or both, within 12 months prior to submission of an application to use a banked emission credit, the administrative fee to use a banked emission credit shall be reduced by the amount administrative fee(s) paid to the Division for transfer and re-evaluation. The 12-month period shall be based on the date of issuance of the new Certificate of Emission Reduction Credit to the new owner (for a transfer) or the date of written notification of the owner of the results of the re-evaluation by the Division (for a re-evaluation).

(iii) \$3000 per application to transfer a Certificate of Emission Reductions Credit as per subparagraph (g) of this paragraph. If a re-evaluation of the Certificate of Emission Reduction Credit has been completed by the Division in accordance with subparagraph (d)2. of this paragraph within 12 months prior to submission of an application to transfer the Certificate of Emission Reduction Credit, the administrative fee to transfer the Certificate of Emission Reduction Credit shall be reduced by the amount administrative fee paid for re-evaluation. The 12-month period shall be based on the date of written notification of the owner of the results of the re-evaluation by the Division.

(iv) \$2500 per application to re-evaluate an Certificate of Emission Reduction Credit as per subparagraph (d)2. of this paragraph.

2. Payment of administrative fees required by this subsection shall be submitted along with an application to create, certify, bank, use, transfer, or re-evaluate Emission Reduction Credits.

**(i) Definitions.**

For the purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply:

1. "Electrical Generating Unit" means a fossil fuel fired stationary boiler, combustion turbine, or combined cycle system that serves a generator that produces electricity for sale.
2. "Enforceable" means enforceable by the Division. Methods for ensuring that Emission Reduction Credits are enforceable shall include, but not be limited to, conditions in air quality construction or operating permits issued by the Division.
3. "Netting Demonstration" means the act of calculating a "net emissions increase" under the preconstruction review requirements of Title I, Part D of the Federal Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder.
4. "Permanent" means assured for the life of the corresponding Emission Reduction Credit through an enforceable mechanism such as a permit condition or revocation.
5. "Quantifiable" means that the amount, rate and characteristics of the Emission Reduction Credit can be estimated through a reliable method and are approved by the Division.
6. "Real" means a reduction in actual emissions emitted into the air.
7. "Surplus" means not required by any local, state, or federal law, regulation, order, or requirement and in excess of reductions used by the Division in issuing any other permit or to demonstrate attainment of federal ambient air quality standards or reasonable further progress towards achieving attainment of federal ambient air quality standards. For the purpose of determining the amount of surplus emission reductions, any seasonal emission limitation or standard shall be assumed to apply throughout the year. Emission reductions which have previously been used to avoid New Source Review through a netting demonstration are not considered surplus.

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# **Department 391. RULES OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

## **Chapter 391-3. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

### **Subject 391-3-4. SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT**

#### **391-3-4-.01 Definitions**

- (1) "Active Life" means the period of operation beginning with the initial receipt of solid waste and ending at completion of closure activities.
- (2) "Active Portion" means that part of a solid waste handling facility or landfill unit that has received or is receiving wastes and that has not been closed.
- (3) "Aquifer" means a geological formation, group of formations, or portion of a formation capable of yielding significant quantities of ground water to wells or springs.
- (4) "Affected County" means, in addition to the county in which a facility is or is proposed to be located, each county contiguous to the host county and each county and municipality within a county that has a written agreement with the facility to dispose of solid waste.
- (5) "Asbestos-Containing Waste" means any solid waste containing more than 1 percent, by weight, of naturally occurring hydrated mineral silicates separable into commercially used fibers, specifically the asbestiform varieties of serpentine, chrysotile, cummingtonite-grunerite, amosite, riebeckite, crocidolite, anthophyllite, tremolite, and actinolite, using the method specified in Appendix A, Subpart F, 40 CFR Part 763, Section 1.
- (6) "Baling" means a volume reduction technique whereby solid waste is compressed into bales.
- (7) "Biomedical Waste" means any solid waste which contains pathological waste, biological waste, cultures, and stocks of infectious agents and associated biologicals, contaminated animal carcasses (body parts, their bedding, and other waste from such animals), chemotherapy waste, discarded medical equipment and parts, not including expendable supplies and materials, which have not been decontaminated, as further defined in Rule [391-3-4-.15](#).
- (8) "Boiler" means a device as defined in Chapter 391-3-11, the Rules for Hazardous Waste Management.
- (9) "Bulking Agent" means the non-reactive, solid material that is used to reduce the moisture content of waste via a physical process such that the waste no longer meets the definition of Liquid Waste as defined in these rules.
- (10) "CCR Landfill" means an area of land or an excavation that receives CCR and which is not a surface impoundment, an underground injection well, a salt dome formation, a salt bed formation, an underground or surface coal mine, or a cave. For purposes of this Chapter, a CCR landfill also includes sand and gravel pits and quarries that receive CCR, CCR piles, and any practice that does not meet the definition of a beneficial use of CCR. This definition includes both active and inactive landfills.
- (11) "CCR Surface Impoundment" means a natural topographic depression, man-made excavation, or diked area owned or operated by an electric utility or independent power producer, which is designed to hold an accumulation of CCR and liquids, and the unit treats, stores, or disposes of CCR. This definition includes both active and inactive surface impoundments, new and lateral expansions of surface impoundments, dewatered surface impoundments, and NPDES-CCR surface impoundments.

(12) "CCR Unit" means any CCR landfill, CCR surface impoundment, or the lateral expansion of such landfill or impoundment, or a combination of more than one of these units, based on the context of the paragraph(s) in which it is used. This term includes both new and existing units, unless otherwise specified.

(13) "Certificate" means a document issued by a college or university of the University System of Georgia or other organization approved by the Director, stating that the operator has met the requirements of the Board for the specified operator classification of the certification program.

(14) "Closure" means a procedure approved by the Division which provides for the cessation of waste receipt at a solid waste disposal site and for the securing of the site in preparation for post-closure.

(15) "Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR)" means fly ash, bottom ash, boiler slag, and flue gas desulfurization materials generated from burning coal for the purpose of generating electricity by electric utilities and independent power producers.

(16) "Collector" means the person or persons as defined herein who, under agreements, verbal or written, with or without compensation does the work of collecting and/or transporting solid wastes, from industries, offices, retail outlets, businesses, institutions, and/or similar locations, or from residential dwellings, provided however, that this definition shall not include an individual collecting and/or transporting waste from his own single family dwelling unit.

(17) "Commercial solid waste" means all types of solid waste generated by stores, offices, restaurants, warehouses, and other nonmanufacturing activities, excluding residential and industrial wastes.

(18) "Composting" means the controlled biological decomposition of organic matter into a stable, odor free humus.

(19) "Construction/Demolition Waste" means waste building materials and rubble resulting from construction, remodeling, repair, and demolition operations on pavements, houses, commercial buildings and other structures. Such waste include, but are not limited to asbestos containing waste, wood, bricks, metal, concrete, wall board, paper, cardboard, inert waste landfill material, and other non-putrescible wastes which have a low potential for groundwater contamination.

(20) "Construction/Demolition Waste Landfill" means a landfill unit that accepts construction/demolition waste. A Construction/Demolition Waste unit also may receive inert waste and yard trimmings and may be publicly or privately owned.

(21) "Contaminant which is likely to pose a danger to human health" means any constituent in Appendix I, II, III, or IV or other site specific constituents as specified by the Division in the Groundwater Monitoring or Corrective Action Plan that is found at levels statistically confirmed above a groundwater protection standard.

(22) "Detected" means statistically significant evidence of contamination has been determined to exist by using methods specified in Rule [391-3-4-.14](#).

(23) "Director" means the Director of Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources.

(24) "Disposal Facility" means any facility or location where the final disposition of solid waste occurs and includes, but is not limited to, landfilling and solid waste thermal treatment technology facilities.

(25) "Division" means the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources.

(26) "Generator" means any person in Georgia or in any other state who creates solid waste.

(27) "Garbage" means food waste including waste accumulations of animal or vegetable matter used or intended for use as food, or that attends the preparation, use, cooking, dealing in or storing of meat, fish, fowl, fruit or vegetables.

(28) "Groundwater" means water below the land surface in a zone of saturation.

(29) "Hazardous Waste" means any solid waste which has been defined as hazardous waste in regulations promulgated by the Board of Natural Resources, Chapter 391-3-11.

(30) "High Moisture Content Waste" means sludge, non-hazardous solidified liquids and bulking agents and/or solidification/stabilization agents with moisture content greater than 40%. The moisture content of non-hazardous household waste is excluded from this definition.

(31) "Household waste" means any solid waste (including garbage, trash, and sanitary waste in septic tanks) derived from households (including single and multiple residences, hotels and motels, bunkhouses, ranger stations, crew quarters, campgrounds, picnic grounds, and day-use recreation areas).

(32) "Host Local Government" means the host county or other local governmental jurisdiction within whose boundaries a municipal solid waste disposal facility is located.

(33) "Industrial Furnace" means a device as defined in Chapter 391-3-11, the Rules for Hazardous Waste Management.

(34) "Industrial Waste" means solid waste generated by manufacturing or industrial processes that is not a hazardous waste regulated under the Hazardous Waste Management Act and regulations promulgated by the Board of Natural Resources, Chapter 391-3-11. Such waste includes, but is not limited to, wastes resulting from the following manufacturing processes: Electric power generation; fertilizer/agricultural chemicals; food and related products/by-products; inorganic chemicals; iron and steel manufacturing; leather and leather products; nonferrous metals manufacturing/foundries; inorganic chemicals; plastics and resins manufacturing; pulp and paper industry; rubber and miscellaneous plastic products; stone, glass, clay, and concrete products; textile manufacturing; transportation equipment; and water treatment. This term does not include mining waste or oil or gas waste.

(35) "Inert Waste Landfill" means a disposal facility accepting only wastes that will not or are not likely to cause production of leachate of environmental concern. Such wastes are limited to earth and earth-like products, concrete, cured asphalt, rock, bricks, yard trimmings, stumps, limbs, and leaves. This definition excludes industrial and demolition waste not specifically listed above.

(36) "Lateral expansion" means a horizontal expansion of the waste boundaries of an existing MSWLF unit or landfill unit.

(37) "Leachate" means a liquid that has passed through or emerged from solid waste and contains soluble, suspended, or miscible materials removed from such wastes.

(38) "Landfill Unit" means an area of land of which or an excavation in which solid waste is placed for permanent disposal and which is not a land application unit, surface impoundment, injection well, or compost pile. Permanent disposal requires the placement of daily, intermediate, and/or final earth, synthetic, or a combination of earth and synthetic cover over the solid waste.

(39) "Leachate Collection System" means a system at a landfill for collection of the leachate which may percolate through the waste and into the soils surrounding the landfill.

(40) "Liner" means a continuous layer of natural or man-made materials beneath or on the sides of a disposal site or disposal site cell which restricts the downward or lateral escape of solid waste constituents, or leachate.

(41) "Liquid Waste" means any waste material that is determined to contain "free liquids" as defined by Method 9095 (Paint Filter Liquids Test), as described in "Test Methods for the Evaluation of Solid Wastes, Physical/Chemical Methods" (EPA Pub. No. SW-846).

(42) "Materials Recovery Facility" means a solid waste handling facility that provides for the extraction from solid waste of recoverable materials, materials suitable for use as a fuel or soil amendment, or any combination of such materials.

- (43) "Monofill" means a method of solid waste disposal that involves the landfilling of one waste type or wastes having very similar characteristics in a segregated trench or area which is physically separated from dissimilar or incompatible waste.
- (44) "Mulch" means a product produced by grinding, shredding or chipping of yard trimmings, land-clearing debris, untreated and unpainted wood, or any combination thereof, that has not undergone controlled aerobic decomposition to produce a stabilized organic product.
- (45) "Mulching" means the grinding, shredding or chipping of yard trimmings, land-clearing debris, untreated and unpainted wood, or any combination thereof, that has not undergone controlled aerobic decomposition to produce a stabilized organic product.
- (46) "Municipal Solid Waste" means any solid waste derived from households, including garbage, trash, and sanitary waste in septic tanks and means solid waste from single-family and multifamily residences, hotels and motels, bunkhouses, campgrounds, picnic grounds, and day use recreation areas. The term includes yard trimmings and commercial solid waste, but does not include solid waste from mining, agricultural, or silvicultural operations or industrial processes or operations.
- (47) "Municipal Solid Waste Landfill (MSWLF) Unit" means a discrete area of land or an excavation that receives household waste, and that is not a land application unit, surface impoundment, injection well, or waste pile, as those terms are defined under [40 CFR Part 257.2](#). A MSWLF unit also may receive other types of solid waste, such as commercial solid waste, nonhazardous sludge, small quantity generator waste and industrial solid waste. Such a landfill may be publicly or privately owned.
- (48) "Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Facility" means any facility or location where the final deposition of any amount of municipal solid waste occurs, whether or not mixed with or including commercial or industrial solid waste, and includes, but is not limited to, municipal solid waste landfills and solid waste thermal treatment technology facilities.
- (49) "Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Facility Operator" means the operator certified in accordance with Rule [391-3-4-.18](#) and stationed on the site who is in responsible charge of and has direct supervision of the daily field operations of a municipal solid waste disposal facility to ensure that the facility operates in compliance with the permit.
- (50) "Municipal Solid Waste Landfill" means a disposal facility where any amount of municipal solid waste, whether or not mixed with or including commercial waste, industrial waste, nonhazardous sludges, or small quantity generator hazardous wastes, is disposed of by means of placing an approved cover thereon.
- (51) "Open Burning" means the combustion of solid waste without:
- (a) Control of combustion air to maintain adequate temperature for efficient combustion;
  - (b) Containment of the combustion reaction in an enclosed device to provide sufficient residence time and mixing for complete combustion; and
  - (c) Control of the emission of the combustion products.
- (52) "Open Dump" means a disposal facility at which solid waste from one or more sources is left to decompose, burn or to otherwise create a threat to human health or the environment.
- (53) "Operating Records" means written records including, but not limited to, permit applications, monitoring reports, inspection reports, and other demonstrations of compliance with this Chapter, which records are kept on file at the facility or at an alternative location as approved by the Division.
- (54) "Operator" means the person(s) responsible for the overall operation of a facility or part of a facility.



(55) "Owner" means the person(s) who owns a facility or part of a facility.

(56) "Person" means the State of Georgia or any other state or any agency or institution thereof, and any municipality, county, political subdivision, public or private corporation, solid waste authority, special district empowered to engage in solid waste management activities, individual, partnership, association or other entity in Georgia or any other state. This term also includes any officer or governing or managing body of any municipality, political subdivision, solid waste authority, special district empowered to engage in solid waste activities, or public or private corporation in Georgia or any other state. This term also includes employees, departments, and agencies of the federal government.

(57) "Post-closure" means a procedure approved by the Division to provide for long- term financial assurance, monitoring and maintenance of a solid waste disposal facility to protect human health and the environment.

(58) "Private Industry Solid Waste Disposal Facility" means a disposal facility which is operated exclusively by and for a private solid waste generator for the purpose of accepting solid waste generated exclusively by said private solid waste generator.

(59) "Processing Operation" means any method, system or other treatment designed to change the physical form or chemical content of solid waste and includes all aspects of its management (administration, personnel, land, equipment, buildings and other elements).

(60) "Putrescible Wastes" means wastes that are capable of being quickly decomposed by microorganisms. Examples of putrescible wastes include but are not necessarily limited to kitchen wastes, animal manure, offal, hatchery and poultry processing plant wastes, dead animals, garbage and wastes which are contaminated by such wastes.

(61) "Qualified Ground water Scientist" means a professional engineer or geologist registered to practice in Georgia who has received a baccalaureate or post-graduate degree in the natural sciences or engineering and has sufficient training and experience in groundwater hydrology and related fields that enable that individual to make sound professional judgments regarding groundwater monitoring, contaminant fate and transport, and corrective action.

(62) "Run-off" means any rainwater, leachate, or other liquid that drains over land from any part of a facility.

(63) "Run-on" means any rainwater, leachate, or other liquid that drains over land onto any part of a facility.

(64) "Recovered Materials" means those materials which have known use, reuse, or recycling potential; can be feasibly used, reused or recycled; and have been diverted or removed from the solid waste stream for sale, use, reuse, or recycling, whether or not requiring subsequent separation and processing.

(65) "Recovered Materials Processing Facility" means a facility engaged solely in the storage, processing, recycling, and resale or reuse of recovered materials. Such facility shall not be considered a solid waste handling facility; provided, however, any solid waste generated by such facility shall be subject to all applicable laws and regulations relating to such solid waste.

(66) "Recycling" means any process by which materials which would otherwise become solid waste are collected, separated, or processed and reused or returned to use in the form of raw materials, intermediates, or products which can be used as a substitute for products not derived by such processes.

(67) "Regional Landfill or Regional Solid Waste Disposal Facility" means a facility owned by a county, municipality, or special district empowered to engage in solid waste management activities, or any combination thereof, which serves two or more any combination of counties, municipalities, or special solid waste districts.

(68) "Release" means the discharge, deposit, injection, dumping, spilling, emitting, releasing, leaking, or placing of any substance into or on any land or water of the state.

(69) "Relevant Point of Compliance" is a vertical surface located at the hydraulically downgradient limit of the waste management unit boundary that extends down into the uppermost aquifer underlying the facility. This point will be specified by the Director and shall be no more than 150 meters from the waste management unit boundary and shall be located on land owned by the owner of the landfill unit. The downgradient monitoring system must be installed at this point, and monitoring conducted to ensure that the concentration values listed in Table 1 of Rule [391-3-4-.07](#) will not be exceeded in the uppermost aquifer.

(70) "Saturated Zone" means that part of the earth's crust in which all voids are filled with water.

(71) "Scavenge" means the unpermitted removal of solids waste from a solid waste handling facility.

(72) "Shredding" means the process by which solid waste is cut or torn into smaller pieces for final disposal or further processing.

(73) "Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas" means any area as designated on Hydrologic Atlas 18 Most Significant Ground-Water Recharge Areas of Georgia, 1989, as published by the Georgia Geologic Survey, Environmental Protection Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, unless an applicant for a solid waste handling permit or other interested party can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Director that an area designated on Hydrologic Atlas 18 is or is not, in fact, a significant groundwater recharge area.

(74) "Site" means the entire property a permitted solid waste handling facility is located within and includes all activities within that property.

(75) "Sludge" means any solid, semi-solid, or liquid waste generated from a municipal, commercial, or industrial wastewater treatment plant, water supply treatment plant, or air pollution control facility exclusive of the treated effluent from a wastewater treatment plant.

(76) "Solid Waste" means any garbage or refuse; sludge from a wastewater treatment plant, water supply treatment plant, or air pollution control facility; and other discarded material including solid, liquid, semisolid, or contained gaseous material resulting from industrial, commercial, mining, and agricultural operations and from community activities, but does not include recovered materials; post-use plastics and nonrecycled feedstock that are subsequently processed using a pyrolysis or gasification to fuels and chemicals process; solid or dissolved materials in domestic sewage; solid or dissolved materials in irrigation return flows or industrial discharges that are point sources subject to permit under [33 U.S.C. Section 1342](#); or source, special nuclear, or by-product material as defined by the federal Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (68 Stat. 923).

(77) "Solid Waste Handling" means the storage, collection, transportation, treatment, utilization, processing, or disposal of solid waste, or any combination of such activities but does not include recovered materials processing or pyrolysis or gasification to fuels and chemicals processes, or the holding of post-use plastics or nonrecycled feedstock at a pyrolysis facility or gasification to fuels and chemicals facility prior to processing at the facility where those materials are being held to ensure production is not interrupted.

(78) "Solid Waste Handling Facility" means any facility, the primary purpose of which is the storage, collection, transportation, treatment, utilization, processing, or disposal, or any combination thereof, of solid waste but does not include recovered materials processing facilities or pyrolysis or gasification to fuels and chemicals facilities.

(79) "Solid Waste Handling Permit" means written authorization granted to a person by the Director to engage in solid waste handling.

(80) "Solid Waste Management Act" or the "Act", wherever referred to in these Rules, means the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, O.C.G.A. [12-8-20](#), *et seq.*

(81) "Solid Waste Thermal Treatment Technology" means any solid waste handling facility, the purpose of which is to reduce the amount of solid waste to be disposed of through a process of combustion, with or without the process of waste to energy.

(82) "Solidification" means the process of:

(a) mixing non-hazardous liquid wastes with bulking agents in order to produce a bulked waste with a low moisture content, or

(b) adding a solidification/stabilization (S/S) agent to bind the liquid waste into a solid form.

(83) "Solidification/stabilization (S/S) agents" means binders and/or supplemental additives that chemically react with the liquid waste, resulting in a solid material with structural integrity where the liquid waste is bound and cannot be separated from the solid material.

(84) "Tire" means a continuous solid or pneumatic rubber covering designed for encircling the wheel of a motor vehicle and which is neither attached to the motor vehicle nor a part of the motor vehicle as original equipment.

(85) "Transfer Station" means a facility used to transfer solid waste from one transportation vehicle to another for transportation to a disposal facility or processing operation.

(86) "Uppermost Aquifer" means the geologic formation nearest the natural ground surface that is an aquifer, as well as lower aquifers that are hydraulically interconnected with this aquifer within the solid waste handling facility's property boundary.

(87) "Vertical Expansion" means the expansion of landfill beyond the approved maximum final elevations and within the approved waste management boundaries of the existing permit.

(88) "Waste Management Unit Boundary" means a vertical surface located at the hydraulically downgradient limit of the unit. This vertical surface extends down into the uppermost aquifer.

(89) "Waste-to Energy Facility" means a solid waste handling facility that provides for the extraction and utilization of energy from municipal solid waste through a process of combustion.

(90) "Yard Trimmings" means leaves, brush, grass, clippings, shrub and tree prunings, discarded Christmas trees, nursery and greenhouse vegetative residuals, and vegetative matter resulting from landscaping development and maintenance other than mining, agricultural, and silvacultural operations.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-3-4-.01

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-8-20](#) et seq., as amended.

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Definitions" was filed as 391-1-.01 on November 21, 1972; effective December 12, 1972, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** Rule renumbered as 391-3-4-.01. Filed September 6, 1973; effective September 26, 1973.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of same title adopted. Filed September 19, 1974; effective October 9, 1974.

**Amended:** F. Jun. 9, 1989; eff. Jun. 29, 1989.

**Amended:** F. Sept. 4, 1991; eff. Sept. 24, 1991.

**Amended:** F. Jun. 7, 1993; eff. Jun. 27, 1993.

**Amended:** F. Oct. 7, 1993; eff. Oct. 27, 1993.

**Amended:** F. Jun. 25, 2014; eff. Jul. 15, 2014.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 2, 2016; eff. Nov. 22, 2016.

**Amended:** F. Mar. 8, 2018; eff. Mar. 28, 2018.

**Amended:** F. June 10, 2021; eff. June 30, 2021.

### **391-3-4-.02 Solid Waste Handling Permits**

(1) Solid Waste Handling Permits Required. No person shall engage in solid waste handling or construct or operate a solid waste handling facility, except those individuals exempted from the provisions of the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, under the provisions of O.C.G.A. [12-8-30.10](#) or O.C.G.A. [12-8-40](#) or those individuals who have a permit-by-Rule under Rule [391-3-4-.06](#), without first obtaining a permit from the Director authorizing such activity.

(a) Applicability. All new and existing solid waste handling permits.

(b) Application Completeness. The Director may issue permits for solid waste handling provided the application is judged complete and meets the requirements of the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act and these Rules. Solid Waste Handling Permits shall be required for, but are not limited to, persons engaged in the collection, transportation, treatment, utilization, storage, processing, or disposal of solid wastes, or any combination thereof, except as exempted by O.C.G.A. [12-8-30.10](#) or O.C.G.A. [12-8-40](#) and these Rules and shall be required for the construction or operation of all solid waste handling facilities, except as exempted by O.C.G.A. [12-8-30.10](#) or O.C.G.A. [12-8-40](#) and these Rules.

(c) Permit Review and Schedule. As of July 1, 2018, all new permits shall be reviewed every five years. All permits issued prior to July 1, 2018 will be reviewed within five years and will then be placed on a corresponding five year review schedule.

(d) Permit Review. Each permit for a solid waste handling facility will be reviewed by the Division every five years and shall be modified to assure that the facility continues to comply with the currently applicable requirements of these Rules. The permit review will require that the permittee submit and revise Design and Operational Plans and other supporting documents, as necessary, to include any changes to reflect the facility's current construction and operation. Permit reviews shall be filed with the Division as either a minor modification or a major modification.

1. In order for permits to remain in effect, applications for permit review shall be filed at least six (6) months, but not more than eighteen (18) months prior to the date of scheduled permit review.

2. Existing solid waste handling permits shall remain in effect during the review period.

3. If a timely and complete review package has not been submitted, the solid waste handling facility's right to operate ceases until a complete application has been submitted.

(2) Modification or Revocation of Permits for Cause: the Director may modify or revoke any permit issued pursuant to O.C.G.A. [12-8-24](#) if the holder of the permit found to be in violation of any of the permit conditions; or if the holder of the permit fails to perform such activity in accordance with the approved plan; or if such activity creates a threat to human health or the environment. In the event of modification or revocation of a permit, the Director shall serve written notice of such action on the permit holder and shall set forth in such notice the reason for such action.

(3) Permit Modifications at the Request of the Permittee: all modifications of existing solid waste handling permits shall be classified as follows:

(a) Major Modifications include those changes which substantially alter the design of the facility, management practices, the types of wastes being handled, or the method of waste handling, and due to the nature of the changes, would likely have an impact on the ability of the facility to adequately protect human health and the environment. Major modifications therefore require closer review and public input than minor modifications. Major modifications shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. A modification which involves an expansion of an existing landfill's capacity.
2. A modification which involves a lateral expansion of a CCR surface impoundment.
3. A modification which adds a new solid waste handling process. This shall include but not be limited to the addition of an air curtain destructor, a materials recovery facility, a baling operation, a shredding operation, a processing operation, a municipal solid waste or sewage sludge composting operation, or a liquid solidification operation.
4. A modification which involves the change of a site suitability requirement which could have impacted the original siting of the facility.
5. Any other modification which the Director, in the exercise of his discretion, determines to meet the criteria set forth in Section (3)(a) of this Rule.

(b) Minor modifications include changes that do not substantially alter the permit conditions, that do not reduce the capacity of the facility to protect human health or the environment, or that enable a permittee to respond in a timely manner to common variations in the type and quantities of wastes managed, technological advancements, or changes necessary to comply with new Rules where these changes can be implemented without substantially changing design specifications or management practices in the permit. Minor modifications shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Changing the name of a facility.
2. A modification which involves a change in administrative and operational information and maintenance of operational records.
3. A modification which involves a change in the sequence of operation.
4. A modification which involves the relocation of access roads.
5. A modification which adds or deletes on-site structures.
6. A modification which involves the addition of or a change to a groundwater or surface water monitoring system.
7. A modification which involves the addition of or a change to a landfill gas monitoring system.
8. A modification which involves the addition or deletion of a permit-by-Rule facility.
9. A modification which involves the deletion of any solid waste handling facility.
10. A modification which involves the deletion of permitted capacity or acreage.
11. A modification which involves the addition of or a change to an erosion and sedimentation control system.
12. A modification which involves the addition of or a change to a closure or post- closure plan.
13. A modification which involves the addition of or a change to a method of leachate handling.
14. A modification which involves the addition of or a change to a quality assurance plan.
15. A modification which involves the change of any compliance schedule which is part of the permit.
16. A modification which involves the addition of a corrective action plan.

17. A modification which involves a change in ownership, or in the case of a corporation of over five (5) percent of the stock in a corporation holding a permit, but does not involve the transfer of the permit.

18. A modification which involves the addition of acreage for the purpose of installing monitoring systems or installing structures for mitigating environmental impacts, where the original permitted acreage provides insufficient area to complete required improvements. This modification request must be accompanied by a hydrogeological assessment as specified in Rule [391-3-4-.05\(1\)\(i\)](#).

19. A modification which involves the addition of or change in a soil or synthetic liner and leachate collection system to a waste unit holding a valid solid waste handling permit, if it does not require other significant site redesign.

20. A modification which involves the removal or recovery of CCR from a CCR unit for the purpose of beneficial use.

(c) All modifications of solid waste handling permits which are major modifications shall be subject to the following requirements:

1. Submission of a completed application for a permit modification.

2. Submission of supporting documents which accompany the application for a permit modification which describe the exact change to be made to the permit conditions and supporting documents referenced by the permit and which explain why the change is needed.

3. Submission of a revised design for the requested change.

4. Submission of written verification by the applicant, as required by subparagraph (1)(a) of Rule [391-3-4-.05](#), that the facility, as proposed to be modified, conforms to all local zoning/land use ordinances, if any.

5. Except for Private Industry Solid Waste Disposal Facilities, after July 1, 1992, submission of written verification by the applicant that the facility, as proposed to be modified, is consistent with the local or regional solid waste management plans and that the host jurisdiction and the jurisdictions generating solid waste destined to the facility can demonstrate that they are actively involved in and have a strategy for meeting the State-wide goal of waste reduction by July 1, 1996. The verification shall consist of letters from the host jurisdiction and generating jurisdictions verifying consistency with the approved local solid waste plan.

6. Except for Private Industry Solid Waste Disposal Facilities, submission of written verification that a public hearing was held by the governing authority of the county or municipality in which the solid waste facility requesting the modification is located, not less than two weeks prior to granting approval of the modification. Submission of written verification that notice of such hearing was posted at the site of such facility and advertised in a newspaper of general circulation serving the county or counties in which the facility is located at least thirty (30) days prior to such hearing. A typed transcript of the hearing must be provided to the Division.

7. Any application for a solid waste disposal facility vertical expansion shall meet the criteria as established in O.C.G.A. [12-8-24\(e\)\(3\)](#). Any operation of a vertical expansion shall be in accordance with conditions set forth in the modified permit. Conditions to be included in any such modified permit shall, at a minimum, include the following:

(i) A minimum 200 foot buffer shall be provided between the property line and the waste disposal boundary established by the vertical expansion.

(ii) Site survey control shall be provided to ensure compliance with the approved permit modification.

(iii) Erosion and sedimentation control devices shall be installed, rehabilitated, and maintained as appropriate to control all surface runoff and sediments from disturbed areas.

(iv) All areas exposed for more than three (3) months shall be vegetated.

(v) Closure plans, post-closure plan, and appropriate financial responsibility shall be maintained and updated as provided for in the approved permit modification.

(vi) All other conditions of the existing permit not in conflict with conditions (i) through (v) above.

8. With the exception of major modifications granted under subparagraph (c)7. of this Rule, all major modifications shall meet the siting and design standards applicable to new permit applications in effect on the date the modification is approved.

(d) All modifications of solid waste handling permits which are minor modifications shall be subject to the following requirements:

1. Submission of a written request by the permit holder requests a minor modification.

2. Submission of supporting documents which accompany the written modification request which describe the exact change to be made to the permit conditions and supporting documents referenced by the permit and which explain why the change is needed.

3. If applicable, submission of a revised design for the requested change.

4. For a modification involving a change in ownership covered in subparagraph (4)(b)17. above, documentation must be provided to insure compliance with subparagraph (7)(a) below.

(4) Transfer of Permits: permits are not transferable from one site or facility to another. Permits are transferable from one person to another provided a new permit application is completed by the proposed permittee, and the proposed permittee agrees to abide by all the permit conditions or outstanding orders in effect at the time of the requested transfer. Prior to the transfer of the permit, the new permittee must demonstrate compliance with Rule [391-3-4-.13](#). Until such time as this is demonstrated, the original permittee shall be fully responsible for financial responsibility for the facility. Unless notified otherwise by the Director, within 45 days of receipt by the Division of a properly completed request for transfer of the permit, the permit transfer shall stand approved.

(5) Applications for permits and major permit modifications under O.C.G.A. [12-8-24](#) shall be on forms as may be prescribed and furnished from time to time by the Division and shall be accompanied by all pertinent information as the Division may require.

(6) Material submitted shall be complete and accurate.

(7) Application for a permit or for the transfer of a permit shall contain, but shall not be limited, to the following:

(a) A sworn statement that the applicant and owner or operator, if different than applicant, for a permit or, in the case of a corporation, partnership, or association, an officer, Director, manager, or shareholder of five percent or more of stock or financial interest in said corporation, partnership, or association:

1. Has not intentionally misrepresented or concealed any material fact in the application submitted to the Director;

2. Is not attempting to obtain the permit by misrepresentation or concealment;

3. Has not been finally convicted in the State of Georgia or any federal court of any felony involving moral turpitude within three years immediately preceding the application for a permit;

4. Has not been convicted of any violations of any environmental laws punishable as a felony in any state or federal court within five years preceding the application for a permit;

5. Has not knowingly, willfully, and consistently violated the prohibitions specified in O.C.G.A. [12-8-30.7](#); and

6. Has not been adjudicated in contempt of any court order enforcing any federal environmental laws or any environmental laws of the State of Georgia within five years preceding the application for a permit.

(b) For a permit application, a statement that the applicant either owns the property on which the facility is to be located or had the permission of the owner to use the property for solid waste handling.

(c) For a permit application, in the case of a regional landfill or a landfill serving more than one county, a list of the areas to be served.

(d) For a permit application, written verification of zoning compliance as required by Rule [391-3-4-.05](#) paragraph (1)(a).

(e) For a permit application, a site assessment as required by Rule [391-3-4-.05](#), except CCR units which must meet criteria in [391-3-4-.10](#).

(8) Applications for permits will be reviewed together with such other information as may be necessary to ascertain the effect of such solid waste handling upon air, water, and land resources and human health. Conditions under which the handling will be permitted will be specified in the permit issued.

(9) Except for Private Industry Solid Waste Disposal Facilities, each applicant for a permit shall provide verification that the facility is consistent with the local or regional solid waste management plans. The verification shall consist of letters from the host jurisdiction and generating jurisdictions verifying consistency with the approved local solid waste plans.

(10) Changes to Permit Status. The Director may approve a request to modify an existing solid waste handling permit to reflect the change of a facility's operational status. Such changes can include operating, closure, and post-closure.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-3-4-.02

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-8-20](#) et seq., as amended.

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "General" was filed as [391-1-1-.02](#) on November 21, 1972; effective December 12, 1972, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** Rule renumbered as 391-3-4-.02. Filed September 6, 1973; effective September 26, 1973.

**Amended:** Rule repealed a new Rule entitled "Solid Waste Handling Permit" adopted. Filed September 19, 1974; effective October 9, 1974.

**Amended:** F. Jun. 9, 1989; eff. Jun. 29, 1989.

**Amended:** F. Sept. 4, 1991; effective September 24, 1991.

**Amended:** F. Jun. 7, 1993 eff. Jun. 27, 1993.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 2, 2016; eff. Nov. 22, 2016.

**Amended:** F. Mar. 8, 2018; eff. Mar. 28, 2018.

**Amended:** F. June 10, 2021; eff. June 30, 2021.

### **391-3-4-.03 Public Participation**

(1) Any city, county, group of counties, or authority beginning a process to select a site for a municipal solid waste disposal facility shall first call a public meeting as described herein.



(a) Notice such meeting shall be published at least once per week for two weeks immediately preceding the public meeting in a newspaper of general circulation serving such municipality or county.

(b) Where such proposed facility will serve a regional solid waste management authority established pursuant to O.C.G.A. [12-8-53](#), the notice procedure outlined in subparagraph (a) above shall be followed in each jurisdiction participating in such authority.

(c) The purpose of the public meeting shall be to discuss the waste management needs of the local government or region and to describe the siting process to be followed.

(2) The governing authority of any county or municipality taking action resulting in a municipal solid waste disposal facility siting decision shall notify the public as follows:

(a) Cause to be published in a newspaper of general circulation serving such city or county at least once per week for two weeks immediately preceding the date of such meeting, notice of the meeting at which the siting decision is to be made.

(b) Such notices shall state the time, place, and purpose of the meeting.

(c) The meeting shall be conducted by the governing authority taking the action.

(3) Upon submission of an application to the Division for any municipal solid waste disposal facility for which a permit (other than a permit-by-Rule) is required, the applicant, within fifteen (15) days of the submission of said application, shall take the following actions:

(a) Publish public notice of the application in a newspaper of general circulation serving the host county if the proposed facility or expanded facility is to serve no more than one county;

(b) Publish public notice of the application in a newspaper of general circulation serving each affected if the proposed facility or expanded facility is to serve more than one county;

(c) Provide written notice of the permit application to the governing body of each affected county in subparagraph (a) or (b) above; to the governing body of each local government within subparagraph (a) or (b) above; and to the regional development center;

(d) Request that the public notice outlined herein to be displayed prominently in the courthouse of each county notified in (c) above.

(e) Upon notification by the Division that a proposed facility is suitable for the intended purpose, the host local government shall initiate a local notification and negotiation process as required in O.C.G.A. [12-8-32](#).

(4) The governing authority of the county or municipality will hold a public hearing not less than two weeks prior to the issuance of any permit, except for a private industry disposal facility, and notice of such hearing shall be posted at the proposed site and advertised in a newspaper of general circulation serving the county or counties in which the proposed activity will be conducted, at least thirty (30) days prior to such hearing. A typed copy of the hearing transcript shall be submitted to the Division.

(5) Whenever the Director issues, denies, revokes, suspends, or transfers, a permit or approves a major modification of a permit for a facility, he shall notify the chief elected official of the host local government in which the facility is located or is proposed to be located.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-3-4-.03

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-8-20](#) et seq., as amended.

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Solid Waste Plans" was filed as [391-1-1-.03](#) on November 21, 1972; effective December 12, 1972, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** Rule renumbered as 391-3-4-.03. Filed September 6, 1973; effective September 26, 1973.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Application for Permit" adopted. Filed September 19, 1974; effective October 9, 1974.

**Amended:** F. Jun. 9, 1989; eff. Jun. 29, 1989.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Public Participation" adopted. F. Sept. 4, 1991.

**Amended:** F. Jun. 7, 1993; eff. Jun. 27, 1993.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 2, 2016; eff. Nov. 22, 2016.

**Amended:** F. Mar. 8, 2018; eff. Mar. 28, 2018.

**Amended:** F. June 10, 2021; eff. June 30, 2021.

### **391-3-4-.04 General. Amended**

(1) No person shall engage in solid waste handling in a manner which will be conducive to insect and rodent infestation or the harboring and feeding of wild dogs or other animals; impair the air quality; impair the quality of the ground or surface waters; impair the quality of the environment; or likely create other hazards to the public health, safety, or well-being as may be determined by the Director.

(2) Provisions of these Rules apply to all persons presently engaged in solid waste handling as well as all persons proposing to engage in solid waste handling.

(3) **Exemptions:** provisions of these Rules shall not apply to any individual disposing of solid wastes originating from his own residence onto land or facilities owned by him when disposal of such wastes does not thereby adversely affect the public health. These Rules shall not apply to any individual, corporation, partnership, or cooperative disposing of livestock feeding facility waste from facilities with a total capacity of up to 1,000 cattle or 5,000 swine. Provided that if such individual, corporation, partnership, or cooperative shall provide an approved waste disposal system which is capable of properly disposing of the run-off from a "ten year storm" such individual, corporation, partnership or cooperative shall be further exempt regardless of total per head capacity. Nothing in these Rules shall limit the right of any person to use poultry or other animal manure for fertilizer.

(4) Prohibited Acts:

(a) Burning: no solid waste may be burned at a solid waste handling facility, except by thermal treatment technology facility approved by the Division.

(b) Scavenging: no person owning or operating a solid waste handling facility shall cause, suffer, allow or permit scavenging at such site.

(c) Open Dump: no solid waste may be disposed of by any person in an open dump, nor may any person cause, suffer, allow or permit open dumping on his property.

(d) Asphalt Shingles: no roofing shingles which contain asphalt may be disposed of except in construction and demolition or municipal solid waste landfills.

(5) The owner or occupant of any premises, office, business establishment, institution, industry, or similar facilities shall be responsible for the collection and transportation of all solid waste accumulated at the premises, office, business establishment, institution, or similar facility to a solid waste handling facility operating in compliance with

these Rules unless arrangements have been made for such service with a collector operating in compliance with these Rules.

(6) Prohibited Wastes Disposal:

(a) If, because of unusual physical or chemical properties, or geological or hydrogeological conditions, or for other reasons, the Division finds that solid waste should not be accepted at a solid waste handling facility, the Division may require that such waste be prohibited, and that a proposal for disposal of such waste, with supporting data as may be deemed necessary, be submitted by the generator of such waste for consideration of approval by the Division. The prohibition of such waste shall continue in effect until an acceptable procedure for processing or disposal has been developed and approved.

(b) The following solid wastes are specifically prohibited from disposal at solid waste disposal facilities in Georgia:

1. lead acid batteries;

2. liquid waste in landfills, except as allowed in (9) below;

3. regulated quantities of hazardous waste as defined in Rules promulgated by the Board of Natural Resources, Chapter 391-3-11;

4. radioactive waste as defined in Rules promulgated by the Board of Natural Resources, Chapter 391-3-9, Radioactive Waste Material Disposal; and

5. polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) waste as defined in 40 CFR, Part 761.

(c) Any generator who disposes of a prohibited waste or person who accepts for disposal a prohibited waste shall be deemed to be in violation of these Rules.

(7) Recovered Materials:

(a) Recovered materials and recovered materials processing facilities are excluded from regulation as solid wastes and solid waste handling facilities. To be considered exempt from regulation, the material must have a known use, reuse, or recycling potential; must be feasibly used, reused, or recycled; and must have been diverted or removed from the solid waste stream for sale, use, reuse, or recycling, whether or not requiring subsequent separation and processing. Stockpiles of unprocessed yard trimmings, land-clearing debris, untreated and unpainted wood, or any combination thereof and mulch are considered recovered materials if the requirements for facilities with mulching operations as set forth in 391-3-4-.04(7)(g) are met.

(b) Materials accumulated speculatively are solid waste and must comply with all applicable provisions of these regulations.

(c) A recovered material is not accumulated speculatively if the person accumulating it can show that there is a known use, reuse, or recycling potential for the material, that the material can be feasibly sold, used, reused, or recycled and that during a rolling 12 month period seventy-five percent (75%), by weight or volume, of the recovered material stored at a facility is recycled, sold, used, or reused. Any material that is accumulated speculatively and not in accordance with these requirements must be handled as solid waste.

(d) Proof of recycling, sale, use, or reuse shall be provided in the form of bills of sale, or other records showing adequate proof of movement of the material in question to a recognized recycling facility or for proper use or reuse from the accumulation point. In addition, proof must be provided that there is a known market or disposition for the recovered material. Persons claiming that they are owners or operators of recovered materials processing facilities must show that they have the necessary equipment to do so.

(e) A recovered material is "sold" if the generator of the recovered material or the person who recovered the material from the solid waste stream received consideration or compensation for the material because of its inherent value.

(f) A recovered material is "used, reused or recycled" if it is either:

1. Employed as an ingredient (including use as an intermediate) in a process to make a product (for example, utilizing old newspaper to make new paper products) or
2. Employed in the same or different fashion as its original intended purpose without physically changing its composition (for example, use of old automobiles for spare parts or donation of clothing or furniture to charitable organizations) or
3. Employed in a particular function or application as an effective substitute for a commercial product (for example, utilizing shredded tires in asphalt or utilizing refuse - derived fuel as a substitute for fuel oil, natural gas, coal, or wood in a boiler or industrial furnace) as long as such substitution does not pose a threat to human health or the environment and so long as the facility is not a solid waste thermal treatment facility.
4. A material is not "used, reused or recycled" when it is applied to or placed on or in the land in a manner that constitutes disposal which, in the opinion of the Director, may pose a threat to human health and the environment (for example, utilizing soil containing levels of hazardous constituents, as listed in Chapter 391-3-11, 40 CFR Part 261 , Appendix VIII for fill material when those levels are greater than the background levels in the area to be filled, land applying sludge in excess of generally accepted agricultural practices or use of inherently waste-like materials as fill material).

(g) Mulching is considered a recovered material operation at facilities demonstrating compliance with the following criteria:

1. A stockpile must have no greater than the following maximum dimensions:

(I) Area: 25,000 square feet

(II) Height: 25 feet

2. Unprocessed yard trimmings, land-clearing debris, untreated and unpainted wood or any combination thereof, must be processed no later than 90 days after receipt, unless otherwise stated in the Solid Waste Handling Permit.
3. Mulch is not accumulated speculatively if the person accumulating it can show that there is a known use, reuse, or recycling potential for the material; that the material can be feasibly sold, used, reused, or recycled; and that during a rolling 12 month period seventy-five percent (75%) by weight or volume of the products stored at a facility are recycled, sold, used, or reused. Any material that is accumulated speculatively and not in accordance with these requirements must be handled as solid waste.
4. The facility shall have on site a fire plan detailing steps to prevent, contain and extinguish a fire. The fire plan shall include documentation that the local fire authority or a Georgia State Certified Fire Inspector conducted a fire safety survey.
5. Activities involving open flames and other flammable materials (oil, gas, fuel) shall not be allowed within 25 feet of a stockpile, with the exception of maintenance activities involving torches and welding equipment, as long as a fireproof barrier is used.
6. The facility must provide a buffer between unprocessed yard trimmings, land-clearing debris, untreated and unpainted wood, mulch, and any combination thereof and the property line. The buffer shall be set by the local fire authority or a Georgia State Certified Fire Inspector and documented in the fire plan. If the local fire authority or a Georgia State Certified Fire Inspector does not establish a buffer, the minimum buffer shall be 50 feet. The buffer may include the fire lane.
7. The facility shall utilize best management practices from the most recent edition of the Georgia Stormwater Management Manual to minimize the exposure of material storage areas to rain, snow, snowmelt, and runoff.

8. The facility shall have erosion and sediment control measures adequate to prevent the escape of sediment from the facility property into Waters of the State. Construction and operating areas must utilize best management practices from the most recent edition of the Manual for Erosion and Sedimentation Control in Georgia.

(h) Existing facilities producing mulch that have stockpiles of unprocessed yard trimmings, land clearing debris, untreated and unpainted wood, mulch, or any combination thereof on the effective date of this rule shall comply with the above sections (g) 1.- 8. within 6 months of the effective date of the rule.

(8) Asbestos Containing Waste.

(a) Collection.

1. Vehicles used for the transportation of containerized asbestos waste shall have an enclosed carrying compartment or utilize a covering sufficient to contain the transported waste, prevent damage to containers, and prevent release or spillage from the vehicle.

2. Vehicles used to reduce waste volume by compaction shall not be used.

3. Vacuum trucks used to transport waste slurry must be constructed and operated to ensure that liquids do not leak from the truck.

(b) Disposal.

1. Asbestos containing waste is to be disposed of only in a permitted landfill or other facility authorized by the Division for acceptance of asbestos containing waste.

2. Asbestos containing waste shall be sealed in leak-proof containers labeled with "Caution - Contains Asbestos Fibers - Avoid Opening or Breaking Container - Breathing Asbestos is Hazardous to Your Health."

3. Asbestos containing waste shall be disposed of in such a manner as not to destroy the integrity of the asbestos containing materials containers prior to the placement of cover material. This waste shall be completely covered immediately after deposition with a minimum of six (6) inches of non-asbestos material.

(9) Liquid Waste Restrictions at Landfills.

(a) Bulk or noncontainerized liquid waste may not be placed in landfill units unless:

1. The waste is household waste other than septic waste; or

2. The waste is leachate or gas condensate derived from the landfill unit, whether it is a new or existing landfill or lateral expansion, is designed with a composite liner and leachate collection system as described in paragraph (1)(d) of Rule [391-3-4-.07](#). The owner or operator must place the demonstration in the operating record and notify the Director that it has been placed in the operating record.

(b) Containers holding liquid waste may not be placed in a landfill unit unless:

1. The container is a small container similar in size to that normally found in household waste;

2. The container is designed to hold liquids for use other than storage; or

3. The waste is household waste.

(c) For purposes of this section:

1. "Liquid waste" means any waste material that is determined to contain "free liquids" as defined by Method 9095 (Paint Filter Liquids Test), as described in "Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Wastes, Physical/Chemical Methods" (EPA Pub. No. SW-846).

2. "Gas condensate" means the liquid generated as a result of gas recovery process(es) at the landfill unit.

(10) Variances, waivers, and alternative compliance schedules which may be granted under these Rules, Chapter 391-3-4, may not allow for the waiver or modification of a requirement found in 40 CFR, Part 258, as amended, 56 Fed. Reg. 51016-51039 (October 9, 1991), 80 Fed. Reg. 21468 (April 17, 2015); as amended at 80 Fed. Reg. 37991 (July 2, 2015) and 81 Fed. Reg. 51807 (August 5, 2016), except as provided in [391-3-4.10\(11\)](#).

(11) Compliance with the Rules for Solid Waste Management, Chapter 391-3-4, does not relieve any person from complying with all other applicable local, state, or federal rules or statutes.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-3-4-.04

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-8-20](#) et seq., as amended.

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Collection and Transportation," was filed as [391-1-1-.04](#) on November 21, 1972; effective December 12, 1972, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** Rule renumbered as 391-3-4-.04. Filed September 6, 1973; effective September 26, 1973.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "General" adopted. Filed September 19, 1974; effective October 9, 1974.

**Amended:** F. Jun. 9, 1989; eff. Jun. 29, 1989.

**Amended:** F. Sept. 4, 1991; eff. Sept. 24, 1991.

**Amended:** F. Jun. 7, 1993; eff. Jun. 27, 1993.

**Amended:** F. Jul. 31, 1997; eff. Aug. 20, 1997.

**Amended:** F. Sep. 13, 2016; eff. Oct. 3, 2016.

**Amended:** F. Mar. 8, 2018; eff. Mar. 28, 2018.

**Amended:** F. June 10, 2021; eff. June 30, 2021.

### **391-3-4-.05 Criteria for Siting**

(1) The following criteria must be met for a site proposed as a solid waste handling facility:

(a) Zoning. The site must conform to all local zoning/land use ordinances. Written verification must be submitted to the Division by the applicant demonstrating that the proposed site complies with local zoning and land use ordinances, if any. This verification shall include a letter from the local governmental authority stating that the proposed site complies with local zoning or land use ordinances, if any. This verification shall be provided at the time of submission of a permit application and reaffirmed by the governmental authority prior to permit issuance.

(b) Disposal Facility Siting Decision. Whenever any county, municipality group of counties, or authority begins a process to select a site for a municipal solid waste disposal facility, documentation shall be submitted which demonstrates compliance with O.C.G.A. [12-8-26\(a\)](#), and whenever the governing authority of any county or municipality takes action resulting in a publicly- or privately-owned municipal solid waste disposal facility siting decision, documentation shall be submitted which demonstrates compliance with O.C.G.A. [12-8-26\(b\)](#).

(c) Airport Safety:

1. New MSWLF units or lateral expansions of existing units shall not be located within 10,000 feet (3,048 meters) of any public-use or private-use airport runway end used by turbojet aircraft or within 5,000 feet (1,524 meters) of any public-use or private-use airport runway end used by only piston-type aircraft.

2. Owners or operators of existing MSWLF units, that are located within 10,000 feet (3,048 meters) of any public-use or private-use airport runway end used by turbojet aircraft or within 5,000 feet (1,524 meters) of any public-use or private-use airport runway end used by only piston-type aircraft must demonstrate that the units are designed and operated so that the MSWLF units do not pose a bird hazard to aircraft.

3. Owners or operators proposing to site new MSWLF units and lateral expansions within a five-mile radius of any public-use or private-use airport runway end used by turbojet or piston-type aircraft must notify the affected airport and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

4. The owner or operator must place the demonstration in paragraph 2. of this section in the operating record and notify the Director that it has been placed in the operating record not later than October 1, 1993.

5. For purposes of this section:

a. "Public-use airport" means an airport open to the public without prior permission and without restrictions within the physical capacities of available facilities.

b. "Private-use airport" means an airport that is not open to the public and which may not be used without prior permission of the airport owner and which has restrictions other than the physical capacities of available facilities and such airport is shown on the Sectional Aeronautical Charts published by the U.S. Department of Commerce for Atlanta, Jacksonville, or New Orleans, which charts are dated at least one year prior to the submission of a MSWLF permit or major permit modification application.

c. "Bird hazard" means an increase in the likelihood of bird/aircraft collisions that may cause damage to the aircraft or injury to its occupants.

(d) Floodplains. A solid waste handling facility located in the 100-year floodplain shall not restrict the flow of the 100-year flood, reduce the temporary water storage capacity of the floodplain, or result in a washout of solid waste so as to pose a hazard to human health and the environment. The owner or operator must place a demonstration of compliance in the operating record and notify the Director that it has been placed in the operating record.

1. For purposes of this section:

a. "Floodplains" means the low land and relatively flat areas adjoining inland and coastal waters, including flood-prone areas of offshore islands, that are inundated by the 100-year flood.

b. "100-year flood" means a flood that has a 1-percent or greater chance of recurring in any given year or a flood of a magnitude equalled or exceeded once in 100 years on the average over a significantly long period.

c. "Washout" means the carrying away of solid waste by waters of the base flood.

(e) Wetlands. A solid waste handling facility shall not be located in wetlands, as defined by the U.S. Corps. of Engineers, unless evidence is provided to the Director, by the applicant, that use of such wetlands has been permitted or otherwise authorized under all other applicable state and federal laws and rules. The owner or operator must place a demonstration of compliance in the operating record and notify the Directory that it has been placed in the operating record.

(f) Fault Areas.

1. New landfill units and lateral expansions of existing landfills shall not be located within 200 feet (60 meters) of a fault that has had displacement in Holocene time unless the owner or operator demonstrates to the Director that an alternative setback distance of less than 200 feet (60 meters) will prevent damage to the structural integrity of the landfill unit and will be protective of human health and the environment.

2. For the purposes of this section.

a. "Fault" means a fracture or a zone of fractures in any material along which strata on one side have been displaced with respect to that on the other side.

b. "Displacement" means the relative movement of any two sides of a fault measured in any direction.

c. "Holocene" means the most recent epoch of the Quaternary period, extending from the end of the Pleistocene Epoch to the present.

(g) Seismic Impact Zones.

1. New landfill units and lateral expansions shall not be located in seismic impact zones, unless the owner or operator demonstrates to the Director that all containment structures, including liners, leachate collection systems, and surface water control systems, are designed to resist the maximum horizontal acceleration in lithified earth material for the site. The owner or operator must place the demonstration in the operating record and notify the Director that it has been placed in the operating record.

2. For the purposes of this section:

a. Seismic impact zone means an area with a ten percent or greater probability that the maximum horizontal acceleration in lithified earth material, expressed as a percentage of the earth's gravitational pull will exceed 0.10g in 250 years.

b. Maximum horizontal acceleration in lithified earth material means the maximum expected horizontal acceleration depicted on a seismic hazard map, with a 90 percent or greater probability that the acceleration will not be exceeded in 250 years, or the maximum expected horizontal acceleration based on a site-specific seismic risk assessment.

c. Lithified earth material means all rock, including all naturally occurring and naturally formed aggregates or masses of minerals or small particles of older rock that formed by crystallization of magma or by induration of loose sediments. This term does not include man-made materials, such as fill, concrete, and asphalt, or unconsolidated earth materials, soil, or regolith lying at or near the earth surface.

(h) Unstable areas.

1. Owners or operators of new landfill units, existing landfill units, and lateral expansions located in an unstable area must demonstrate that engineering measures have been incorporated into the landfill unit's design to ensure that the integrity of the structural components of the landfill unit will not be disrupted. The owner or operator must place the demonstration in the operating record and notify the Director that it has been placed in the operating record. The owner or operator must consider the following factors, at a minimum, when determining whether an area is unstable:

a. On-site or local soil conditions that may result in significant differential settling;

b. On-site or local geologic or geomorphologic features; and

c. On-site or local human-made features or events (both surface and subsurface).

2. For the purposes of this section:

a. "Unstable area" means a location that is susceptible to natural or human-induced events or forces capable of impairing the integrity of some or all of the landfill structural components responsible for preventing releases from a



landfill. Unstable areas can include poor foundation conditions, areas susceptible to mass movements, and karst terrains.

b. "Structural components" means liners, leachate collection systems, final covers, run-on/run-off systems, and any other component used in the construction and operation of the landfill that is necessary for protection of human health and the environment.

c. "Poor foundation conditions" means those areas where features exist which indicate that a natural or man-induced event may result in inadequate foundation support for the structural components of a landfill unit.

d. "Areas susceptible to mass movement" mean those areas of influence (i.e., areas characterized as having an active or substantial possibility of mass movement) where the movement of earth material at, beneath, or adjacent to the landfill unit, because of natural or man-induced events, results in the downslope transport of soil and rock material by means of gravitational influence. Areas of mass movement include, but are not limited to, landslides, avalanches, debris slides and flows, soil fluctuation, block sliding, and rock fall.

e. "Karst terrains" means areas where karst topography, with its characteristic surface and subterranean features, is developed as the result of dissolution of limestone, dolomite, or other soluble rock. Characteristic physiographic features present in karst terrains include, but are not limited to, sinkholes, sinking streams, caves, large springs, and blind valleys.

(i) Significant Groundwater Recharge Areas. A new municipal solid waste landfill or lateral expansion of an existing municipal solid waste landfill shall not have any part of such site located within two miles of any area that has been designated by the Director as a significant groundwater recharge area unless such municipal solid waste landfill will have a liner and leachate collection system. In the case of a regional landfill which accepts solid waste generated outside the counties or special districts constituting the region or a municipal solid waste landfill which accepts solid waste generated outside the county in which the landfill is located, no part of such site shall be within any area that has been designated as a significant groundwater recharge area.

(j) Hydrogeological Assessment. A hydrogeological site investigation shall be conducted with the following factors, as a minimum, evaluated:

1. Distance to nearest point of public or private drinking water supply: all public water supply wells or surface water intakes within two miles and private (domestic) water supply wells within one-half mile of a landfill must be identified;

2. Depth to the upper most aquifer: for landfills, the thickness and nature of the unsaturated zone and its ability for natural contamination control must be evaluated;

3. Uppermost aquifer gradient: for landfills, the direction and rate of flow of groundwater shall be determined in order to properly evaluate the potential for contamination at a specific site. Measurements of water levels in site exploratory borings and the preparation of water table maps are required. Borings to water are required to estimate the configuration and gradient of the uppermost aquifer;

4. Topographic setting: features which shall be provided include, but are not limited to, all upstream and downstream drainage areas affecting or affected by the proposed site, floodplains, gullies, karst conditions, wetlands, unstable soils and percent slope;

5. Geologic setting: for landfills, the depth to bedrock, the type of bedrock and the amount of fracturing and jointing in the bedrock shall be determined. In limestone or dolostone regions, karst terrain shall not be used for waste disposal. This consideration does not preclude the siting of landfills in limestone terrains, but rather is intended to prevent landfills from being sited in or adjacent to sink-holes, provided, however, that the demonstration required by subparagraph (h) has been made.

6. Hydraulic conductivity: evaluation of landfill sites shall take into consideration the hydraulic conductivity of the surface material in which the wastes are to be buried, as well as the hydraulic conductivity of the subsurface materials underlying the fill;

7. Sorption and attenuation capacity: for landfills, the sorptive characteristics of an earth material and its ability to absorb contaminants shall be determined; and

8. Distance to surface water: municipal solid waste landfills shall not be situated within two miles upgradient of any surface water intake for a public drinking water source unless engineering modifications such as liners and leachate collection systems and ground-water monitoring systems are provided.

(k) New MSWLF units shall not be located within two miles of a federally restricted military air space which is used for a bombing range unless the MSWLF was permitted and operational on July 1, 1997.

(2) Construction/Demolition waste landfills must comply with the siting criteria specified in "Criteria for Performing Site Acceptability Studies for Solid Waste Landfills in Georgia", Circular 14, Appendix B.

(3) Industrial waste landfills permitted to receive only a single type industrial waste (monofill) or receive only a single industry's waste, must comply with the siting criteria specified in "Criteria for Performing Site Acceptability Studies for Solid Waste Landfills in Georgia", Circular 14, Appendix A. Commercial industrial waste landfills must meet the same siting criteria as municipal solid waste landfills.

(4) A site assessment report addressing the criteria listed above shall be prepared by a geologist registered in Georgia or a geotechnical engineer registered in Georgia and submitted to the Division for review at the time of submitting a permit application. The site assessment report shall be prepared in accordance with Circular 14, 1991, (amended 1997) as published by the Georgia Geologic Survey, Georgia Environmental Protection Division.

(5) Monitoring wells and borings shall be constructed by a driller having a valid and current bond with the Water Well Standards Advisory Council.

(6) CCR units must meet the siting criteria in [391-3-4-.10](#).

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-3-4-.05

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A § [12-8-20](#) et seq., as amended.

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Disposal Operations" adopted. F. Sept. 6, 1973; eff. Sept. 26, 1973.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Plans Required" adopted. F. Sept. 19, 1974; eff. Oct. 9, 1974.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Criteria for Siting" adopted. F. June 9, 1989; eff. June 29, 1989.

**Amended:** F. Sept. 4, 1991; eff. Sept. 24, 1991.

**Amended:** F. June 7, 1993; eff. June 27, 1993.

**Amended:** F. July 31, 1997; eff. Aug. 20, 1997.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 2, 2016; eff. Nov. 22, 2016.

**Amended:** F. Mar. 8, 2018; eff. Mar. 28, 2018.

**Amended:** F. June 10, 2021; eff. June 30, 2021.

### **391-3-4-.06 Permit by Rule for Collection, Transportation, Processing, and Disposal**

(1) Permit-by-Rule. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Rules, collection operations, transfer station operations, inert waste landfill operations, waste processing and thermal treatment operations, wastewater treatment and pretreatment plant sludge disposal operations, and yard trimmings waste landfill operations shall be deemed to have a solid waste handling permit if the conditions in paragraph (2) are met and the conditions in paragraph (3), for that particular category of operation are met.

(2) **Notification.** Within 30 days of commencing solid waste handling activities which are covered under a permit-by-Rule, notification must be made to the Director of such activity. Notification shall be made on such forms as are provided by the Director. Persons failing to notify the Director of such activities shall be deemed to be operating without a permit.

(3) Categories of Operations:

(a) Collection Operations:

1. Vehicle construction: vehicles or containers used for the collection and transportation of garbage and similar putrescible wastes, or mixtures containing such wastes, shall be covered, substantially leakproof, durable, and of easily cleanable construction.

2. Vehicle maintenance: solid waste collection and transportation vehicles shall be cleaned frequently and shall be maintained in good repair.

3. Littering and spillage: vehicles or containers used for the collection and transportation of solid waste shall be loaded and moved in such manner that the contents will not fall, leak or spill therefrom and shall be covered when necessary to prevent blowing of material from the vehicle.

4. No regulated quantities of hazardous wastes may be collected and transported except in accordance with the provisions of the Georgia Hazardous Waste Management Act, O.C.G.A. [12-8-60](#) *et seq.*

5. Local ordinances: it is the responsibility of the collector to comply with all local rules, regulations, and ordinances pertaining to operation of solid waste collection systems.

6. All wastewater from cleaning of vehicles must be handled in a manner which meets all applicable environmental laws and regulations.

7. All collected solid waste must be deposited only in a permitted solid waste handling facility authorized to receive the applicable waste types.

(b) Transfer Station operations:

1. Solid Waste shall be confined to the interior of transfer station buildings, and not allowed to scatter to the outside. Waste shall not be allowed to accumulate, and floors shall be kept clean and well drained.

2. Sewage solids shall be excluded from transfer stations.

3. Dust, odors and similar conditions resulting from transfer operations shall be controlled at all times.

4. Rodents, insects and other such pests shall be controlled.

5. Any contaminated runoff from washwater shall be discharged to a wastewater treatment system and, before final release, shall be treated in a manner approved by the Division.

6. Hazardous Waste: no person owning or operating a transfer station shall cause, suffer, allow, or permit the handling of regulated quantities of hazardous waste.

7. Liquid wastes restricted from landfill disposal by Rule [391-3-4-.04\(9\)](#) shall be excluded from transfer stations. Transfer stations in existence on August 1, 2004 and in compliance with all other regulations applicable to permit by rule transfer stations may continue to handle such liquid wastes until a solid waste processing facility permit is issued or August 1, 2006, whichever occurs first.

(c) Inert Waste Landfill Operations: Inert Waste Landfills in existence on the effective date of this Rule and in compliance with all other regulations applicable to permit by rule for inert waste landfill operations may continue to operate under the conditions below until a solid waste handling permit is issued or December 1, 2014, whichever occurs first. Provided a complete permit application is submitted by June 1, 2014, the Director may extend the deadline for permitting until a final decision on permit issuance or denial is made. If the requirements for a permit cannot be met by December 1, 2014, or other deadline established by the Director, the operator must cease receipt of waste on that date and complete closure by June 1, 2015, or six months from the Director's denial of the requested permit application. Any inert waste landfill which, as of January 1, 2014, has been certified by a professional engineer registered in accordance with Chapter 15 of Title 43 as being in full compliance with all permit by rule requirements established in the rules and regulations of the division as they existed on January 1, 2012, may continue to operate under such permit by rule requirements. Except as provided in sub-paragraph (f), no person may begin operating a new inert waste landfill after the effective date of this rule without first obtaining a site specific solid waste handling permit for an inert waste landfill.

1. Only waste that will not or is not likely to produce leachate of environmental concern may be disposed of in an inert waste landfill. Only earth and earth-like products, concrete, cured asphalt, rock, bricks, yard trimmings, and land clearing debris such as stumps, limbs and leaves, are acceptable for disposal in an inert waste landfill.

2. No portion of waste disposal area shall be located within one hundred (100) linear feet of any property line or enclosed structure.

3. Materials placed in inert waste landfills shall be spread in layers and compacted to the least practical volume; and, a uniform compacted layer of clean earth cover no less than one (1) foot in depth shall be placed over all exposed inert waste material at least monthly.

4. The inert waste landfill site shall be graded and drained to minimize runoff onto the landfill surface, to prevent erosion and to drain water from the surface of the landfill.

5. Access to inert waste landfills shall be limited to authorized entrances which shall be closed when the site is not in operation.

6. Suitable means shall be provided to prevent and control fires. Stockpiled soil is considered to be the most satisfactory fire fighting material.

7. A uniform compacted layer of final cover not less than two (2) feet in depth and a vegetative cover shall be placed over the final lift not later than one month following final placement of inert waste within that lift.

8. Notice of final closure must be provided to the Director within 30 days of receiving the final load of waste. Any site not receiving waste for in excess of 180 days shall be deemed abandoned and in violation of these Rules unless properly closed. Notice of closure must include the date of final waste receipt and an accurate legal description of the boundaries of the landfill.

9. All deeds for real property which have been used for landfilling shall include notice of the landfill operations, the date the landfill operation commenced and terminated, an accurate legal description of the actual location of the landfill, and a description of the type of solid wastes which have been deposited in the landfill. Concurrent with the submission of notice of final closure to the Director, the owner or operator must submit to the Director confirmation that the information required in this section has been noticed on the property deed.

10. All wastes received at the landfill must be measured and reported as required by Rule [391-3-4-.17](#).

11. All other applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and ordinances, including erosion and sediment control, and any applicable federal wetlands permits, must be fully complied with prior to commencement of landfilling operations.

(d) On-site Waste Processing and Thermal Treatment Operations:

1. For purposes of this Rule, "On-site Processing or Thermal Treatment Facility" shall mean a facility that processes or thermally treats, no less than 75 percent, by weight, solid waste generated at the permit-by-Rule facility location or facilities owned by the same person who owns the property containing the permit-by-Rule facility. On-site facilities may include fixed or mobile facilities either owned or under contract with the solid waste generator of 75 percent of the solid waste so long as the solid waste generator maintains legal control of the solid waste while at the permit-by-Rule facility.

2. Capacity: the on-site waste processing and thermal treatment technology facility shall be adequate in size and capacity to manage the projected volume of solid waste and residue generated.

3. Residue: on-site thermal treatment technology facilities shall be designed in such a manner to expedite the routine sampling of bottom and fly ash. Temperature and combustion time shall be sufficient to produce a satisfactory residue, essentially free of odors and unstable organic matter, and such residue shall be promptly deposited in a municipal solid waste landfill having a liner and leachate collection system and operated and maintained as provided herein, handled in such other manner as may be approved by the Division, or if shown by testing to be hazardous, handled in accordance with the provisions of the Georgia Hazardous Waste Management Act, O.C.G.A. [12-8-60](#), *et seq.* Residue from thermal treatment technology facilities that burn only biomedical wastes may be deposited in any permitted municipal solid waste landfill. Residue from the burning of any wastes, other than biomedical wastes, must, if landfilled, be placed in landfills having liners and leachate collection systems unless the Division grants an exemption.

4. Storage: the areas for storing wastes prior to processing must be clearly defined and the maximum capacity specified. No waste may be stored in excess of the designated capacity.

5. Disposal of waste: treated waste from on-site processing facilities and any material not sold or used, reused, or recycled must be disposed in a permitted disposal facility.

6. Air quality: on-site processing and thermal treatment technology facilities shall be designed and operated in such manner as to meet any air quality standards of the Division.

7. Wastewater: on-site processing and thermal treatment technology facilities shall be designed so that any wastewater generated will be discharged to a wastewater treatment system and, before final release, will be treated in a manner approved by the Division.

8. Fire protection: on-site processing and thermal treatment technology facility designs shall provide for fire control equipment placed near the storage and charging area, and elsewhere as needed.

9. Supervision: operation and management of on-site thermal treatment technology facilities shall be under the direct supervision and control of an operator who is present at all times of operation and is qualified in thermal treatment technology management by training, education or experience. Operation and management of on-site processing facilities shall be under the supervision and control of a responsible individual properly trained in the operation of such facilities at all times during operation.

10. Prohibited waste: no lead acid batteries, radioactive waste, or regulated quantities of hazardous waste or polychlorinated biphenyls may be accepted. The operator must have a plan for excluding these wastes.

11. Cleanliness and sanitation: on-site processing and thermal treatment technology facilities shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition. Solid waste shall be confined to the designated storage area.

12. Record keeping: accurate written, daily records by actual weight or by the methods approved in accordance with O.C.G.A. [12-8-31.1\(g\)](#) shall be kept of all waste processed or disposed at the on-site processing and thermal treatment technology facility. Such records shall include the source of the waste, by facility name and location. Copies of such records shall be maintained for a period of at least three (3) years and shall be submitted to the Division quarterly on such forms as prescribed by the Division.

13. Local ordinances: it is the responsibility of the operator of on-site processing and thermal treatment technology facilities to comply with all local rules, regulations, and ordinances pertaining to operation of these facilities and all other applicable federal and state laws and rules.

14. All facilities handling biomedical waste must, in addition to this Rule, meet any requirements of Rule [391-3-4-.15](#).

(e) Wastewater Treatment or Pretreatment Plant Sludge Disposal:

1. All wastewater treatment or pretreatment plant sludges that are not beneficially used, reused, or recycled in accordance with Rule [391-3-4-.04](#) or that are not disposed of by landfilling in accordance with Rule [391-3-4-.07](#), must be handled in accordance with an approval or a permit issued by the Division under authority of the Georgia Water Quality Control Act, O.C.G.A. [12-5-20](#), *et seq.* or the Georgia Air Quality Act, O.C.G.A. [12-9-1](#) *et seq.*

(f) Yard Trimmings Waste Landfill Operations: Landfill Operations with 5 acres or less of waste disposal area and located in counties with a population less than 65,000 people and accepting exclusively yard trimmings as defined by these Rules can be permitted under the following conditions:

1. Only yard trimmings are acceptable for disposal in a yard trimmings waste landfill. Vegetative matter from land clearing operations shall not be disposed in a yard trimmings waste landfill.

2. No portion of the waste disposal area shall be located within two hundred (200) linear feet of any property line or enclosed structure.

3. Materials placed in yard trimmings waste landfills shall be spread in layers and compacted to the least practical volume; and, a uniform compacted layer of clean earth cover no less than one (1) foot in depth shall be placed over all exposed yard trimmings waste material at least monthly.

4. The yard trimmings waste landfill site shall be graded and drained to minimize runoff onto the landfill surface, to prevent erosion and to drain water from the surface of the landfill.

5. Access to yard trimmings waste landfills shall be limited to authorized entrances which shall be closed when the site is not in operation.

6. Suitable means shall be provided to prevent and control fires. Stockpiled soil is considered to be the most satisfactory firefighting material.

7. A uniform compacted layer of final cover not less than two (2) feet in depth and a vegetative cover shall be placed over the final lift not later than one month following final placement of yard trimmings waste within that lift.

8. Notice of final closure must be provided to the Director within 30 days of receiving the final load of waste. Any site not receiving waste for in excess of 180 days shall be deemed abandoned and in violation of these Rules unless properly closed. Notice of closure must include the date of final waste receipt and an accurate legal description of the boundaries of the landfill.

9. All deeds for real property which have been used for landfilling shall include notice of the landfill operations, the date the landfill operation commenced and terminated, an accurate legal description of the actual location of the landfill, and a description of the type of solid wastes which have been deposited in the landfill. Concurrent with the submission of notice of final closure to the Director, the owner or operator must submit to the Director confirmation that the information required in this section has been noticed on the property deed.

10. All wastes received at the landfill must be measured and reported as required by Rule [391-3-4-.17](#).

11. All other applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and ordinances, including erosion and sediment control, and any applicable federal wetlands permits, must be fully complied with prior to commencement of landfilling operations.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-3-4-.06

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-8-20](#) et seq., as amended.

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Enforcement" adopted. F. Sept. 6, 1973; eff. Sept. 26, 1973.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Collection and Transportation" adopted. F. Sept. 19, 1974; eff. Oct. 9, 1974.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Permit by Rule for Collection, Transportation, and Disposal" adopted. F. June 9, 1989; eff. June 29, 1989.

**Amended:** F. Sept. 4, 1991; eff. Sept. 24, 1991.

**Amended:** F. June 7, 1993; eff. June 27, 1993.

**Amended:** F. July 31, 1997; eff. Aug. 20, 1997.

**Amended:** F. July 8, 2005; eff. July 28, 2005.

**Amended:** F. Feb. 5, 2013; eff. Feb. 25, 2013.

**Amended:** F. Jan. 8, 2014; eff. Jan. 28, 2014.

**Amended:** F. Sep. 13, 2016; eff. Oct. 3, 2016.

**Amended:** F. Mar. 8, 2018; eff. Mar. 28, 2018.

**Amended:** F. June 10, 2021; eff. June 30, 2021.

### **391-3-4-.07 Landfill Design and Operations**

(1) All landfills must be designed by a professional engineer registered to practice in Georgia and designed in accordance with the following criteria:

(a) Site limitations: the landfill must be designed in such a manner as to comply with the specific site limitations issued by the Division as a part of a site approval.

(b) Buffers: Facilities must provide a minimum 200 foot buffer between the waste disposal boundary and the property line and a minimum 500 foot buffer between the waste disposal boundary and any occupied dwelling and the dwelling's operational private, domestic water supply well in existence of the date of permit application. The 500-foot buffer may be reduced if the current owner of the dwelling provides a written waiver consenting to the waste disposal boundary being closer than 500 feet. The waste disposal boundary is defined as the limit of all waste disposal areas, appurtenances, and ancillary activities (including but not limited to internal access roads and drainage control devices). No land disturbing activities are to take place in these buffers, except for construction of groundwater monitoring wells and access roads for direct ingress or egress, unless otherwise specified in a facility design and operation plan or corrective action plan approved by the Division.

(c) Site survey control shall be provided to ensure the operation will be on permitted lands. Survey control will be accomplished through use of permanent, accessible benchmarks, survey control stakes, and/or boundary markers

which designate and/or delineate all permitted areas. Survey control shall be as indicated on the design and operational plan. Where necessary for construction or operational purposes, vertical as well as horizontal survey control will be established and maintained to delineate fill boundaries, buffers, and property boundaries.

(d) Liners and Leachate Collection Systems: new MSWLF units and lateral expansions shall be constructed with liners and leachate collection systems. The liner and leachate collection system must ensure that the concentration values listed in Table 1 will not be exceeded in the uppermost aquifer at the relevant point of compliance. The liner and leachate collection system must be designed and installed under the supervision of a professional engineer registered to practice in Georgia who shall certify the installation.

**TABLE 1**

<b>Chemical</b>	<b>MCL (mg/l)</b>
Arsenic	0.05
Barium	1.0
Benzene	0.005
Cadmium	.01
Carbon tetrachloride	0.005
Chromium (hexavalent)	0.05
2, 4 - Dichlorophenoxy acetic acid	0.1
1, 4 - Dichlorobenzene	0.075
1, 2 - Dichloroethane	0.005
1, 1 - Dichloroethylene	0.007
Endrin	0.0002
Fluoride	4
Lindane	0.004
Lead	0.05
Mercury	0.002
Methoxychlor	0.1
Nitrate	10
Selenium	0.01
Silver	0.05
Toxaphene	0.005
1, 1, 1-Trichloromethane	0.2
Trichloroethylene	0.005
2, 4, 5- Trichlorophenoxy acetic acid	0.01
Vinyl Chloride	0.002

1. If the MSWLF is located in an area of higher pollution susceptibility, as defined by Hydrologic Atlas #20, A Pollution Susceptibility Map of Georgia, or in a significant ground water recharge area as designated by Hydrologic Atlas #18, the liner and leachate collection system must, at a minimum, be designed with:

- a. a composite liner, as defined in paragraph c. of this section and a leachate collection system that is designed and constructed to maintain less than a 30-cm depth of leachate over the liner.
- b. at least a five foot separation between the liner system and the seasonal high ground water elevation.
- c. For purposes of this section, "composite liner" means a system consisting of two components; the upper component must consist of a minimum 30-mil flexible membrane liner (FML), and the lower component must consist of at least a two-foot layer of compacted soil with a hydraulic conductivity of no more than  $1 \times 10^{-7}$  cm/sec. FML components consisting of High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) shall be at least 60- mil thick. The FML component must be installed in direct and uniform contact with the compacted soil component.



2. The relevant point of compliance shall be no more than 150 meters from the waste management unit boundary and shall be located on land owned by the owner of the MSWLF unit. In determining the relevant point of compliance, the Division shall consider at least the following factors:

- a. The hydrogeologic characteristics of the facility and surrounding land;
- b. The volume and physical and chemical characteristics of the leachate;
- c. The quantity, quality, and direction, of flow of ground water;
- d. The proximity and withdrawal rate of the ground-water users;
- e. The availability of alternative drinking water supplies;
- f. The existing quality of the ground water, including other sources of contamination and their cumulative impacts on the ground water and whether groundwater is currently used or reasonably expected to be used for drinking water;
- g. Public health, safety, and welfare effects; and
- h. Practicable capability of the owner or operator.

3. For MSWLF units not located in significant ground water recharge areas or areas of higher pollution susceptibility, liners and leachate collection systems may meet a design standard other than that specified in subparagraph (1)(d) 1. of this Rule, so long as such design ensures that the concentration values listed in Table 1 of this Rule will not be exceeded in the uppermost aquifer at the relevant point of compliance. The factors listed in subparagraph 2. above for determining the relevant point of compliance, shall also be used in determining the suitability of the liner and leachate collection system design.

(e) Erosion and Sedimentation Control: all surface runoff from disturbed areas must be controlled by the use of appropriate erosion and sedimentation control measures or devices. Sediment basins must be designed to handle both the hydraulic loading for the 25 year, 24-hour storm and the sediment loading from the drainage basin for the life of the site. Runoff from the facility must be designed for flow through permanent sediment control impoundments which are designed to assure discharges meeting the requirements of O.C.G.A. [12-7-6](#).

(f) Vegetation: the plan must call for the vegetation of any disturbed area that will remain exposed for more than three (3) months. Vegetation of final cover must take place within two (2) weeks after final cover placement.

(g) Sequence of Filling: the plan must define a sequence of filling showing a detailed progression of filling the entire site that minimizes any problems with drainage and all weather access roads to the working face.

(h) Limited Access: a gate or other barrier shall be maintained at potential vehicular access points to block unauthorized access to the site when an operator is not on duty. A fence or other suitable barrier must be provided around the site, including impoundments, leachate collection and treatment systems and gas venting and processing facilities, sufficient to prevent unauthorized access.

(i) Final Grading: the grade of final slopes shall be designed to:

- 1. insure permanent slope stability;
- 2. control erosion due to rapid water velocity and other factors;
- 3. allow compaction, seeding, and vegetation of cover material placed on the slopes;
- 4. minimize percolation of precipitation into final cover and provide diversion of surface runoff from disposal area; and

5. meet the final closure requirements of Rule [391-3-4-.11](#).

6. the grade of the final surface of the facility may not be less than 3 percent nor greater than 33 percent.

(j) Access Roads: access roads shall be designed to provide for the orderly egress and ingress of vehicular traffic when the facility is in operation, including during inclement weather.

(k) Fire Protection: the disposal site must be designed to prevent and minimize the potential for fire or explosion. A minimum supply of one day of cover material must be maintained within 200 feet of the working face for fire fighting purpose, unless other acceptable means have been provided and approved by the Director.

(l) Ground water and Surface water Monitoring Plan: the design must provide for a groundwater monitoring plan in accordance with the requirements for Groundwater Monitoring and Corrective Action as provided in Rule [391-3-4-.14](#). A surface water monitoring plan which will determine the impact of the facility on all adjacent surface waters must also be included.

(m) Closure Criteria: the design must provide for proper closure in accordance with Rule [391-3-4-.11](#).

(n) Post-Closure Care: the design must provide for Post-closure care in accordance with Rule [391-3-4-.12](#).

(o) Financial Responsibility: the design must provide for financial responsibility in accordance with Rule [391-3-4-.13](#).

(2) Construction Certification: upon receipt of a final and effective solid waste handling permit, construction may commence in accordance with the approved design and operational plan and permit conditions. Prior to receipt of solid waste, the Division must be provided with written certification by a professional engineer licensed to practice in Georgia, that the facility has been constructed in accordance with the approved permit. Unless notified otherwise by the Division, within 15 days of receipt by the Division of the written certification, the facility owner or operator may commence disposal of solid waste. This process shall be repeated for each subsequent major construction phase, including but not limited to, new cells, additional monitoring wells, sediment ponds, leachate treatment systems, modifications adding a new solid waste handling process, and application of final cover.

(3) Any person engaged in the operation of landfills shall comply with the following performance requirements:

(a) Air Criteria.

1. Owners or operators of all landfills must ensure that the units not violate any applicable requirements developed under a State Implementation Plan (SIP) approved or promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to Section 110 of the Clean Air Act, as amended.

2. Open burning of solid waste, except for the infrequent burning of agricultural wastes, silvicultural wastes, land clearing debris, diseased trees, or debris from emergency cleanup operations, is prohibited at all landfills.

(b) Unloading: solid waste unloading shall be restricted to the working face of the operation in such manner that waste may be easily incorporated into the landfill with available equipment.

(c) Procedures for excluding receipt of prohibited wastes:

1. Not later than October 1, 1993, owners or operators of all landfills must implement a program at the facility for detecting and preventing the disposal of regulated quantities of hazardous wastes as defined in the Rules for Hazardous Waste Management, Chapter 391-3-4-11, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) wastes as defined in 40 CFR, Part 761, and other wastes prohibited by Rule [391-3-4-.04](#), or the facility's permit. This program must include, at a minimum:

a. random inspections of incoming loads unless the owner or operator takes other steps to ensure that incoming loads do not contain prohibited wastes:

b. records of any inspections:

c. training of facility personnel to recognize prohibited wastes; and d. notification of the Director if a prohibited waste is discovered at the facility.

2. The procedures must be made a part of the operating record.

(d) Spreading and Compaction: solid waste shall be spread in uniform layers and compacted to its smallest practical volume before covering with earth.

(e) Daily Cover:

1. Except as provided in paragraph 2. of this section, the owner or operator of all MSWLF units must cover disposed solid waste with six inches of earthen material at the end of each operating day, or at more frequent intervals if necessary, to control disease vectors, fires, odors, blowing litter, and scavenging.

2. Alternative materials (such as foams or tarps) of an alternative thickness (other than at least six inches of earthen material) may be approved by the Director if the owner or operator demonstrates that the alternative material and thickness control disease vectors, fires, odors, blowing litter, and scavenging without presenting a threat to human health and the environment.

(f) Disease Vector Control.

1. Owners or operators of all landfills must prevent or control on-site populations of disease vectors using techniques appropriate for the protection of human health and environment.

2. For purposes of this Rule, "disease vectors" means any rodents, flies, mosquitoes, or other animals, including insects, capable of transmitting disease to humans.

(g) Intermediate Cover: a uniform compacted layer of clean earth cover not less than one (1) foot in depth shall be placed over each portion of any intermediate lift following completion of that lift.

(h) Explosive Gases Control.

1. Owners or operators of all landfills that are required to do methane monitoring under their permits must ensure that:

a. The concentration of methane gas generated by the facility does not exceed 25 percent of the lower explosive limit for methane in facility structures (excluding gas control or recovery system components); and

b. The concentration of methane gas does not exceed the lower explosive limit for methane at the facility property boundary.

2. Owners or operators of all landfills that are required to do methane monitoring must implement a routine methane monitoring program to ensure that the standards of this section are met. Copies of the monitoring results must be provided to the Division within 14 days of completion of the event. Results must be submitted on forms provided by the Division.

a. The type and frequency of monitoring must be determined based on the following factors:

(i) Soil conditions;

(ii) The hydrogeologic conditions surrounding the facility;

- (iii) The hydraulic conditions surrounding the facility;
- (iv) The location of facility structures and property boundaries.
- b. The minimum frequency of monitoring must be quarterly.
- 3. If methane gas levels exceeding the limits specified in this section are detected, the owner or operator must:
  - a. Immediately take all necessary steps to ensure protection of human health and notify the Director;
  - b. Within seven days of detection, place in the operating record the methane gas levels detected and a description of the steps taken to protect human health; and
  - c. Within 60 days of detection, implement a remediation plan for the methane gas releases, place a copy of the plan in the operating record, and notify the Director that the plan has been implemented. The plan shall describe the nature and extent of the problem and the proposed remedy.
- 4. For purposes of this section, lower explosive limit means the lowest percent by volume of a mixture of explosive gases in air that will propagate a flame at 25°C and atmospheric pressure.
- (i) Run-on/Run-off Control.
  - 1. Owners or operators of all landfills must design, construct, and maintain:
    - a. A run-on control system to prevent flow onto the active portion of the landfill during the peak discharge from a 25-year storm;
    - b. A run-off control system from the active portion of the landfill to collect and control at least the water volume resulting from a 24-hour, 25-year storm.
  - 2. Run-off from the active portion of the landfill unit must be handled in accordance with section 391-3-4-.07(1)(e), Erosion and Sedimentation Control of this Rule.
- (j) Surface water requirements; All landfill units shall not:
  - 1. Cause a discharge of pollutants into waters of the state or the United States, including wetlands, that violates any requirements of the Clean Water Act, including, but not limited to, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination system (NPDES) requirements pursuant to section 402:
  - 2. Cause the discharge of a nonpoint source of pollution to waters of the state or the United States, including wetlands, that violates any requirement of an area-wide or State-wide water quality management plan that has been approved under section 208 or 319 of the Clean Water Act, as amended.
- (k) Continuity of Operation: all-weather access roads shall be provided to the working face of the disposal operation and provisions shall be made for prompt equipment repair or replacement when needed.
- (l) Environmental Protection: the landfill shall be operated in such manner as to prevent air, land, or water pollution, and public health hazards.
- (m) Prohibited Waste: no liquids, except as allowed in subparagraph (9) of Rule [391-3-4-.04](#) lead acid batteries, radioactive waste, or regulated quantities of hazardous waste may be accepted. The operator must have a plan for excluding these wastes.

(n) Supervision: the disposal facility shall be under the supervision of an operator who is properly trained in the operation of landfills and the implementation of Design and Operational Plans and who, if the facility is a municipal solid waste disposal facility, is certified in accordance with O.C.G.A. [12-8-24.1](#) and these Rules.

(o) Limited Access: access to landfills shall be limited to authorized entrances which shall be closed when the site is not in operation. Owners and operators of all landfills must control public access and prevent unauthorized vehicular traffic and illegal dumping of wastes by using artificial barriers, natural barriers, or both, as appropriate to protect human health and the environment.

(p) Litter Control: scattering of wastes by wind shall be controlled by fencing or other barriers and the entire site shall be inspected daily and all litter removed.

(q) Fire Protection: suitable measures to control fires that may start shall be provided. Stockpiled soil is considered to be the most satisfactory fire fighting material.

(r) Erosion and Sedimentation Control: all erosion and sedimentation control measures or facilities, whether temporary or permanent, shall be continuously maintained by the operator so as to be effective. Runoff from the facility must be directed to permanent sediment control impoundments which are designed to assure discharges meeting the requirements of O.C.G.A. [12-7-6](#). Erosion and sedimentation control measures and facilities will be employed prior to and concurrent with clearing, grading, overburden removal, access or other land disturbing activities for preparation of the site for landfilling. Immediate measures must be implemented to establish vegetation on disturbed exposed soil which will not be a part of the waste disposal area or which will remain exposed for more than three (3) months.

(s) Information Posted: signs shall be posted at the entrance to landfills indicating the days and hours of operation.

(t) Prohibited Acts: the landfill shall be operated and maintained to prevent open burning, scavenging, and the open dumping of wastes.

(u) Recordkeeping Requirements.

1. Not later than October 1, 1993, the owner or operator of a MSWLF unit must record and retain near the facility in an operating record or in an alternative location approved by the Director the following information as it becomes available:

a. Any location restriction demonstration required under Rule [391-3-4-.05](#);

b. Inspection records, training procedures, and notification procedures required in subparagraph (c) of this Rule;

c. Gas monitoring results from monitoring and any remediation plans required by paragraph (h) of this section;

d. Any MSWLF unit design documentation for placement of leachate or gas condensate in a MSWLF unit as required under paragraph (9) of Rule [391-3-4-.04](#);

e. Any demonstration, certification, finding, monitoring, testing, or analytical data required by Rule [391-3-4-.14](#);

f. Closure and post-closure care plans and any monitoring, testing, or analytical data as required by Rule [391-3-4-.11](#) and Rule [391-3-4-.12](#); and

g. Any cost estimates and financial assurance documentation required by Rule [391-3-4-.13](#).

2. The owner/operator must notify the Director when the documents from paragraph 1. of this section have been placed or added to the operating record, and all information contained in the operating record must be furnished on request to the Director or be made available at all reasonable times for inspection by the Director.

3. The Director can set alternative schedules for recordkeeping and notification requirements as specified in paragraphs 1. and 2. of this section, except for the notification requirements in Rule [391-3-4-.05\(1\)\(c\)](#), Airport Safety, and Rule [391-3-4-.14\(30\)\(ac\)3](#), Assessment Monitoring.

(v) Groundwater, Underdrain Discharge, and Surface Water Monitoring: all water monitoring points shall be sampled in accordance with the approved plans or with any directive issues by the Division. Analytical results must be submitted to the Division in accordance with the approved time schedules. It shall be the responsibility of the facility owner or operator to promptly report any exceedance of established standards. All monitoring reports must be accompanied by a certified statement by a qualified groundwater scientist, for those constituents which have established standards, that established standards have been complied with or certifying noncompliance. Underdrain discharge shall comply with surface water monitoring standards.

(w) Survey Control: survey control shall be provided by the owner and/or operator as indicated on the approved design and operational plan. Site survey control shall be provided to ensure the operation will be on permitted lands. Survey control will be accomplished through use of permanent, accessible benchmarks, survey control stakes, and/or boundary markers which designate and/or delineate all permitted areas. Where necessary for construction or operational purposes, vertical as well as horizontal survey control will be established and maintained to delineate fill boundaries, buffers, structural designs, and property boundaries.

(x) Buffers: Buffers are evaluated and approved based on the design criteria in effect at the time of the permit issuance. Any future expansion of a landfill unit will be evaluated in accordance with applicable design criteria at the time of landfill unit expansion submittal. Buffers reflected in an approved permit must be maintained as stated in the facility's approved Design and Operational Plan.

(y) Additional Stipulations: notwithstanding the above, additional stipulations for owning or operating a landfill may be imposed by the Director as deemed necessary to carry out the purposes of O.C.G.A. [12-8-20](#), *et seq.*

#### (4) Other Disposal Operations.

(a) Industrial Waste Disposal Facilities: industrial waste disposal facilities permitted to receive only a single type industrial waste (monofill) or receive only a single industry's waste may be given a variance by the Director from installing liners and leachate collection systems, applying daily cover, installing ground water and surface water monitoring systems and monitoring for methane gas if the applicant can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Director that the waste to be disposed of would not cause odors or be attractive to disease vectors or birds or generate methane gas. Unless a variance is granted, the applicant must demonstrate compliance with all applicable provisions of this Rule. Disposal facilities accepting wastes from more than one industrial source, unless the facility is a monofill, must meet all standards applicable to municipal solid waste landfills in Chapter 391-3-4. CCR Units are exempt from the requirements of this Rule and must meet requirements in Rule [391-3-4-.10](#).

(b) Construction/Demolition Facilities: disposal facilities permitted to receive only construction and demolition wastes, unless such waste includes household waste, may be given a variance by the Director from installing liners and leachate collection systems and applying daily cover if the applicant can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Director that the waste to be disposed of would not cause odors or be attractive to disease vectors or birds. Unless a variance is granted, the applicant must demonstrate compliance with all applicable provisions of this Rule. All other provisions of Chapter 391-3-4 applicable to municipal solid waste landfills must be met.

(c) Inert Waste Landfill Facilities: disposal facilities are permitted to receive only waste that will not or is not likely to produce leachate of environmental concern. Only earth and earth-like products, concrete, cured asphalt, rock, bricks, yard trimmings, and land clearing debris such as stumps, limbs and leaves, are acceptable for disposal in an inert waste landfill. Inert waste landfill facilities must be designed by a professional engineer registered to practice in Georgia to comply with the following standards:

1. Buffers: No portion of waste disposal area shall be located within one hundred (100) linear feet of any property line or enclosed structure.

2. Survey Control: site survey control shall be provided to ensure the operation will be on permitted lands. Survey control will be accomplished through use of permanent, accessible benchmarks, survey control stakes, and/or boundary markers which designate and/or delineate all permitted areas. Survey control shall be as indicated on the design and operational plan. Where necessary for construction or operational purposes, vertical as well as horizontal survey control will be established and maintained to delineate fill boundaries, buffers, and property boundaries.
3. Siting: waste shall not be located in wetlands or floodplains, and waste shall not be placed within five feet of the permanent water table. A demonstration must be included in the design and operational plan on how these requirements will be met.
4. Explosive Gases Control: the plan must implement a routine methane monitoring program to ensure that the concentration of methane gas generated by the facility does not exceed 25 percent of the lower explosive limit for methane for on-site enclosed structures and does not exceed the lower explosive limit for methane at the facility property boundary. The type of monitoring must be determined based on the following factors: soil conditions; the hydrogeologic conditions surrounding the facility; the hydraulic conditions surrounding the facility; and the location of facility structures and property boundaries. The minimum frequency of monitoring must be quarterly. If methane gas levels exceeding the limits specified in this section are detected, the owner or operator must: immediately take all necessary steps to ensure protection of human health and notify the Director; within seven days of detection, place in the operating record the methane gas levels detected and a description of the steps taken to protect human health; and within 60 days of detection, implement a remediation plan for the methane gas releases, place a copy of the plan in the operating record, and notify the Director that the plan has been implemented. The plan shall describe the nature and extent of the problem and the proposed remedy. If a facility can demonstrate that no organic component of the inert waste stream has been accepted or will be accepted in the future, a variance from the explosive gases control requirements may be requested for review with the application for inert waste landfill permit request.
5. Sequence of Filling: the plan must define a sequence of filling showing a detailed progression of filling the entire site that minimizes any problems with drainage and all weather access roads to the working face.
6. Spreading/Compaction/Monthly Cover: materials placed in inert waste landfills shall be spread in layers and compacted to the least practical volume; and, a uniform compacted layer of clean earth cover no less than one (1) foot in depth shall be placed over all exposed inert waste material at least monthly.
7. Erosion and Sedimentation Control: all surface runoff from disturbed areas must be controlled by use of appropriate erosion and sedimentation control measures or devices. Best management practices (BMPs) from the Manual for Erosion and Sediment Control in Georgia should be utilized.
8. Vegetation: the plan must call for the vegetation of any disturbed area that will remain exposed for more than three (3) months. Vegetation of final cover must take place within two (2) weeks after final cover placement.
9. Fire Protection: suitable means shall be provided to prevent and control fires. Stockpiled soil is considered to be the most satisfactory fire fighting material. A minimum of one month of cover material must be maintained within 200 feet of the working face for fire fighting purpose, unless other acceptable means have been provided and approved by the Director.
10. Limited Access: access to inert waste landfills shall be limited to authorized entrances which shall be closed when the site is not in operation.
11. Final Grading: the inert waste landfill site shall be graded and drained to minimize runoff onto the landfill surface, to prevent erosion and to drain water from the surface of the landfill. The grade of the final surface of the facility may not be less than 3 percent nor greater than 33 percent.
12. Final Cover: a uniform compacted layer of final cover not less than two (2) feet in depth and a vegetative cover shall be placed over the final lift not later than one month following final placement of inert waste within that lift.

13. Final Closure: notice of final closure must be provided to the Director within 30 days of receiving the final load of waste. Any site not receiving waste for in excess of 180 days shall be deemed abandoned and in violation of these Rules unless properly closed. Notice of closure must include the date of final waste receipt and an accurate legal description of the boundaries of the landfill.

14. Deed Notice: all deeds for real property which have been used for landfilling shall include notice of the landfill operations, the date the landfill operation commenced and terminated, an accurate legal description of the actual location of the landfill, and a description of the type of solid wastes which have been deposited in the landfill. Concurrent with the submission of notice of final closure to the Director, the owner or operator must submit to the Director confirmation that the information required in this section has been noticed on the property deed.

15. Reporting: all wastes received at the landfill must be measured and reported as required by Rule [391-3-4-.17](#).

16. Post-Closure Care: the design must provide for post-closure care for a minimum of thirty (30) years. If a demonstration can be made that the site is no longer producing methane, the post closure care period may be reduced, but in no circumstance shall it be reduced to less than 5 years.

17. Financial Responsibility: the design must provide for financial responsibility in accordance with Rule [391-3-4-.13](#).

18. Other Laws: compliance with all other applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and ordinances, including local zoning, land use ordinances, and any applicable federal wetlands permits, must be demonstrated in the application for solid waste handling.

(d) Construction and operation of a solid waste handling facility for which specific rules have not been developed is prohibited unless same are consistent with the policies and intent of O.C.G.A. [12-8-20](#), et. seq., and are permitted by the Director.

(5) CCR Management Plan. Owners or operators of MSWLs and Commercial Industrial Landfills must incorporate a CCR management plan into the facility's Design and Operational Plan before the initial receipt of CCR. MSWLs and Commercial Industrial Landfills that accepted CCR before the effective date of the Rule and will continue to accept CCR after the effective date must incorporate a CCR management plan into the facility's Design and Operational Plan by minor modification 180 days from the effective date of the Rule. The owner or operator shall notify the local governing authorities of any city and county in which the landfill is located upon the submittal of the CCR Management Plan by EPD.

(6) High Moisture Content Waste Management Plan. Owners or operators of MSWLs and Commercial Industrial Landfills must incorporate a High Moisture Content Waste (HMCW) management plan into the facility's Design and Operational Plan by major modification before the initial receipt of HMCW if planning to accept greater than 5% HMCW by weight. MSWLs and Commercial Industrial Landfills that accepted High Moisture Content Waste before the effective date of the Rule and will continue to accept HMCW greater than 5% by weight after the effective date must incorporate a HMCW management plan into the facility's Design and Operational Plan by minor modification as part of the facility's permit review required by [391-3-4-.02](#).

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-3-4-.07

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-8-20](#) et seq.

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Effective Date," was filed as [391-1-1-.07](#) on November 21, 1972; effective December 12, 1972, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** Rule renumbered as 391-3-4-.07. Filed September 6, 1973; effective September 26, 1973.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Disposal Operations" adopted. Filed September 19, 1974; effective October 9, 1974.



**Amended:** Rule entitled "Disposal Design and Operation" adopted. F. Jun. 9, 1989; eff. Jun. 29, 1989.

**Amended:** Rule entitled "Landfill Design and Operation" adopted. F. Sept. 4, 1991; eff. Sept. 24, 1991.

**Amended:** F. Jun. 7, 1993; eff. Jun. 27, 1993.

**Amended:** F. Jul. 31, 1997; eff. Aug. 20, 1997.

**Amended:** F. Feb. 5, 2013; eff. Feb. 25, 2013.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 2, 2016; eff. Nov. 22, 2016.

**Amended:** F. Mar. 8, 2018; eff. Mar. 28, 2018.

**Amended:** F. May 29, 2018; eff. June 18, 2018.

**Amended:** F. June 10, 2021; eff. June 30, 2021.

### **391-3-4-.09 Shredding, Baling, Materials Recovery Facilities, and Other Processing Operations**

(1) Any person engaged in shredding, baling, or the recovery of materials from solid waste, shall comply with the following requirements:

(a) Design Standards: a design and operational plan prepared by a professional engineer registered to practice in Georgia and proposed as a part of the permit application must include, but is not limited to, the following standards:

1. Capacity. The facility shall be adequate in size and capacity to manage the projected incoming solid waste and residue volumes.
2. Baling Equipment. The equipment must be capable of producing a relatively uniform bale size and shape which can be easily handled by equipment at the baling facility. The bales must have sufficient stability to withstand transportation to the disposal site and handling necessary to position them for final disposal.
3. Storage Time. The facility shall provide for a minimum storage capacity of not less than three (3) times the daily capacity of the shredding, baling or materials recovery equipment. No waste shall be stored in excess of the permitted capacity.
4. Types of Waste. The application must include the sources, types, and weight of solid waste to be processed, and information concerning special environmental pollution or handling problems that may be created by the solid waste.
5. Air Quality. The facility shall be designed in such a manner as to meet any air quality standards of the Division.
6. Wastewater. Any wastewater generated by the facility shall be contained fully on the facility and discharged or delivered to a wastewater treatment system and, before final release, shall be treated in a manner approved by the Division.
7. Fire Protection. Facility design shall provide for fire control equipment placed near the storage area and elsewhere as needed, and additional fire fighting equipment shall be made available for emergencies.
8. Disposal of Waste. Shredded and baled waste and any material not sold or used, reused, or recycled as recovered material must be disposed in a permitted facility.

(b) Construction Certification: upon receipt of a final and effective solid waste handling permit, construction may commence in accordance with the approved design and operational plan and permit conditions. Prior to receipt of solid waste, the Division must be provided with written certification, by a professional engineer licensed to practice in Georgia, that the facility has been constructed in accordance with the approved permit. Unless notified otherwise by the Division within 15 days of receipt by the Division of the written certification, the facility owner or operator may commence processing of solid waste.

(c) Performance Standards. All persons owning or operating shredding, baling, or materials recovery facilities shall comply with the following requirements:

1. Supervision. Operation and management of the facility shall be under the supervision and control of a responsible individual properly trained in the operation of such facilities at all times during operation.

2. Shredding Plant Residue: The shredded material shall be deposited in a municipal solid waste landfill or handled in such a manner as may be approved by the Division.

3. Bales. The baling operation shall be controlled to produce a uniform bale size and shape which can be easily handled by equipment at the baling facility and at the disposal facility. The bales must have sufficient stability to withstand transportation to the disposal facility and handling necessary to position them for final disposal. Baled solid waste shall be deposited in a municipal solid waste landfill or handled in such other manner as may be approved by the Division.

4. Wastewater. Wastewater shall be contained fully on the facility and discharged or delivered to a wastewater treatment system and, before final release, shall be treated in a manner approved by the Division.

5. Air Quality. Atmospheric emissions shall be controlled so as not to exceed air quality standards of the Division.

6. Information Posted. Signs shall be posted at the entrance to the plant indicating the days and hours of operation. Access to the plant shall be limited to those times when authorized personnel are on duty.

7. Cleanliness and Sanitation. Facilities shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition. Solid waste shall be confined to the unloading area, which shall be maintained free of liquids, dust and nuisances. Accumulations of liquids, putrescible materials and rubbish shall be controlled in a manner to minimize odors and prevent infestation by insects or rodents, and insect and rodent control measures shall be applied as needed. Sanitary facilities shall be provided for employees and shall be kept clean and in good repair.

(2) Construction and operation of solid waste processing facilities for which specific rules have not been developed are prohibited unless same are consistent with the policies and intent of O.C.G.A. [12-8-20](#), *et seq.*, and are permitted by the Director.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-3-4-.09

**AUTHORITY:** Ga. L. 1972, p. 1002, as amended; O.C.G.A. § [12-8-20](#), *et seq.*, 12-8-23.

**HISTORY:** Original Rule was filed on September 19, 1974; effective October 9, 1974.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Shredding, Baling, Composting and Other Processing Operations" adopted. F. Jun. 9, 1989; eff. Jun. 29, 1989.

**Amended:** Rule retitled "Shredding, Baling, Materials Recovery Facilities and Other Processing Operations". F. Sept. 4, 1991; eff. Sept. 24, 1991.

**Amended:** F. Jun. 7, 1993; eff. Jun. 27, 1993.

**Amended:** F. Mar. 8, 2018; eff. Mar. 28, 2018.

**Amended:** F. June 10, 2021; eff. June 30, 2021.

### **391-3-4-.12 Post-Closure Care**

(1) [40 CFR Part 258, Subpart F, Section 258.61](#), as amended, 56 Fed. Reg. 51016 (October 9, 1991); 57 Fed. Reg. 28628 (June 26, 1992) is hereby incorporated by reference:

(2) The owner and/or operator of all landfills must conduct post-closure care for at least thirty (30) years after the Director has authorized the Post-Closure Permit. The Director may extend the post-closure care period where necessary to adequately protect human health and the environment.

(3) The owner and/or operator shall be responsible for conducting all monitoring and corrective actions as needed to protect human health and the environment, including, but not limited to:

(a) Methane monitoring, reporting and development of remediation plans in accordance with the requirements specified in paragraphs (h) and (v) of Rule [391-3-4-.07\(3\)](#), and the approved plans developed for the facility.

(b) Groundwater monitoring, reporting and development of corrective action plans in accordance with paragraph (v) of Rule [391-3-4-.07\(3\)](#), [391-3-4-.14](#) and the approved plans developed for the facility.

(4) Post-closure use of property must never be allowed to disturb the integrity of the final cover, liner(s), or any other components of the containment system, or the function of the monitoring systems, unless the Division determines that the activities are necessary to meet the requirements of this Chapter.

(5) If the owner and/or operator or any subsequent owner or operator of the land upon which a landfill is located wishes to remove wastes and waste residues, the liner, if any, or contaminated soils, the owner or operator must request and receive written approval from the Division.

(6) A copy of the post-closure care plan required under paragraph (1) of this Rule must be submitted as part of the permit application, or in the case of existing sites, within 180 days of being directed to do so by the Director.

(7) Owners and operators of CCR units are exempt from this Rule and must meet the post-closure requirements in Rule [391-3-4-.10](#).

(8) Reduction of Post-Closure Care. Unless the facility is in active remediation, the Director may reduce the post-closure care period at certain sites when the following is demonstrated:

(a) No releases of contaminants above the groundwater protection standard or surface water instream standards are occurring, or where a statistically significant increase above background but statistically below the groundwater protection standard exists;

(b) Methane from the site is not migrating above the Lower Explosive Limit at the property boundary; and

(c) The landfill is stable and will not pose a threat to human health or the environment and is currently in the closure or post-closure period.

(d) The post-closure care period at MSWLs must, at a minimum, be 30 years.

(e) The Director may reduce the post-closure care period at Industrial Waste Disposal Facilities and Construction/Demolition Facilities where 391-3-4-.12(8)(a), (b), and (c) can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Director.

(f) The Director may reduce the post-closure care period at sites permitted as Inert Waste Landfill Facilities where 391-3-4-.12(8)(b) and (c) can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Director.

(g) The post-closure care period in (e) and (f) must, at a minimum, be 10 years.

(9) Denial of reduction in Post-Closure Care. If an application for a reduction in post-closure care is denied by the Director, the applicant may request a subsequent review.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-3-4-.12

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-8-20](#) et seq., as amended.

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Post-Closure Care" was F. Jun. 9, 1989; eff. Jun. 29, 1989.

**Amended:** F. Sept. 4, 1991; eff. Sept. 24, 1991.

**Amended:** F. Jun. 7, 1993; eff. F. Jun. 27, 1993.

**Amended:** F. Oct. 7, 1993; eff. Oct. 27, 1993.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 2, 2016; eff. Nov. 22, 2016.

**Amended:** F. Mar. 8, 2018; eff. Mar. 28, 2018.

**Amended:** F. June 10, 2021; eff. June 30, 2021.

### **391-3-4-.16 Composting and Anaerobic Digestion Facilities**

(1) Composting is a desirable means of reducing the amount of solid waste destined for disposal. All composting facilities not exempted in 391-3-4-.16(3) shall either be regulated under Permit-by-Rule in 391-3-4-.16(5)(b) or shall obtain a Solid Waste Handling Permit in accordance with either 391-3-4-.16(5)(c), 391-3-4-.16(5)(d), 391-3-4-.16(5)(e), or 391-3-4-.16(5)(f) depending on the technology employed and feedstocks processed.

(a) Composting facilities in existence on the effective date of this Rule may continue to operate until March 31, 2015 under their existing permit, or Permit-by-Rule, before demonstrating compliance under conditions (i) - (vii) of this section. Existing facilities requesting major modifications after the effective date of this Rule must fully comply with this Rule. Facilities that cannot demonstrate compliance with conditions (i) - (vii) of this section by March 31, 2015 shall initiate closure.

(i) Existing Permit-by-Rule composting facilities that meet the criteria of 391-3-4-.16(5)(b) 1. must comply with the operating standards of Class 2 Composting Facilities, but are exempted from the design standards of Class 2 Composting Facilities.

(ii) Existing permitted composting facilities that classify as Class 3 Composting Facilities in 391-3-4-.16(5)(c) 1. and 2. must comply with the operating standards of Class 3 facilities, but are exempted from the design standards of Class 3 facilities.

(iii) Existing permitted composting facilities that classify as Class 4 Composting Facilities in 391-3-4-.16(5)(d) 1. and 2. must comply with the operating standards of Class 3 and Class 4 facilities, but are exempted from the design standards of Class 3 and Class 4 facilities.

(iv) Existing permitted composting facilities that classify as Class 5 Composting Facilities in 391-3-4-.16(5)(e) 1. must comply with the operating standards of Class 3, Class 4, and Class 5 facilities, but are exempted from the design standards of Class 3, Class 4, and Class 5 facilities.

(v) Existing permitted composting facilities that classify as Class 6 In-vessel Composting and Anaerobic Digestion Facilities in 391-3-4-.16(5)(f) 1. must comply with the operating standards of Class 6 facilities, but are exempted from the design standards of Class 6 facilities.

(vi) All existing composting and anaerobic digestion facilities are exempt from the siting criteria of 391-3-4-.16(6), unless applying for a major modification as in 391-3-4-.16(7)(a) 1. or 2.

(vii) All existing composting and anaerobic digestion facilities, other than those operating as Permit-by-Rule facilities, must comply with the testing requirements of 391-3-4-.16(8).

(2) Definitions. For the purposes of this Rule:

(a) "Aerated Static Pile Composting" means a process in which decomposing organic material is placed in piles over an air distribution system to supply oxygen for the purpose of producing compost.

(b) "Agricultural Residuals" means the residuals from customary and generally accepted activities, practices, and procedures that farmers adopt, use, or engage in during the production and preparation for market of poultry, livestock, and associated farm products; and in the production and harvesting of agricultural crops, which include agronomic, horticultural, and silvicultural crops, and residuals resulting from aquacultural activities. It also includes residuals from harvesting and production of row crops and manures. The term does not include dead animals, wastewater or special wastes, such as waste oils or other lubricants, unused fertilizers, pesticides, or pesticide containers.

(c) "Anaerobic Digester" means an enclosed vessel that processes organic material under anaerobic conditions to produce biogas and digestate.

(d) "Anaerobic Digestion" means the controlled decomposition of organic material under anaerobic conditions in an anaerobic digester to produce biogas and digestate.

(e) "Backyard Composting" means composting of yard trimmings and food residuals, managed so as not to attract vectors, at residential, commercial, or industrial property by the owner or tenant for use on site. All feedstocks must be generated and composted on site.

(f) "Biogas" means gas generated by anaerobic digestion.

(g) "Compost" means a stabilized organic product produced by a controlled aerobic decomposition process that can be used as a soil additive, fertilizer, growth media or other beneficial use.

(h) "Composting Facility" means buildings, grounds and equipment dedicated to the manufacture of compost.

(i) "Contact Water" means a liquid that has passed through or emerged from raw feedstocks and materials that are being processed; liquid that has come into contact with equipment that is dedicated to the composting or anaerobic digestion process; and which contains extracted, dissolved or suspended materials. Contact water also includes condensate from gases resulting from the composting and the anaerobic digestion processes.

(j) "Curing" means, for the purposes of composting and anaerobic digestion, a continuation of the composting process after the high heat stage during which stability and maturity continue to increase. For the purposes of these regulations, compost enters the curing stage after completing the process to further reduce pathogens.

(k) "Digestate" means the residual solids or liquids remaining after organic material has been processed in an anaerobic digester.

(l) "Feedstock" means any organic material used in the production of compost or processed in an anaerobic digester. Feedstocks shall not include additives or amendments that are not part of the composting process.

(m) "Food Processing Residuals" means organic material generated as a by-product of the food-processing sector that is non-hazardous and contains no domestic wastewater. For the purposes of these regulations, the term applies to use as a feedstock in the composting or anaerobic digestion process and does not include dissolved air flotation (DAF) skimmings or fats, oil, and greases.

(n) "Food Residuals" means pre- and post-consumer food used as a feedstock in a composting or anaerobic digestion facility.

(o) "Industrial By-product" means organic materials generated by manufacturing or industrial processes that are non-hazardous, contain no domestic wastewater, and pass the paint filter test.

(p) "In-vessel Composting" means the aerobic decomposition of organic material in an enclosed container for the purpose of producing compost.

(q) "Maturity" means a measure of the degree of completion of the composting process.

(r) "Source-separated Organics" means organic material including, but not limited to, food residuals, food processing residuals, and compostable paper that has been separated from non-compostable material.

(s) "Stability" means the inverse measure of the potential for a material to rapidly decompose that is measured by indicators of microbial activity, such as carbon dioxide production, oxygen uptake, or self-heating.

### (3) Exemptions.

(a) The following composting operations are exempt from a Solid Waste Handling Permit:

1. Backyard composting.
2. A facility composting only Category A feedstock.
3. A facility processing less than 40 tons per year of food residuals generated on site and composted in leak-proof containers that prohibit vector attraction and prevent nuisance odor generation.
4. Composting of food residuals and yard trimmings generated on site at a K-12 institution for educational purposes.
5. Composting of biosolids at a treatment works regulated by a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, Land Application System (LAS) permit, or other permit from EPD, and in which case that permit has been modified in accordance with the Georgia Rules for Water Quality Control [391-3-6-.17\(3\)\(c\) 1.](#) to incorporate any necessary requirements for regulating the composting operation.
6. Composting of dead animals, provided such composting is in accordance with the requirements of the Georgia Dead Animal Disposal Act (O.C.G.A. § 4-5) and Georgia Department of Agriculture Rules (Chapter 40-13-5).
7. Anaerobic digestion facilities that are permitted in accordance with the Georgia Rules for Water Quality Control. These include facilities located at a wastewater treatment plant and on-farm anaerobic digesters or lagoons.
8. Manures managed in accordance with the Georgia Rules for Water Quality Control.

### (4) Feedstock Categories.

(a) The categories described below are not intended to be all-inclusive. Case-by-case determinations by the Division may be necessary concerning selection of the appropriate category for a particular feedstock, including industrial by-products not elsewhere classified. Accordingly, the Division may require that analytical and/or process information be supplied by the owner or operator to assist in making such determinations. At a minimum, the Division will require applicants to provide an analysis of metals and proof of compostability of the potential feedstock, including C:N ratio and soluble salts.

1. Feedstock Category A: Yard trimmings, land-clearing debris, agricultural residuals generated and processed on site, untreated and unpainted wood, or any combination thereof.

2. Feedstock Category B: Agricultural residuals generated off site, herbivorous animal manure generated at a zoo, and/or source-separated organics.

3. Feedstock Category C: Sewage sludge and biosolids not managed as part of a treatment works under an NPDES or LAS permit.

4. Feedstock Category D: Dissolved air flotation (DAF) skimmings or sludge generated from food processing and dewatered septage.

(b) Prohibited feedstocks include:

1. Asbestos-containing wastes.

2. Biomedical wastes.

3. Painted and treated wood.

4. Any other prohibited wastes included in [391-3-4-.04\(6\)](#).

(5) Design and Operating Standards for Composting Facilities by Class.

(a) Class 1 Composting Facilities

1. Facilities composting only Category A feedstock do not require a Solid Waste Handling Permit.

2. A permitted solid waste handling facility shall submit a minor modification prior to adding a Class 1 composting operation on site.

(b) Class 2 Composting Facilities

1. Facilities composting Category A and B feedstocks that meet both of the following criteria may operate under a Permit-by-Rule for Composting Facilities:

(i) Facilities receiving less than 500 tons of Category B feedstock per calendar month.

(ii) For Class 2 facilities, Category B feedstocks shall be restricted to exclude the receipt of non-vegetative food processing residuals and manures.

2. The design standards for Class 2 facilities include:

(i) The composting area shall be constructed to maintain its structural integrity under operating conditions and be capable of supporting vehicular traffic.

(ii) The composting facility shall be adequate in size and capacity to manage the projected volume of compost and residue generated. The areas for storing feedstocks prior to processing shall be clearly defined and the maximum capacity specified.

(iii) For windrow operations, the maximum composting process windrow size and minimum composting process windrow spacing shall match the capability and requirements of the equipment used at the facility.

3. The operating standards for Class 2 facilities include:

(i) The composting facility shall have a sign at its entrance that lists the name of the facility, hours of operation, feedstocks accepted, and emergency contact information.

(ii) The composting facility shall have storm water control measures.

(iii) The composting facility shall prevent flow of contact water from the active composting area into surface water and curing or finished compost areas.

(iv) Suitable measures to control vectors shall be applied.

(v) Suitable measures to control odors shall be applied.

(vi) Suitable measures to prevent, control, and extinguish fires shall be applied.

(vii) By the end of each operating day, all incoming Category B feedstock must be processed into the active composting area, transferred to leak-proof containment, or mixed with bulking material and covered in a manner that minimizes nuisance odors and scavenging by vectors.

(viii) No material shall be stored in excess of the designated capacity.

(ix) Storage of finished compost on site is limited to 12 months, unless approved by the Division on a case-by-case basis.

(x) Non-compostable material and solid waste generated on site shall be stored in a waste container and then either recycled or disposed of at a permitted solid waste facility.

(xi) Facilities accepting Category B feedstocks from off-site shall track incoming feedstocks and finished compost. Records documenting compliance of the composting facility with these Rules shall be kept for a minimum of three years in a form suitable for submission to or inspection by the Division. Records shall include the weight or volume (in tons or cubic yards) of the feedstocks accepted, total compost produced, and any amount sold or used. Records shall be retained at the composting facility unless an off-site storage location is approved by the Division.

(xii) Operation and management shall be under the supervision and control of an individual properly trained in the operation of such facilities at all times. Facility operations managers must be able to document training in the basics of composting facility operations.

(xiii) Notice of final closure shall be provided to the Director within 60 days from final receipt of feedstock. Any site not receiving feedstock in excess of 180 days, unless properly closed or otherwise approved by the Division, shall be deemed closed and in violation of these Rules. Notice of closure shall include documentation that all feedstocks and active, curing, and final compost materials have been removed from the facility and that the site has been stabilized in accordance with the Manual for Erosion and Sediment Control in Georgia.

#### (c) Class 3 Composting Facilities

1. Any composting facility that is neither exempt under 391-3-4-.16(3), nor meets the conditions for Class 2 Composting Facilities in 391-3-4-.16(5)(b), shall obtain a permit in accordance with following requirements:

2. Class 3 composting facilities may compost Category A and B feedstocks.

3. The design standards for Class 3 facilities include:

(i) The composting facility shall be designed by a professional engineer licensed to practice in Georgia.

(ii) An all-weather compost pad shall be designed, constructed, and maintained to (1) prevent ponding and impede downward migration of potential contaminants from contact water; (2) reliably transmit any free liquid present during the storage, treatment, and processing of materials laterally to a containment structure to prevent liquids from entering surface water or groundwater; (3) support vehicular traffic; and (4) prevent conditions that could contribute to or cause contamination.



- (iii) Surfaces on which composting takes place shall be graded with a slope between 2% and 6% to prevent ponding of water.
  - (iv) The site shall be graded to prevent the flow of water from the active composting area into curing or finished compost areas.
  - (v) Prior to receiving feedstocks, the Division shall be provided with written certification by a professional engineer licensed to practice in Georgia, that the facility has been constructed in accordance with the approved permit. Unless notified otherwise by the Division, within 15 days of receipt of the written certification, the facility owner or operator may commence composting operations.
  - (vi) The owner or operator shall fully satisfy all applicable financial responsibility requirements, as provided by Chapter [391-3-4-.13](#). The financial assurance mechanism shall be updated at least annually for inflation and for any modifications required and approved by the Division.
  - (vii) An as-built survey of the facility, prepared by a Georgia-registered professional surveyor, shall be submitted with the engineering certification.
  - (viii) Contact water collection and removal systems shall be designed for incorporating the liquid back into the compost piles or for removal and treatment in a manner approved by the Division. Contact water may be used in the composting operation for moisture addition only in active compost piles that have not completed the process to further reduce pathogens.
  - (ix) The maximum composting process windrow size and minimum composting process windrow spacing shall match the capability and requirements of the equipment used at the facility.
  - (x) The composting facility shall submit a site-specific odor minimization plan that includes, at a minimum, the following:
    - (I) A complaint response protocol.
    - (II) A description of operating procedures for minimizing odor.
    - (III) A description of the processes and technologies used to control odors.
    - (IV) A description of procedures to monitor odor, including sampling frequencies and method(s) used to measure odors.
  - (xi) The composting facility shall submit a contingency plan detailing corrective or remedial actions to be taken in the event of equipment breakdown; odors; unacceptable waste delivered to the facility; spills; and other undesirable conditions such as fire, dust, noise, vectors, unusual traffic conditions, and litter. The plan shall also include the proposed emergency provisions for equipment breakdown or power failure.
4. The operating standards for Class 3 include:
- (i) Operation and management shall be under the supervision and control of an individual properly trained in the operation of such facilities at all times. Facility operations managers must be able to document training in the basics of composting facility operations.
  - (ii) The facility shall install and maintain storm water management controls.
  - (iii) Suitable measures to control vectors shall be applied.
  - (iv) Suitable measures to prevent, control, and extinguish fires shall be applied.

(v) By the end of each operating day, all incoming Category B feedstock shall be processed into the active composting area, transferred to leak-proof containment, or mixed with bulking material and covered in a manner that minimizes nuisance odors and scavenging by vectors. Prior to being incorporated into the active composting area, feedstocks with free liquid shall be mixed with drier feedstocks, bulking material, or compost so that the liquid is promptly absorbed and not allowed to flow from the mixing area.

(vi) Compost processing time and temperatures shall be sufficient to kill weed seeds, reduce pathogens and vector attraction, and produce compost that meets the stability necessary for the intended use. Pathogen and vector attraction reduction compliance shall be achieved as follows:

(I) Windrow composting: The compost material shall be maintained at a minimum average temperature of 55°C or higher for 15 days or longer. During the period when the compost is maintained at 55°C or higher, there shall be a minimum of five turnings of the windrow. The 15 or more days at or above 55°C do not have to be continuous.

(II) Aerated static pile or in-vessel composting: The compost material shall be maintained at a minimum average temperature of 55°C or higher for three consecutive days, followed by at least 14 days at over 40°C with an average temperature of over 45°C.

(vii) Facilities using aerated static piles shall insulate piles to ensure that all parts of the decomposing material reach and maintain temperatures at or above 55°C for a minimum of three days.

(viii) The all-weather compost pad must be maintained to its specified slope and resist deformation that would cause ponding or increase infiltration of contact water.

(ix) Storage of finished compost on site is limited to 12 months, unless approved by the Division on a case-by-case basis.

(x) Non-compostable material and solid waste generated on site shall be stored in a waste container and then either recycled or disposed of at a permitted solid waste facility.

(xi) Records shall be maintained to track incoming feedstocks and finished compost. By September 1 of each year, operators shall submit a report to the Division that includes the weight or volume (in tons or cubic yards) of the feedstocks accepted, total compost produced, and any amount sold or used in the previous fiscal year (July 1 - June 30).

(xii) Records documenting compliance of the composting facility with these Rules shall be kept for a minimum of three years in a form suitable for submission to or inspection by the Division. Records shall be retained at the composting facility unless an off-site storage location is approved by the Division.

(xiii) A facility odor minimization plan shall be maintained and updated as stipulated in the following:

(I) The odor impact minimization plan shall be revised and submitted to the Division for any major modification as described in 391-3-4-.16(7).

(II) The odor impact minimization plan shall be reviewed annually by the operator to determine if any revisions are necessary.

(III) The odor impact minimization plan and results of the odor monitoring shall be used by the Division to determine whether the facility is following the procedures approved in its permit and its design and operational plan.

(xiv) The composting facility shall have a sign at its entrance that lists the name of the facility, permit number, days and hours of operation, feedstocks accepted, and emergency contact information.

(xv) The composting facility shall be closed in accordance with Rule [391-3-4-.11](#).

(d) Class 4 Composting Facilities

1. Any composting facility that is neither exempt under 391-3-4-.16(2), nor meets the conditions for Permit-by-Rule for Composting Facilities in 391-3-4-.16(4)(b), shall obtain a permit in accordance with following requirements:

2. Class 4 composting facilities may compost Category A, B, and C feedstocks.

3. Class 4 composting facilities shall comply with the design and operating standards for Class 3 composting facilities and the additional design and operating standards listed below:

(i) The design standards for Class 4 include:

(I) The compost pad for the receiving, mixing, and active composting areas shall prohibit ponding and limit infiltration of contact water by being uniformly graded at a minimum slope of 2%. The compost pad shall contain a layer to limit infiltration. This layer shall either be one foot in thickness with a hydraulic conductivity not exceeding  $1 \times 10^{-5}$  cm/sec or an approved alternative which meets or exceeds this specification for the purpose of limiting infiltration. The layer to limit infiltration shall be constructed on a prepared and compacted subsurface, and overlain by a wearing surface that will resist deformation, prevent ponding, and prevent the infiltration of contact water. A minimum separation of five feet is required between the bottom of the infiltration layer and the seasonal high water table. Industrial waste proposed for the use in the construction of the compost pad shall be approved by the Division.

(II) Contact water shall be contained in a tank with secondary containment or in an impoundment with a liner system consisting of a one-foot layer of compacted soil with a hydraulic conductivity of no more than  $1 \times 10^{-7}$  cm/sec. The liner shall be overlain by a protective marker layer of sand or stone no less than one foot in thickness. An alternate liner system with the equivalent ability to limit infiltration may be approved by the Division.

(ii) The operating standards for Class 4 include:

(I) The composting pad shall be maintained and repaired as needed. Cracks or other defects identified in the wearing surface shall be promptly repaired under the supervision of the facility manager. Any repairs or reconstruction of the layer limiting infiltration shall be completed under the supervision of a professional engineer, who shall prepare a report and certification of the repairs. A copy of the report(s) shall be maintained in the facility's operating records. Compost materials shall not be placed in areas with damage to the infiltration layer, and berms or other diversions shall be installed to prevent run-on of contact water into these areas.

(II) Facilities that compost biosolids or sewage sludge shall comply with all applicable federal regulations regarding sludge management at 40 CFR 501; 40 CFR 503; and 40 CFR 503, Subpart B.

(III) Groundwater monitoring systems shall be designed and installed in accordance with [391-3-4-.14](#). Additionally:

(A) Monitoring parameters shall be established based on the hydrogeologic data related to the site, the type of feedstocks accepted at the facility, and waste characterization analyses performed on incoming feedstocks.

(B) Monitoring shall be conducted semi-annually, at a minimum.

(IV) By the end of each operating day, all incoming Category B and C feedstocks shall be processed into the active composting pile, transferred to leak-proof containment, or mixed with bulking material and covered in a manner that minimizes nuisance odors and scavenging by vectors.

(e) Class 5 Composting Facilities

1. Class 5 composting facilities may compost Category A, B, C, and D feedstocks.

2. Class 5 composting facilities shall comply with the design and operating standards for Class 3 and 4 composting facilities and the additional design and operating standards listed below:

(i) The design standards for Class 5 include: Reserved.

(ii) The operating standards for Class 5 include:

(I) The feedstock receiving and mixing areas shall be in an enclosed structure. The receiving area of the composting operation shall be constructed of asphalt, concrete, or a composite liner system. Receiving entrances shall be closed and under negative pressure during receipt and processing of Category D feedstocks.

(II) By the end of each operating day, all incoming Category B, C, and D feedstocks shall be processed into the active composting pile, transferred to leak-proof containment, or mixed with bulking material to minimize nuisance odors and scavenging by vectors.

(f) Class 6 In-vessel Composting and Anaerobic Digestion Facilities

1. Class 6 facilities employ in-vessel composting or anaerobic digestion. These facilities may process Category A, B, C, and D feedstocks.

2. The design standards for Class 6 facilities include:

(i) A description of the basic site design.

(ii) A description of the type of technology to be used, including a copy of the drawings and specifications of the composting or digestion equipment and a process flow diagram that includes the types of the major material handling equipment and material flow.

(iii) A description of the unit's requirements for power, water, and wastewater removal.

(iv) A description of the type and quantities of feedstock to be processed.

(v) A description of the storage capacity for feedstocks, products and digestate, if applicable.

(vi) Anticipated annual operational capacity in cubic yards or gallons per day.

(vii) A description of the proposed methods used to control spills, run-off, litter, odors, dust, rodents, and insects, including the storage of feedstocks, compost and digestate, leak-prevention and spill release measures, and the methods to monitor effectiveness for control measures.

(viii) The facility shall have a site-specific odor minimization plan that includes, at a minimum, the following:

(I) A complaint response protocol.

(II) A description of operating procedures for minimizing odor.

(III) A description of the processes and technologies used to control odors.

(ix) A contingency plan detailing corrective or remedial actions to be taken in the event of equipment breakdown; odors; unacceptable waste delivered to the facility; spills; and other undesirable conditions such as fire, dust, noise, vectors, unusual traffic conditions, and litter. The plan shall also include the proposed emergency provisions for equipment breakdown or power failure.

3. The operating standards for Class 6 facilities include:

(i) Operation and management shall be under the supervision and control of an individual properly trained in the operation of such facilities at all times. Facility operations managers must be able to document training in the basics of composting and/or anaerobic digestion operations through a course approved by the Division.

- (ii) The facility shall have a sign at its entrance that lists the name of the facility, permit number, days and hours of operation, feedstocks accepted, and emergency contact information.
- (iii) The facility shall install and maintain storm water management controls.
- (iv) Suitable measures to control vectors shall be applied.
- (v) Suitable measures to prevent, control, and extinguish fires shall be applied.
- (vi) The operator shall take measures to prevent spillage and promptly respond to any leaks or spills that occur.
- (vii) By the end of each operating day, all incoming Category B, C, and D feedstocks shall be processed, transferred to leak-proof containment, or mixed with bulking material and covered in a manner that minimizes odors and scavenging by vectors. For facilities with an anaerobic digester, the feedstocks can be stored in leak-proof containers with lids that prevent vector or odor problems for a period of time to allow for proper organic loading of the digester. This time period shall not exceed four days.
- (viii) Digestate not contained in an in-vessel digester, sealed container, or sealed structure, shall, within 24 hours, be removed from the site and either disposed or processed at a permitted solid waste facility or incorporated into a permitted, on-site compost operation. Digestate may be stored in a sealed container or sealed structure for up to nine months. By-products from the separation of digestate shall be stored separately and in sealed containers.
- (ix) Non-compostable waste shall be stored in a waste container and then recycled or disposed of at a permitted solid waste facility.
- (x) For in-vessel composting operations, the operator shall ensure that the composting process reduces pathogens. The compost material shall be maintained at a minimum average temperature of 55°C or higher for three consecutive days, followed by at least 14 days at over 40°C with an average temperature of over 45°C.
- (xi) Facilities employing anaerobic digestion must minimize the uncontrolled release of biogas.
- (xii) Notice of final closure shall be provided to the Director within 60 days from final receipt of feedstock. Any site not receiving feedstock in excess of 180 days, unless properly closed or otherwise approved by the Division, shall be deemed closed and in violation of these Rules. Notice of closure shall include documentation that all feedstocks, compost materials and digestate have been removed from the facility and that the site has been stabilized in accordance with the Manual for Erosion and Sediment Control in Georgia.

(6) Criteria for Siting Composting Facilities.

(a) Class 2 composting facilities shall comply with the following criteria:

1. The facility shall not be located in the 100-year floodplain.
2. A 50-foot undisturbed buffer shall be maintained between the composting operation and the property line.
3. A 200-foot buffer shall be maintained between the composting operation and any adjacent residences and/or drinking water supply wells.
4. A 50-foot buffer shall be maintained between the composting operation and all streams.
5. A description of surrounding land uses up to a ½-mile radius shall be provided.
6. Airport safety restrictions, as required by Rule [391-3-4-.05\(1\)\(c\)](#) for MSWLF units, shall be met.

(b) Classes 3-6 composting facilities and anaerobic digestion facilities shall comply with the following criteria:

1. The facility shall submit a letter from the local government authority stating that the proposed facility complies with local zoning and land use ordinances.
2. The facility shall submit written verification by the applicant that the facility is consistent with the local or regional solid waste management plan, as required in Rule [391-3-4-.02\(4\)\(c\) 5](#).
3. The facility shall not be located in the 100-year floodplain.
4. The facility shall submit a map of the topographic setting depicting features, including all upstream and downstream drainage areas affecting or affected by the proposed site, floodplain, gullies, karst conditions, wetlands, unstable soils, and percent slope.
5. A 100-foot undisturbed buffer shall be maintained between the composting operation and the property line.
6. A 500-foot buffer shall be maintained between the composting operation and any adjacent residences and/or any drinking water supply wells.
7. A 50-foot buffer shall be maintained between the composting operation and all streams.
8. A description of surrounding land uses up to a ½-mile radius shall be provided.
9. Airport safety restrictions as required by Rule [391-3-4-.05\(1\)\(c\)](#) for MSWLF units, shall be met.
10. The facility shall submit a site assessment report, prepared by a professional geologist or geotechnical engineer registered in Georgia, addressing the above-listed criteria.

(c) In addition to meeting the Class 3 siting requirements, Class 4 and 5 composting facilities shall comply with the following siting criteria:

1. Submission of a hydrogeological assessment, as specified in [391-3-4-.05\(1\)\(j\)](#) may be required.
2. Submission of an odor assessment that includes, at a minimum:
  - (i) The proximity of existing odor receptors;
  - (ii) An evaluation of the site and operation characteristics to determine the potential for impacts on the neighboring community from the off-site migration of odors from the proposed facility; and
  - (iii) A description of the design considerations or practices to be implemented to control the potential impacts of off-site odors generated from the facility.

(7) Permit Modifications for Class 3-6 Facilities.

(a) All modifications of existing facilities shall be classified as follows:

1. Major modifications include those changes which substantially alter the design of the facility, management practices, the types or categories of feedstocks processed, or the technologies employed, and due to the nature of the changes, would likely impact the facility's ability to adequately protect human health and the environment. Major modifications, therefore, require closer review and public input than minor modifications.
2. Major modifications shall include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - (i) A modification which adds a new solid waste handling process. This shall include, but not be limited to, the addition of a materials recovery facility, a composting operation co-located at an anaerobic digestion facility, baling operation, shredding operation, or liquid solidification operation.

(ii) A modification which involves a change to a site suitability requirement, which could have originally impacted the siting of the facility.

3. Minor modifications include changes that do not substantially alter the permit conditions, that do not reduce the capacity of the facility to protect human health or the environment, or that do not prevent the facility from responding in a timely manner. These changes include common variations in the type and quantities of feedstocks managed, technological advancements, or changes necessary to comply with new Rules, where these changes can be implemented without substantially changing design specifications or management practices in the permit.

(i) Minor modifications shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

(I) Changing the name of the facility.

(II) A modification which involves the relocation of access roads.

(III) A modification which adds scales.

(IV) A modification which involves the addition or removal of on-site structures.

(V) A modification which involves the addition of or a change to a groundwater or surface water monitoring system.

(VI) A modification which involves the addition or removal of a Permit-by-Rule facility.

(VII) A modification which involves the removal of any solid waste handling facility.

(VIII) A modification which involves the addition of or a change to a closure or post-closure plan.

(IX) A modification which involves the addition of or a change to a method of contact water handling and/or treatment.

(X) A modification which involves the addition of a corrective action plan.

(XI) A modification which involves a change in ownership, or in the case of a corporation of over five percent of the stock in a corporation holding a permit, but does not involve the transfer of the permit.

4. All major modifications shall be subject to the following requirements:

(i) Submission of a completed application for a permit modification.

(ii) Submission of supporting documents accompanying the application for a permit modification that describe the exact change(s) to be made to the permit conditions and supporting documents referenced by the permit that explain why the change is needed.

(iii) Submission of a revised design for the requested change(s).

(iv) Submission of written verification by the applicant, as required by Rule [391-3-4-.05\(1\)\(a\)](#), that the facility, as proposed to be modified, conforms to all local zoning/land use ordinances, if any.

(v) Submission of written verification by the applicant that the facility, as proposed to be modified, is consistent with local or regional solid waste management plans. The verification shall consist of letters from the host jurisdiction and generating jurisdictions verifying consistency with the approved local solid waste plan.

(vi) Submission of written verification by the applicant that a public hearing was held by the governing authority of the county or municipality in which the facility requesting the modification is located, not less than two weeks prior to granting approval of the modification. Submission of a typed transcript of the hearing. Submission of written verification that notice of such hearing was posted at the site of such facility and advertised in a newspaper of

general circulation serving the county or counties in which the facility is located at least 30 days prior to such hearing.

(8) Testing.

(a) Class 3-6 composting facilities and anaerobic digestion facilities that compost on site shall meet the following test standards and requirements:

1. Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of product testing shall be representative of the composting activity and shall be conducted in accordance with methods and procedures approved by the Director.
2. The minimum number of samples that shall be collected and analyzed is shown in the table below. Samples to be analyzed shall be composted prior to the analysis.

Compost Quantity <sup>1</sup> (tons/yr)	Frequency
1 - 6,200	Once per quarter
6,201 - 17,500	Once every two months
Greater than 17,500	Once per month

<sup>1</sup>Either the amount of finished compost applied to the land, prepared for sale or given away on an "as is" (wet weight) basis.

If test results show the finished product is stable and in compliance with both metals and pathogens standards for a two-year period, the facility may request a reduction in the frequency of testing, provided there are no changes in feedstocks composted at the facility. Class 3 facilities may test for pathogens and trace metals at half the frequency, but overall testing for all other characteristics must be as defined in the table above.

3. All compost shall be tested for stability in accordance with methods and procedures approved by the Director.

(i) The stability results shall be documented in the facility's operating records.

4. All compost shall be tested for the presence of pathogens in accordance with methods and procedures approved by the Director.

(i) Either the density of fecal coliform in the finished compost shall be less than 1,000 most probable number (MPN) per gram of total solids (dry weight basis), or the density of *Salmonella* sp. bacteria in the finished compost shall be less than three MPN per four grams of total solids (dry weight basis) before the compost may be sold, given away, or applied to the land.

5. All compost shall be analyzed for metals in accordance with methods and procedures approved by the Director.

(i) The following pollutant concentrations shall not be exceeded:

Pollutant	Monthly average concentration (milligrams per kilogram) <sup>1</sup>
Arsenic	41
Cadmium	39
Copper	1,500
Lead	300
Mercury	17
Nickel	420
Selenium	100
Zinc	2,800



<sup>1</sup> On a dry weight basis.

(b) For Class 6 facilities that operate an anaerobic digester, the facility shall, at a minimum, monitor or test the following:

1. Chemical Oxygen Demand shall be tested daily if the feedstocks change on a daily basis or weekly if the feedstocks are consistent or if the digester is at steady state, with steady state being defined as the treatment level or the gas production is constant for at least three Hydraulic Retention Times (HRT).

2. Alkalinity shall be measured daily if the feedstocks change on a daily basis or weekly if the feedstocks are consistent or if the digester is at steady state, with steady state being defined as the treatment level or the gas production is constant for at least three Hydraulic Retention Times (HRT).

3. Gas production shall be monitored.

(c) Digestate that has not been analyzed for metal concentration, pathogen concentration, and any other contaminants as stipulated by the Division, or is known to contain any metal in amounts that exceed the maximum metal concentrations in 391-3-4-.16(8)(a)(5)(i), shall be designated for disposal or additional processing.

(d) The Division may approve alternative methods of compliance to meet the requirements of this section including, but not limited to, sampling frequencies.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-3-4-.16

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-8-20](#) et seq.

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Asbestos Containing Waste" was F. Jun. 9, 1989; eff. Jun. 29, 1989.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Composting" adopted. F. Sept. 4, 1991; eff. Sept. 24, 1991.

**Amended:** F. Jun. 7, 1993; eff. Jun. 27, 1993.

**Amended:** Title changed to "Composting, Mulching and Anaerobic Digestion Facilities." F. Jun. 25, 2014; eff. Jul. 15, 2014.

**Amended:** F. Mar. 8, 2018; eff. Mar. 28, 2018.

**Amended:** New title "Composting and Anaerobic Digestion Facilities." F. June 10, 2021; eff. June 30, 2021.

## **391-3-4-.19 Scrap and Used Tire Management**

(1) Applicability.

(a) Scrap tire handling shall be regulated from the point of generation through the point of final disposition. The provisions of this Rule, except where exemptions apply, shall apply to all persons presently engaged in, or proposing to be engaged in, the retail sale of new replacement tires, handling of scrap tires, and/or the collection, inventory and marketing of used tires.

(b) All persons subject to regulation under this Rule shall, in addition to the requirements of 391-3-4-.19, handle scrap tires in accordance with the provisions of O.C.G.A. [12-8-20](#), et seq., and the Rules for Solid Waste Management, Chapter 391-3-4, applicable to solid waste.

(2) Definitions. For the purposes of this Rule:

- (a) "Beneficial reuse" means the use of scrap tires for purposes other than its original intended use and that have been approved by the Division prior to reuse.
- (b) "Enclosure" means structure with four sides and roof or an area surrounded by a wall or fence with the purpose of controlling or limiting access.
- (c) "End user" means the last person who uses the scrap tires, chips, crumb rubber, or similar materials to make a product with economic value, or, in the case of energy recovery, the person who uses the heat content or other form of energy from the incineration, combustion or pyrolysis of waste tires, chips or similar materials.
- (d) "Financial Assurance" means a mechanism designed to demonstrate that funds will be available to ensure compliance with statutory, regulatory and permit requirements of tire carriers and processors. The financial mechanism must be either a surety bond or an irrevocable letter of credit.
- (e) "Manufacturer" means a person who produces new tires from raw materials for the original intended use on, but not limited to, automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, trailers, recreational vehicles, construction equipment, earth-moving equipment and aircraft.
- (f) "Mixed Tires" means a group of tires that may consist of "used tires," "retreadable casings," and "scrap tires."
- (g) "Organized Site Cleanup Activity" means scrap tire abatement activities conducted by a government entity, non-profit, or other organization.
- (h) "Point of Final Disposition" means a location approved by the Division to receive scrap tires including, but not limited to, scrap tire processors, scrap tire sorters and end users.
- (i) "Residuals" means by-products resulting from the processing of scrap tires including, but not limited to, fibers, metals, inner tubes and rims.
- (j) "Retreadable Casing" means a scrap tire suitable for retreading. This includes casings that have value as a potential retreaded tire. This does not include casings with tread separation, unrepaired cuts, corroded belts, sidewall damage, run-flat or skidded.
- (k) "Retail Dealer" means a person actively engaged in the business of selling new replacement tires. Retail dealers may also be, but are not limited to, manufacturers, wholesalers, and others who sell new replacement tires to the ultimate consumer.
- (l) "Scrap Tire" means a tire that is no longer suitable for its original intended purpose because of wear, damage, or defect.
- (m) "Scrap Tire Generator" means any person who generates scrap tires including, but not limited to, tire retailers; retail dealers; retreaders; scrap tire processors; scrap tire sorters; automobile dealers; private company vehicle maintenance shops; used tire dealers; garages, and service stations; and city, county, and state governments.
- (n) "Scrap Tire Processing" means any method, system, or other treatment designed to change the physical form, size, or chemical content of scrap tires for beneficial use.
- (o) "Scrap Tire Processor" means any person approved through a permit issued by the Division to receive and process scrap tires, but shall not include a registered secondary metals recycler operating a scrap metal shredder for the purpose of shredding metallic scrap, including scrap automobiles containing five or fewer scrap tires per automobile into specification grades of scrap metal.
- (p) "Scrap Tire Sorter" means any person, other than a registered scrap tire generator or a scrap tire processor, who handles mixed tires by separating used tires and retreadable casings from scrap tires and is approved through a permit by the Division.

(q) "Tire" means a continuous solid or pneumatic rubber covering designed for encircling the wheel of a motor vehicle and which is neither attached to the motor vehicle nor a part of the motor vehicle as original equipment.

(r) "Tire Carrier" means any person engaged in collecting or transporting tires, other than new tires. For the purpose of this Rule, tire carrier does not include a transporter of scrap or crushed vehicles.

(s) "Tire Manifest" means a form or document used to identify the quantity, composition, origin, routing and destination of scrap tires during transportation from the point of generation to a point of final disposition and to track used tires from the point of generation to another location.

(t) "Tire Retailer" means any person, other than a used motor vehicle parts dealer licensed in accordance with Chapter 47 of Title 43, engaged in the business of selling new replacement tires or used tires.

(u) "Tire Retreader" means any person actively engaged in the business of retreading scrap tires by scarifying the surface to remove the old surface tread and attaching a new tread to make a usable tire.

(v) "Ultimate Consumer" means the last person who receives and uses a new replacement tire.

(w) "Used Tire" means a tire which has a minimum of 2/32 inch of road tread and which is still suitable for its original purpose but is no longer new. A tire retailer shall inventory and market used tires in substantially the same fashion as a new tire and be able to provide satisfactory evidence to the division that a market for the tire exists and that the tire is in fact being marketed as a used tire. A used tire shall not be considered solid waste.

(x) "Used Tire Dealer" means a tire retailer selling used tires as defined in this Rule.

### (3) Retail Dealers.

(a) Beginning July 1, 1992, a tire management fee is imposed upon the retail sale of all new replacement tires in this state of \$1.00 per tire sold. The fee shall be collected by retail dealers at the time the retail dealer sells a new replacement tire to the ultimate consumer; provided, however, that a Georgia tire distributor who sells tires to retail dealers must collect such fees from any retail dealer who does not have a valid scrap tire generator identification number issued by the Division.

1. New replacement tires include, but are not limited to, automobile, truck, heavy equipment, motor bike, boat and other trailers, aircraft, and recreational vehicles.

2. Local and state governments are not exempt from the fee.

3. The fee shall not be imposed on the sale of:

(i) Tires with a rim size less than 12 inches;

(ii) Tires from any device moved exclusively by human power; or

(iii) Tires used exclusively for agricultural purposes, except farm truck tires.

(b) Retail dealers shall remit fees and a quarterly tire fee report documenting the number of new replacement tires sold to the Division. The retail dealers shall use forms provided by the Division. The fee and report shall be remitted by the 30<sup>th</sup> day of April, July, October, and January of each year, covering the period for the preceding quarter.

(c) In collecting, reporting, and paying the fees due under this section, each distributor or retailer shall be allowed the following deductions, but only if the amount due was not delinquent at the time of payment:

1. A deduction of three percent of the first \$3,000.00 of the total amount of all fees reported due on such report; and

2. A deduction of one-half of one percent of the portion exceeding \$3,000.00 of the total amount of all fees reported on such report.

(4) Scrap Tire Generators.

(a) Any person who generates scrap tires in this state shall have a scrap tire generator identification number (ID number #) issued by the Division. The ID number shall be used on tire manifests. A separate ID number shall be required for each business location.

(b) The following persons shall not be required to have an ID number:

1. Scrap tire generators who generate scrap tires at out-of-state locations and ship their scrap tires to a point of final disposition in Georgia; and

2. A licensed used motor vehicle parts dealer or registered secondary metals recycler, who does not generate scrap tires for disposal or recycling.

3. A municipal solid waste collector holding a valid solid waste collection permit under authority of this part whose primary business is the collection of municipal solid waste;

4. A private individual transporting no more than 10 of the individual's own or a private individual transporting more than 10 tires if such individual can provide proof of purchase with receipt for such tires;

5. Any person transporting tires collected as part of an organized site cleanup activity;

(c) Scrap tire generators shall initiate a tire manifest to track scrap tires during transportation from the point of generation to an approved point of final disposition. The tire manifest shall include the following information:

1. Name, address, county, telephone number and scrap tire generator identification number;

2. An estimate of the number (accurate to within 10% of actual number) or weight of scrap tires to be transported;

3. Signature of the generator certifying the estimate and the date the scrap tires were picked up;

4. Name, address, telephone number and permit number of the tire carrier;

5. Signature of the permitted tire carrier, the date of pickup from the generator and the date of delivery to the point of final disposition;

6. Name, address, telephone number and permit number of the point of final disposition;

7. Signature of authorized representative at the point of final disposition certifying the weight (in tons or number of tires) and the date received from the tire carrier.

(d) If a generator chooses to use tons of tires rather than actual numbers of tires on the tire manifest for passenger and truck tires, the following conversion factor must be used:

1. Passenger Tires: 2000 lb. (one ton) = 89 tires (22.5 lb/tire)

2. Truck Tires: 2000 lb. (one ton) = 17 tires (120 lb/tire)

(e) Scrap tire generators shall ensure that any person collecting and transporting their scrap tires hold a valid tire carrier permit issued by the Division and that their scrap tires were delivered to the point of final disposition designated by the generator on the scrap tire manifest.

(f) Scrap tire generators shall retain a copy of the tire manifest signed and dated by the carrier at the time the scrap tires were collected or transported. This tire manifest copy should be kept until the generator receives the original tire manifest signed by the generator, carrier and point of final disposition. The original tire manifest shall be kept on-site for a period of three years.

(g) A scrap tire generator shall notify the Division in writing of any carrier who fails to return a properly completed tire manifest to the generator within 30 days from scrap tire pickup. Such notification shall be filed within 15 days following any failure of the carrier to deliver the tire manifest with original signature to the generator.

(h) Scrap tire generators may designate whether a tire, because of wear, damage, or defect, is a "used tire", or "retreadable casing" as defined in these Rules. However, if a generator fails to designate which tires are "used", or "retreadable casings" then all tires transported shall be considered scrap tires and must be indicated on the tire manifest.

(5) Tire Carriers.

(a) Unless otherwise exempted, any person collecting or transporting scrap or used tires shall have a tire carrier permit issued by the Division. A permit shall not be issued unless the financial assurance, as provided for in these Rules, has been submitted and approved by the Division.

(b) A separate permit and financial assurance instrument shall be required for each tire carrier business location.

(c) A tire carrier shall transport scrap tires only to a point of final disposition as defined in these Rules.

(d) Storage of scrap tires by tire carriers is prohibited.

(e) The permitted tire carrier shall maintain financial assurance in a format provided by the Division. The required financial assurance is as follows:

1. \$10,000.00 for carriers transporting up to 5,000 scrap tires per month.
2. \$20,000.00 for carriers transporting more than 5,000 scrap tires per month.

(f) The permitted tire carrier shall submit a quarterly report to the Division on forms provided by the Division. Reports shall be submitted by the 30th day of April, July, October and January of each year and cover the reporting period for the preceding calendar quarter. The tire carrier shall retain copies of the quarterly reports, tire manifests, invoices and weight tickets for three years at their place of business or other location approved by the Division. The tire carrier shall make these records available for review upon request by the Division.

(g) The permitted tire carrier shall display a decal issued by the Division on both the driver's and passenger's doors on each vehicle used to collect or transport tires. A decal shall not be required for a tire carrier that collects tires exclusively from outside this state and transports them directly to a scrap tire processor or end user within this state.

1. By August 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, tire carriers shall purchase decal(s) for each vehicle used to collect or transport tires.
2. The tire carrier shall pay the Division a nominal fee for each decal issued.
3. Decals are valid for a one-year period and shall expire on July 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

(h) It shall be the responsibility of the permitted tire carrier to return the tire manifest, with the three required original signatures, to the scrap tire generator no later than 30 days from the date on which the carrier collected the scrap tires from the generator.

(i) The following persons shall not be required to have a tire carrier permit:

1. A tire retailer transporting its own used tires, if such dealer can provide proof of purchase with receipt for all used tires being transported and a document verifying the origin, route and destination of such used tires;
2. A municipal solid waste collector holding a valid solid waste collection permit under authority of this part whose primary business is the collection of municipal solid waste;
3. A private individual transporting no more than 10 of the individual's own tires or a private individual transporting more than 10 tires if such individual can provide proof of purchase with receipt for such tires;
4. A company transporting the company's own tires to a scrap tire processor or end user or for proper disposal;
5. Any person transporting tires collected as part of an organized site cleanup activity;
6. The United States, the State of Georgia, any county, municipality, or public authority.
7. Other persons, as approved by the Division, on a one time or temporary basis, as needed to further the intent of O.C.G.A. [12-8-20](#), *et seq.*, that scrap tires be reused or recycled rather than disposed.

(6) Scrap Tire Storage.

(a) No person may store more than 25 scrap tires anywhere in this state.

(b) If scrap tires are secured in a locked enclosure or are otherwise adequately secured in a manner suitable to prevent unauthorized access, then paragraph (6)(a) of this Rule shall not apply to the following:

1. A solid waste disposal site permitted by the Division, if the permit authorizes the storage of scrap tires prior to their disposal;
2. A tire retailer or a publicly owned vehicle maintenance facility with not more than 1,500 scrap tires in storage;
3. A tire retreader with not more than 3,000 scrap tires in storage, so long as the scrap tires are of the type the retreader is actively retreading;
4. A licensed used motor vehicle parts dealer registered with the Secretary of State's office, a registered secondary metals recycler or a privately owned vehicle maintenance facility that operates solely for the purpose of servicing a commercial vehicle fleet with not more than 500 scrap tires in storage; and
5. A permitted scrap tire processor or sorter that has received approval prior to October 28, 2015 or holds a current permit, so long as the number of scrap tires in storage does not exceed the quantity approved by the Division. The Division may grant a waiver for the enclosure requirement if the person requesting the waiver can definitively show a significant and unique economic hardship which would impair the person's ability to continue operating his or her business.
6. A farm with 100 or fewer scrap tires in storage or in use for agriculture purposes. In addition, the Division may grant waivers to allow the storage or use of more than 100 scrap tires for agricultural purposes, if such storage or use does not pose a threat to human health or the environment.

(c) Any person storing scrap tires is subject to the following requirements:

1. Unless otherwise specified in an approved plan by the Division, all scrap tires shall be stored in a manner (e.g. under roof, secured tarp, or the like to prevent water accumulation) that controls the breeding and harborage of mosquitoes, rodents and other vectors;
2. Activities involving open flames and other flammable materials (oil, gas, fuel) shall not be allowed within 25 feet of a scrap tire storage area, with the exception of maintenance activities involving torches and welding equipment, as long as a fireproof barrier is used;

3. A 50-foot wide fire lane shall be placed around the perimeter of each scrap tire pile.

4. All persons engaged in the collection, storage or processing of scrap tires, retreadable or used tires shall control the presence of vectors or other nuisance pests associated with storage of the tires. Such pests may include, but are not limited to, mosquitoes, rats, mice, snakes and other animals living in or adjacent to the tire storage. Permitted or approved facilities shall maintain records for three years that include, but are not limited to:

(i) Type of control method used;

(ii) If chemical control - the name of the chemical(s);

(iii) Dates and amounts of chemical(s) used; and

(iv) Chemical storage location.

(7) Criteria for Scrap Tire Processors, Sorters and Disposal Facilities.

(a) Processing operations shall include, but not limited to, shredding, chopping, chipping, splitting, pyrolysis, microwave, and cryogenic operations. Provided financial assurance requirements of these rules have been met, permitted scrap tire processors in existence on the effective date of this Rule may continue to operate under their existing permit. Existing facilities requesting modifications after the effective date of this Rule must fully comply with this Rule. Scrap tire processing facilities shall meet the following requirements:

1. All scrap tire processors located in this state shall submit an application and obtain a permit issued by the Director prior to operation. No person may process scrap tires without a permit issued from the Director.

2. A permitted scrap tire processor shall maintain financial assurance in a format provided by the Division in the amount of \$20,000 for each business location.

3. All scrap tire processors shall have and follow an operations plan approved by the Division. The facility owner(s) or authorized representatives shall submit a written request to modify an approved operations plan. Any proposed modification to the facility and/or operations shall not be implemented until approved by the Division.

4. The operations plan shall include, zoning approval, proof of fire inspection, operational narrative, site plan and drawing of the operation, and shall be designed by a professional engineer licensed to practice in Georgia.

5. Processors must show that they have the necessary operable equipment in place to process scrap tires prior to receiving scrap tires for processing.

6. In addition to the scrap tire storage requirements in section (6) of these Rules, the following requirements apply:

(i) Storage limits are based on the processing equipment capability, proof of market, recycling rate and available storage space.

(ii) Storage of scrap tires shall not exceed a 30 day operating supply. Prior approval for increased storage limits must be approved by the Division if 30 day operating supply cannot be met.

(iii) Any processor with tires, product or residuals in enclosed trailers shall be subject to the following requirements:

(I) Trailer storage areas must be clearly depicted on a site plan.

(II) Storage area shall be no greater than 10,000 square feet per storage area.

(III) A minimum of two feet must be maintained between trailers (side-to-side and end-to-end). No more than two rows of trailers per storage area may be stored at any facility. Such storage must be end-to-end and the trailer must

be stored in a manner that allows direct removal of the trailer if needed. Empty trailers stored in the area designated for scrap tire storage are subject to the same separation requirements.

(IV) A 50-foot wide fire lane shall be placed around the perimeter of each scrap tire storage area. The fire lane shall be kept free of debris, vehicles, trailers, weeds, grass and other potentially combustible material.

(iv) Processors must meet the following requirements for tires, processed tires, product, and residuals stored on the ground.

(I) A tire, processed tire, product, or residual pile shall have no greater than the following maximum dimensions:

I. Area: 10,000 square feet.

II. Height: 15 feet.

(II) A 50-foot wide fire lane shall be placed around the perimeter of each pile with the exception of noncombustible materials (rims, wires, etc.). The fire lane shall be kept free of debris, vehicles, trailers, weeds, grass and other potentially combustible material. Existing processors may comply with the fire lane requirements documented on an approved plan until the plan is modified.

(III) Storage of whole tires, products, and residuals near buildings is prohibited unless:

I. A non-combustible/non-flammable barrier (firewall) is constructed in accordance with applicable state or local firewall requirements and a 25-foot fire lane, unless otherwise set by the local fire authority or a Georgia State Certified Fire Inspector, is maintained between the firewall and the building.

II. The whole tires, processed tires, products, and residuals shall not exceed the height of the firewall.

7. Scrap tire processors shall meet the following operational requirements:

(i) Access to the processing facility and fire lane(s) for emergency vehicles shall be unobstructed at all times, with the exception of routine loading or unloading operations, provided the vehicles are attended by their drivers during that time.

(ii) In the event of fire, the owner or operator shall immediately take all necessary steps to control and extinguish the fire and control any resulting runoff (i.e., water, oil or other fluid residue).

(iii) The run-off resulting from fires or fire suppression actions shall be prevented by berms or other detention structures approved by the Division from entering drains and waters of the state. Material(s) used in berm construction must be non-combustible, non-flammable and prevent run-off.

(iv) The facility owner or operator shall provide documentation that the local fire authority or a Georgia State Certified Fire Inspector conducted a fire safety survey. The facility owner or operator shall arrange for an additional fire safety survey as part of any modification request that would increase the amount of scrap tires in storage.

(v) Operations involving the use of open flames shall not be conducted within 25 feet of a scrap tire stockpile, processed tire stockpile or processing equipment. An exception is allowed for maintenance activity using torches or welding equipment, as long as fireproof curtains or other fireproof barrier shields the ignition source from storage or equipment areas.

(vi) Access to the facility shall be controlled using fences, gates or other means of security.

(vii) An attendant shall be present when the scrap tire processing facility is open for business if the facility receives tires from persons other than the operator of the facility.



(viii) Any residuals from scrap tire processing shall be managed so as to be contained on-site and shall be controlled and disposed of in a permitted solid waste handling facility or be properly recycled.

(ix) A scrap tire processing facility shall not accept any scrap tires for processing if it has reached its approved or permitted staging limit. At least 75 percent of both the scrap and processed tires that are accumulated by the scrap tire processing facility each calendar quarter, and 75 percent by weight or volume of all scrap tires previously received and not recycled, reused or properly disposed during the preceding calendar quarter shall be processed and removed from the facility for disposal or recycling from the facility during the quarter or disposed of in a solid waste handling facility approved to accept scrap tires.

(x) Communication equipment shall be maintained at the scrap tire processing facility to ensure that the facility attendant or operator can contact local emergency response authorities in the event of a fire. The facility will notify the Division within 24 hours in the event of a fire requiring a response by the local fire jurisdiction.

(xi) The emergency/contingency portion of the operations plan shall include, but not be limited to:

(I) A list of names and numbers of persons to be contacted in the event of a fire, flood or other emergency.

(II) A list of the emergency response equipment at the facility, its location and how it should be used in the event of a fire or other emergency.

(III) A description of the procedures that should be followed in the event of a fire, including procedures to contain and dispose of the oily material generated by the combustion of large numbers of tires.

(xii) Facility shall have storm water control measures.

(xiii) Facility shall have erosion and sediment control measures.

#### 8. Scrap tire processors recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

(i) The owner or operator of a scrap tire processing facility shall retain required records for three years and make such records available for inspection by the Division. Required records include, but are not limited to:

(I) Copies of the tire manifests for all tires received.

(II) If more than ten scrap tires were delivered by a person who is not a permitted tire carrier or generator, the number or weight of tires delivered, the date and the person's name, address, telephone number and signature.

(III) Properly dated, numbered and signed weight tickets, from certified scales at the facility or from a certified public or private scale, for scrap tires or processed tire materials received at or leaving the facility.

(IV) For all scrap tires shipped for reuse or retreading, the quantity and type (passenger car, truck tires, off the road, or others) shipped and the name and location of the person receiving the tires.

(V) For all processed tires and residuals, invoices and shipping tickets identifying the date, weight, name, address and phone number of the point of final disposition.

(ii) Owners and operators of scrap tire processing facilities shall submit a quarterly report to the Division. The quarterly report shall be submitted by the 30th day of April, July, October and January. The report shall include, but not limited to, the following:

(I) The facility name, address and permit number.

(II) The calendar quarter and year covered by the report.

(III) The total weight of scrap or processed tires received at the facility during the period covered by the report.

(IV) The total weight of scrap tires, processed tires, residuals and used tires shipped from the facility during the period covered by the report.

(V) The amount of scrap, processed tires or residuals remaining on site.

9. Scrap tire processors shall meet the following requirements for the closure of scrap tire processing facilities.

(i) The owner or operator shall provide procedures in the operations plan for closing the facility, including, but not limited to:

(I) Notification to the Division of intent to close 30 days prior to the scheduled date for closing.

(II) Closure activities and schedule for completion.

(III) Control of access to the site.

(IV) Notification to the Division when all closure activities are completed.

(b) Sorters.

1. Sorters in existence on the effective date of this Rule may continue to operate under their existing approval. New or existing facilities requesting modifications after the effective date of this Rule must be permitted by the Division.

2. All sorters shall have and follow an operations plan approved by the Division. The facility owner(s) or authorized representatives shall submit a written request to modify an approved operations plan. Any proposed modification to the facility and/or operations shall not be implemented until approved by the Division.

3. The operations plan shall include, zoning approval, proof of fire inspection, operational narrative, and site plan and drawing of the operation.

4. In addition to the scrap tire storage requirements in section (6) of these Rules, the following requirements apply:

(i) Storage limits are based on the permit.

(ii) Any sorter with tires stored in enclosed trailers shall be subject to the following requirements:

(I) Trailer storage areas must be clearly depicted on a site plan.

(II) Storage area shall be no greater than 10,000 square feet per storage area.

(III) A minimum of two feet must be maintained between trailers (side-to-side and end-to-end). All trailers in the storage area must be stored in a manner that allows an unobstructed path for direct removal of the trailer at all times. Empty trailers stored in the area designated for scrap tire storage are subject to the same separation requirements.

(IV) A 50-foot wide fire lane shall be placed around the perimeter of each scrap tire storage area. The fire lane shall be kept free of debris, vehicles, trailers, weeds, grass and other potentially combustible material.

(iii) Sorters must meet the following requirements for tires stored on the ground:

(I) A tire stockpile shall have no greater than the following maximum dimensions:

I. Area: 10,000 square feet.

II. Height: 15 feet.

(II) A 50-foot wide fire lane shall be placed around the perimeter of each pile with the exception of noncombustible materials (rims, wires, etc.). The fire lane shall be kept free of debris, vehicles, trailers, weeds, grass and other potentially combustible material.

(III) Storage of whole tires near buildings is prohibited unless:

I. A non-combustible/non-flammable barrier (firewall) is constructed in accordance with applicable state or local firewall requirements and a 25-foot fire lane, unless otherwise set by the local fire authority or a Georgia State Certified Fire Inspector, is maintained between the firewall and the building.

II. The whole tires shall not exceed the height of the firewall.

5. Sorters shall meet the following operational requirements:

(i) Access to the sorter facility and fire lane(s) for emergency vehicles shall be unobstructed at all times, with the exception of routine loading or unloading operations, provided the vehicles are attended by their drivers during that time.

(ii) In the event of fire, the owner or operator shall immediately take all necessary steps to control and extinguish the fire and control any resulting runoff (i.e., water, oil or other fluid residue).

(iii) The run-off resulting from fires or fire suppression actions shall be prevented by berms or other detention structures approved by the Division from entering drains and waters of the state. Material(s) used in berm construction must be non-combustible, non-flammable and prevent run-off.

(iv) The facility owner or operator shall provide documentation that the local fire authority or a Georgia State Certified Fire Inspector conducted a fire safety survey. The facility owner or operator shall arrange for an additional fire safety survey as part of any modification request that would increase the amount of scrap tires in storage.

(v) Operations involving the use of open flames shall not be conducted within 25 feet of a scrap tire stockpile. An exception is allowed for maintenance activity using torches or welding equipment, as long as fireproof curtains or other fireproof barrier shields the ignition source from storage or equipment areas.

(vi) Access to the sorter facility shall be controlled using fences, gates or other means of security.

(vii) An attendant shall be present when the scrap tire sorter is open for business if the sorter facility receives tires from persons other than the operator of the facility.

(viii) A scrap tire sorter facility shall not accept any scrap tires if it has reached its approved or permitted storage limit. At least 75 percent of both the scrap tires that are accumulated by the scrap tire sorter facility each calendar quarter, and 75 percent by weight or volume of all scrap tires previously received and not reused or properly disposed during the preceding calendar quarter shall be removed from the facility for disposal or recycling from the facility during the quarter or disposed of in a solid waste handling facility approved to accept scrap tires.

(ix) Communication equipment shall be maintained at the scrap tire sorter facility to ensure that the facility attendant or operator can contact local emergency response authorities in the event of a fire. The facility will notify the Division within 24 hours in the event of a fire requiring a response by the local fire jurisdiction.

(x) The emergency/contingency portion of the operations plan shall include, but not be limited to:

(I) A list of names and numbers of persons to be contacted in the event of a fire, flood or other emergency.

(II) A list of the emergency response equipment at the facility, its location and how it should be used in the event of a fire or other emergency.

(III) A description of the procedures that should be followed in the event of a fire, including procedures to contain and dispose of the oily material generated by the combustion of large numbers of tires.

(xi) Facility shall have storm water control measures.

(xii) Facility shall have erosion and sediment control measures.

6. Sorters must meet the following recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

(i) The owner or operator of a scrap tire sorter facility shall retain required records for three years and make such records available for inspection by the Division. Required records include, but are not limited to:

(I) Copies of the tire manifests for all tires received.

(II) If more than ten scrap tires were delivered by a person who is not a permitted tire carrier or generator, the number or weight of tires delivered, the date and the person's name, address, telephone number and signature.

(III) For all scrap tires shipped for reuse or retreading, the quantity and type (passenger car, truck tires, off the road, or others) shipped and the name and location of the person receiving the tires.

(IV) For all sorter scrap tires, invoices and shipping tickets identifying the date, weight, name, address and phone number of the point of final disposition.

(ii) Owners and operators of scrap tire sorter facilities shall submit a quarterly report to the Division. The quarterly report shall be submitted on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of April, July, October and January. The report shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(I) The facility name, address and permit number.

(II) The calendar quarter and year covered by the report.

(III) The number or tons of scrap tires received at the facility during the period covered by the report.

(IV) The number or tons of scrap tires shipped from the facility during the period covered by the report.

(V) The number or tons of scrap tires remaining on site.

(iii) Municipalities operating sorter facilities for the purpose of collection are exempt from the reporting and recordkeeping requirements contained in 391-3-4-.19(7)(b)6(ii).

7. Sorters must meet the following requirements for the closure of scrap tire sorter facilities.

(i) The owner or operator shall provide procedures in the operations plan for closing the facility, including, but not limited to:

(I) Notification to the Division of intent to close 30 days prior to the scheduled date for closing.

(II) Closure activities and schedule for completion.

(III) Control of access to the site.

(IV) Notification to the Division when all closure activities are completed.

(c) Disposal Operations: All solid waste disposal facilities (landfills and thermal treatment technology facilities) having a valid Solid Waste Handling Permit issued by the Director are approved to receive scrap tires except as provided in O.C.G.A. 12-8-40-.1(b).

(8) Recycling and Beneficial Reuse of Scrap Tires.

(a) For the purposes of this Rule, the following criteria will be used to determine if scrap tires are being recycled:

1. The scrap tires or processed scrap tires must have a known use, reuse or recycling potential; must be feasibly used, reused or recycled; and must have been diverted or removed from the solid waste stream for sale, use, reuse, or recycling, whether or not requiring subsequent separation and processing.

2. Scrap tires or processed scrap tires are not accumulated speculatively if the person accumulating them can show there is a known use, reuse, or recycling potential for them; that they can be feasibly sold, used, reused or recycled; and during the preceding 90 days, the amount of scrap or processed scrap tires recycled, sold, used or reused equals at least 75 percent by weight or volume of the tires received during the 90-day period.

3. Proof of recycling, sale, use, or reuse shall be provided in the form of bills of sale, or other records showing adequate proof of movement of the scrap tires in question to a recognized recycling facility or for proper use or reuse from the accumulation point. Proof must be provided that there is a known market or disposition for the scrap tires or processed scrap tires and must show that they have the necessary equipment to do so, prior to receiving scrap tires for processing.

4. A scrap tire is "sold" if the generator of the scrap tire or the person who processed the scrap tire received consideration or compensation for the material because of its inherent value.

5. A scrap tire is "used, reused, or recycled" if it is either:

(i) Employed as an ingredient (including use as an intermediate) in a process to make a product (e.g., utilizing crumb rubber to make rubber-asphalt); or

(ii) Employed in a particular function or application as an effective substitute for a commercial product (e.g., using shredded tires as a substitute for fuel oil, natural gas, coal, or wood in a boiler or industrial furnace), as long as such substitution does not pose a threat to human health or the environment, and so long as the facility is not a solid waste thermal treatment technology facility or utilizing shredded tires as a soil amendment, aggregate, etc., or

(iii) Reused for its original intended purpose as a used tire, or reused for other purposes approved by the Division, such as playground equipment, erosion control, etc.

(b) Persons proposing to use more than 25 scrap tires in a beneficial reuse project shall submit a proposal and be approved by the Division prior to commencing beneficial reuse project.

(9) Used Tire Dealers

(a) Any person who acts as a used tire dealer in this state shall have a used tire dealer identification (ID) number issued by the Division, which shall be used on tire manifests. A separate ID number shall be required for each business location, except mobile locations.

(b) Used tire dealers shall obtain a tire carrier permit for transportation of used tires other than their own.

(c) Used tire dealers transporting tires other than their own shall initiate a tire manifest to track used tires from the point of generation to another location. The following information shall be provided on the tire manifest:

1. Name, address, county, telephone number and used tire dealer ID number;

2. The number of used tires to be transported;

3. Signature of the generator and the date the used tires were picked up;

4. Name, address, telephone number and permit number of the tire carrier;
  5. Signature of the tire carrier, the date of pickup from the generator and the date of delivery to final location;
  6. Name, address, telephone number and permit number of business location receiving the used tires;
  7. Signature of authorized representative at the business received from the tire carrier.
- (d) Used tire dealers shall keep an inventory of all used tires to be updated quarterly. Such inventory shall contain, at a minimum, number of tires at the business location categorized by rim size.
- (e) Used tire dealers shall implement suitable measures to control vectors.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-3-4-.19

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-8-20](#) et seq.

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Enforcement" was F. Jun. 9, 1989; eff. Jun. 29, 1989.

**Amended:** F. Sept. 4, 1991; eff. Sept. 24, 1991.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Scrap Tire Management" adopted. F. Dec. 17, 1992; eff. Jan. 6, 1993.

**Amended:** F. Jun. 7, 1993; eff. Jun. 27, 1993.

**Amended:** New title "Scrap and Used Tire Management." F. Oct. 8, 2015; eff. Oct. 28, 2015.

**Amended:** F. Mar. 8, 2018; eff. Mar. 28, 2018.

**Amended:** F. June 10, 2021; eff. June 30, 2021.

# **Department 391. RULES OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

## **Chapter 391-3. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

### **Subject 391-3-7. EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION CONTROL**

#### **391-3-7-.01 Definitions**

The following definitions shall apply in the interpretation and enforcement of these rules and regulations unless otherwise specifically stated.

(a) "Best Management Practices" means a collection of structural measures and vegetative practices which, when properly designed, installed and maintained, will provide effective erosion and sedimentation control and are designed in accordance with the design specifications contained in the "Manual for Erosion and Sediment Control in Georgia." Best Management Practices also include, but are not limited to, design specifications from the most recent publications of the Georgia Stormwater Management Manual and Coastal Stormwater Supplement to the Georgia Stormwater Management Manual.

(b) "Certification" means an action by the Division that states in writing that a local issuing authority has met the criteria established in these rules and regulations.

(c) "Certified Personnel" means any person who meets or exceeds the education and training requirements of Code Section [12-7-19](#).

(d) "Coastal Marshlands" shall have the same meaning as in Code Section [12-5-282](#).

(e) "Complaint Investigation Process" means a process followed by a local issuing authority or the Division when dealing with inquiries, complaints or concerns about land disturbing activities.

(f) "Decertification" means an action by the Division that states in writing that a local issuing authority has failed to meet the criteria established in these rules and regulations.

(g) "Department" means the Department of Natural Resources of the State of Georgia.

(h) "Director" means the Director of the Environmental Protection Division.

(i) "District" means the appropriate local Soil and Water Conservation District.

(j) "Division" means the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources.

(k) "Erosion" means the process by which land surface is worn away by the action of wind, water, ice, or gravity.

(l) "Erosion, Sedimentation and Pollution Control Plan" or "Plan" means a plan for the control of soil erosion and sediment resulting from a land disturbing activity.

(m) "Infrastructure Project" means construction activities that are not part of a common development that include the construction, installation and maintenance of roadway and railway projects and conduits, pipes, pipelines, substations, cables, wires, trenches, vaults, manholes, and similar or related structures or devices for the conveyance of natural gas (or other types of gas), liquid petroleum products, electricity, telecommunications (telephone, data television, etc.), water or sewage.

(n) "Land Disturbing Activity" means any activity which may result in soil erosion and the movement of sediments into State waters or onto lands within the State, including but not limited to clearing, dredging, grading, excavating, transporting, and filling of land, but not including those practices to the extent described in O.C.G.A. [12-7-17](#).

(o) "Local Issuing Authority" means the governing authority of any county, municipality, water authority, or water and sewer authority that is certified pursuant to these rules and regulations and pursuant to the requirements of O.C.G.A. [12-7-8\(a\)](#).

(p) "Maintenance" means actions necessary or appropriate for retaining or restoring a currently serviceable improvement to the specified operable condition to achieve its maximum useful life. Maintenance includes emergency reconstruction of recently damaged parts of a currently serviceable structure so long as it occurs within a reasonable period of time after damage occurs. Maintenance does not include any modification that changes the character, scope or size of the original design.

(q) "Major Buffer Impact" means any impact that does not meet the definition of "Minor Buffer Impact."

(r) "Minor Buffer Impact" means an impact that upon completion yields no additional above ground, man-made materials or structures within the buffer, maintains the original grade, and results in less than 5,000 square feet of buffer impacts per stream crossing and/or less than 5,000 square feet of buffer impacts per individual area of encroachment for each project.

(s) "Permit" means the authorization necessary to conduct a land disturbing activity under the provisions of these rules and regulations.

(t) "Person" means any individual, partnership, firm, association, joint venture, public or private corporation, trust, estate, commission, board, public or private institution, utility, cooperative, State agency, municipality or other political subdivision or the State, any interstate body or any other legal entity.

(u) "Project" means the entire area of the proposed development site, regardless of the size of the area to be disturbed.

(v) "Sediment" means solid material, both organic and inorganic, that is in suspension, is being transported, or has been moved from its site of origin by wind, water, ice, or gravity as a product of erosion.

(w) "Sedimentation" means the action or process of forming or depositing sediment.

(x) "Serviceable" means usable in its current state or with minor maintenance but not so degraded as to essentially require reconstruction.

(y) "Soil and Water Conservation District Approved Plan" means an erosion, sedimentation and pollution control plan approved in writing by the Soil and Water Conservation District in which the proposed land disturbing activity will take place.

(z) "Stabilization" means the process of establishing an enduring soil cover of vegetation and/or mulch or other ground cover and/or installing temporary or permanent structures for the purpose of reducing to a minimum the erosion process and the resultant transport of sediment by wind, water, ice or gravity.

(aa) "State Waters" means any and all rivers, streams, creeks, branches, lakes, reservoirs, ponds, drainage systems, springs, wells, and other bodies of surface or subsurface water, natural and artificial, lying within or forming a part of the boundaries of the State which are not entirely confined and retained completely upon the property of a single individual, partnership, or corporation, except as may be defined in O.C.G.A. [12-7-17\(7\)](#).

(bb) "Stream Bank" means the confining cut of a stream channel and is usually identified as the point where the normal stream flow has wrested the vegetation. For nontrout waters, the normal stream flow is any stream flow that consists solely of base flow or consists of both base flow and direct runoff during any period of the year. Base flow



results from groundwater that enters the stream channel through the soil. This includes spring flows into streams. Direct runoff is the water entering stream channels promptly after rainfalls or snow melts.

(cc) "Trout Streams" means all streams or portions of streams within the watershed as designated by the Division under the provisions of the Georgia Water Quality Control Act, O.C.G.A. [12-5-20](#) et seq. Streams designated as primary trout waters are defined as water supporting a self-sustaining population of rainbow, brown or brook trout. Streams designated as secondary trout waters are those in which there is no evidence of natural trout reproduction, but are capable of supporting trout throughout the year. First order trout waters are streams into which no other streams flow except springs.

(dd) "Water authority" or "water and sewer authority" means a "local government authority", as that term is defined in O.C.G.A. § [36-80-16](#), that has been properly formed in accordance with applicable Georgia law and that provides water services or water and sewer services to the public.

(ee) "Watercourse" means any natural or artificial waterway, stream, river, creek, channel, ditch, canal, conduit, culvert, drain, gully, ravine, or wash in which water flows either continuously or intermittently, having a definite channel, bed and bank, and includes any area adjacent thereto which is subject to inundation by reason of overflow or floodwater.

(ff) "Water Quality" means the chemical, physical, and biological characteristics of the State's water resources.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-3-7-.01

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-7-1](#) et seq.

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Definitions" adopted. F. Apr. 6, 1977; eff. Apr. 26, 1977.

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**Amended:** F. June 25, 2021; eff. July 15, 2021.

### **391-3-7-.05 Buffer Variance Procedures and Criteria**

(1) Buffers on state waters are valuable in protecting and conserving land and water resources; therefore, buffers should be protected. The buffer variance process will apply to all projects legally eligible for variances and to all state waters having vegetation wrested from the channel by normal stream flow, provided that adequate erosion control measures are incorporated in the project plans and specifications and are implemented. Rule 391-3-7-.05 does not apply to coastal marshlands. The following activities do not require application to or approval from the Division:

(a) stream crossings for water lines or stream crossing for sewer lines that occur at an angle, as measured from the point of crossing, within 25 degrees of perpendicular to the stream and cause a width of disturbance of not more than 50 feet within the buffer; or

(b) where drainage structures must be constructed within the twenty-five (25) foot buffer area of any state water not classified as a trout stream; or

(c) where roadway drainage structures must be constructed within the twenty-five (25) foot buffer area of any state waters or the fifty (50) foot buffer of any trout stream; or

(d) construction of bulkheads or sea walls on Lake Oconee and Lake Sinclair where required to prevent erosion at the shoreline; or

(e) construction of public water system reservoirs.

(2) Variance applications will be reviewed by the Director only where the applicant provides reasonable evidence that impacts to the buffer have been avoided or minimized to the fullest extent practicable and only in the following cases:

(a) The project involves the construction or repair of an existing infrastructure project or a structure that, by its nature, must be located within the buffer. Such structures include, but are not limited to, dams, public water supply intake structures, detention/retention ponds, waste water discharges, docks including access ways, boat launches including access ways, and stabilization of areas of public access to water; or

(b) The project will result in the restoration or enhancement to improve water quality and/or aquatic habitat quality; or

(c) Buffer intrusion is necessary to provide reasonable access to a property or properties; or

(d) The intrusion is for water and sewer lines that cannot reasonably be placed outside the buffer, and stream crossings and vegetative disturbance are minimized; or

(e) Crossing for utility lines, including but not limited to gas, liquid, power, telephone, and other pipelines, provided that the number of crossings and the amount of vegetative disturbance are minimized; or

(f) Recreational foot trails and viewing areas, providing that impacts to the buffer are minimal; or

(g) The project involves construction of one (1) single family home for residential use by the owner of the subject property and, at the time of adoption of this rule, there is no opportunity to develop the home under any reasonable design configuration unless a buffer variance is granted. Variances will be considered for such single family homes only if construction is initiated or local government approval is obtained prior to January 10, 2005; or

(h) For non-trout waters, the proposed land disturbing activity within the buffer will require a permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers under Section 404 of the federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendment of 1972, [33 U.S.C. Section 1344](#), and the Corps of Engineers has approved a mitigation plan to be implemented as a condition of such a permit; or

(i) For non-trout waters, a plan is provided for buffer intrusion that shows that, even with the proposed land disturbing activity within the buffer, the completed project will result in maintained or improved water quality downstream of the project; or

(j) For non-trout waters, the project with a proposed land disturbing activity within the buffer is located in, or upstream and within ten linear miles of, a stream segment listed as impaired under Section 303(d) of the federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendment of 1972, [33 U.S.C. Section 1313\(d\)](#) and a plan is provided that shows that the completed project will result in maintained or improved water quality in such listed stream segment and that the project has no adverse impact relative to the pollutants of concern in such stream segment; or

(k) The proposed land disturbing activity within the buffer is not eligible for a permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers under Section 404 of the federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendment of 1972, [33 U.S.C. Section 1344](#), but includes required mitigation in accordance with current EPD "Stream Buffer Variance Mitigation Guidance" document, and involves:

1. piping, filling, or re-routing of non-trout waters that are not jurisdictional Waters of the U.S.; or
2. stream buffer impacts due to new infrastructure projects adjacent to state waters (jurisdictional and non-jurisdictional Waters of the U.S.). This criterion shall not apply to maintenance and/or modification to existing infrastructure, which are covered under 391-3-7-.05(2)(a).

(3) If the buffer impact will be minor, the buffer variance request shall include the following information at a minimum:

(a) Site map that includes locations of all state waters, wetlands, floodplain boundaries and other natural features, as determined by field survey.

(b) Description of the shape, size, topography, slope, soils, vegetation and other physical characteristics of the property.

(c) Dated and numbered detailed site plan that shows the locations of all structures, impervious surfaces, and the boundaries of the area of soil disturbance, both inside and outside of the buffer. The exact area of the buffer to be impacted shall be accurately and clearly indicated.

(d) Description of the project, with details of the buffer disturbance, including estimated length of time for the disturbance and justification for why the disturbance is necessary.

(e) Calculation of the total area and length of the buffer disturbance.

(f) Letter from the issuing authority (if other than the Division and as applicable) stating that the issuing authority has visited the site and determined the presence of state waters that require a buffer and that a stream buffer variance is required as per the local erosion and sedimentation control ordinance.

(g) Erosion, sedimentation and pollution control plan.

(h) Re-vegetation plan as described in the most recent publication of the Division's guidance book, "Streambank and Shoreline Stabilization" and/or a plan for permanent vegetation as per the "Manual for Erosion and Sedimentation Control in Georgia."

(i) For projects within the buffer of or upstream and within one linear mile of impaired stream segments on Georgia's "305(b)/303(d) List Documents (Final)," documentation that the project will have no adverse impacts relative to the pollutants of concern and if applicable, documentation that the project will be in compliance with the TMDL Implementation Plan(s).

(j) Any other reasonable information related to the project that the Division deems necessary to effectively evaluate the variance request.

(k) Applications must be on the most current forms provided by the Division.

(4) If the buffer impact will be major, the buffer variance request shall include all of the information in Sections (3)(a) thru (k) above, with the exception of (3)(h). A buffer variance request for major buffer impacts shall also include the following additional information:

(a) For variance requests made under Section (2)(h):

1. Joint Public Notice (JPN), if it is an individual permit;
2. Pre-Construction Notification (PCN), if it is a Nationwide Permit;
3. Mitigation calculations; and
4. Permit approval from the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

(b) Buffer mitigation plan addressing impacts to critical buffer functions, including water quality and floodplain, watershed and ecological functions based on an evaluation of existing buffer conditions and predicted post construction buffer conditions pursuant to Section (7)(c) herein.

(c) Plan for stormwater control once site stabilization is achieved, when required by a local stormwater ordinance.

(d) For variance requests made under Sections (2)(i) and (2)(j), the application shall include the following water quality information:

1. Documentation that post-development stormwater management systems to conform to the minimum standards for water quality, channel protection, overbank flood protection and extreme flood protection as established in the Georgia Stormwater Management Manual or the equivalent and if applicable, the Coastal Stormwater Supplement to the Georgia Stormwater Management Manual.

2. Documentation that existing water quality will be maintained or improved based on predicted pollutant loading under pre- and post-development conditions as estimated by models accepted by the Division.

(e) For variance requests made under Section (2)(j), if the proposed project is in, or upstream and within ten linear miles of impaired stream segments on Georgia's "305(b)/303(d) List Documents (Final)," documentation that the project will have no adverse impacts relative to the pollutants of concern and if applicable, documentation that the project will be in compliance with the TMDL Implementation Plan(s).

(f) For variance requests made under Section (2)(k)1., the application shall include documentation from the United States Army Corps of Engineers verifying the water bodies identified in the application are non-jurisdictional waters of the United States under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

(5) Upon receipt of a completed application in accordance with Sections 391-3-7-.05(3) or 391-3-7-.05(4), the Division shall consider the completed application and the following factors in determining whether to issue a variance:

(a) Locations of state waters, wetlands, floodplain boundaries and other natural features as determined by field surveys.

(b) Shape, size, topography, slope, soils, vegetation and other physical characteristics of the property.

(c) Location and extent of buffer intrusion.

(d) Whether reasonable alternative project designs, such as the use of retaining walls, are possible which do not require buffer intrusion or which require less buffer intrusion.

(e) Whether issuance of the variance, with the required mitigation plan, re-vegetation plan and/or plan for permanent vegetation, is at least as protective of natural resources and the environment (including wildlife habitat).

(f) The current condition of the existing buffer, to be determined by:

1. The extent to which existing buffer vegetation is disturbed;
2. The hydrologic function of the buffer; and

3. Stream characteristics such as bank vegetative cover, bank stability, prior channel alteration or sediment deposition.

(g) The extent to which the encroachment into the buffer may reasonably impair buffer functions.

(h) The value of mitigation activities conducted pursuant to this rule, particularly Subsections 391-3-7-.05(7)(c) and 391-3-7-.05(7)(d) herein, and shall take regional differences into consideration on-site or downstream, to be determined by development techniques or other measures that will contribute to the maintenance or improvement of water quality, including the use of low impact designs and integrated best management practices, and reduction in effective impervious surface area.

(i) The long-term water quality impacts of the proposed variance, as well as the construction impacts. And for applications made under Subsections 391-3-7-.05(2)(i) and 391-3-7-.05(2)(j), the following criteria, which reflect regional differences in the state, shall be used by the Director to assist in determining whether the project seeking a variance will, when completed and with approved mitigation, result in maintained or improved water quality downstream of the project and minimal net impact to the buffer:

1. Division will assume that the existing water quality conditions are commensurate with an undeveloped forested watershed unless the applicant provides documentation to the contrary. If the applicant chooses to provide baseline documentation, site and/or stream reach specific water quality, habitat, and/or biological data would be needed to document existing conditions. If additional data are needed to document existing conditions, the applicant may need to submit a monitoring plan and have it approved by the Division prior to collecting any monitoring data. Existing local data may be used, if available and of acceptable quality to the Division.

2. The results of the predicted pollutant loading under pre- and post-development conditions as estimated by models accepted by the Division indicate that existing water quality conditions will be maintained or improved.

(j) For applications made under Section 391-3-7-.05(2)(j), for which a land disturbing activity is proposed within the buffer of a 303(d) listed stream, or upstream and within 10 linear miles of a 303(d) listed stream, the results of the model demonstrate that the project has no adverse impact relative to the pollutants of concern in such stream segment.

(6) Within 60 days of receipt of a complete buffer variance application, the Division will either provide written comments to the applicant or propose to issue a variance.

(a) When the Division proposes to issue a variance, it will issue a public notice. The public notice shall describe the proposed buffer encroachment, the location of the project, where the public can review site plans, and where comments should be sent. The public shall have 30 days from the date of publication of the public notice to comment on the proposed buffer variance.

(b) If after the public comment period for a proposed buffer variance has closed or a buffer variance has been issued the applicant proposes to change the project as described in the variance application, the applicant must notify the Division in writing of those proposed changes.

1. If the proposed changes include a change in the location of the buffer impacts, an increase in buffer impact, or change in project concept or design such that there may be a change to the applicable variance criteria described in Section 391-3-7-.05(2) and the Division approves such changes, the Division shall issue public notice in accordance with Section 391-3-7-.05(6)(a).

2. If the proposed changes do not include changes described in 391-3-7-.05(6)(b)(1), the Division may approve those changes in writing or may elect to issue public notice in accordance with Section 391-3-7-.05(6)(a).

(c) If after the public comment period for a proposed buffer variance has closed or a buffer variance has been issued a person or entity other than the applicant wishes to carry out the work described in the proposed variance or variance, the new person or entity must submit an application for that variance and all other requirements and

procedures described in this Section 391-3-7-.05 shall apply. A new application shall not be required where the applicant is merely changing its name or corporate structure, but the applicant must notify the Division in writing of that name or corporate structure change.

(7) In all cases in which a buffer variance is issued, the following conditions shall apply:

(a) The variance shall be the minimum reduction in buffer width necessary to provide relief. Streams shall not be piped if a buffer width reduction is sufficient to provide relief.

(b) Disturbance of existing buffer vegetation shall be minimized.

(c) Mitigation is required for all major buffer impacts and shall offset the buffer encroachment and any loss of buffer functions. Where lost functions cannot be replaced, mitigation shall provide other buffer functions that are beneficial. Buffer functions include, but are not limited to:

1. temperature control (shading);
2. streambank stabilization;
3. trapping of sediments, if any;
4. removal of nutrients, heavy metals, pesticides and other pollutants;
5. aquatic habitat and food chain;
6. terrestrial habitat, food chain and migration corridor; and
7. buffering of flood flows.

(d) Mitigation should be on-site when possible. Depending on site conditions, acceptable forms of mitigation may include but are not limited to:

1. Restoration of the buffer to a naturally vegetated state to the extent practicable, or to current existing conditions;
2. Bioengineering of channels to reduce bank erosion and improve habitat;
3. Creation or restoration of wetlands;
4. Stormwater management systems to better maintain the pre-development flow regime (with consideration given to downstream effects) that exceeds the requirements of applicable ordinances at the time of application;
5. Reduction in pollution sources, such as on-site water quality treatment or improving the level of treatment of septic systems;
6. Other forms of mitigation that protect or improve water quality and/or aquatic wildlife habitat;
7. An increase in buffer width elsewhere on the property;
8. Mitigation as required under a Clean Water Act Section 404 or Nationwide permit issued by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers;
9. Stormwater management systems described in the most recent publication of the Georgia Stormwater Management Manual and the Coastal Stormwater Supplement to the Georgia Stormwater Management Manual;
10. Mitigation as described in the most recent publication of the Division's guidance document, Stream Buffer Mitigation Guidance.

(e) Forms of mitigation that are not acceptable include:

1. Activities that are already required by the Georgia Erosion and Sedimentation Act, such as the minimal use of best management practices;

2. Activities that are already required by other federal, state and local laws, except as described in 391-3-7-.05(7)(d) above. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers mitigation is acceptable.

(f) The Division will not place a condition on a variance that requires a landowner to deed property or the development rights of property to the state or to any other entity. The landowner may voluntarily preserve property or the development rights of property as a mitigation option with the agreement of the Division.

(8) If the approved buffer impacts are not completed within five years of the date issued, buffer variances issued on or after the effective date of this rule will become null and void, unless an extension is granted by the Division as specifically provided herein.

(a) The applicant may request a time extension of that buffer variance only if the approved buffer impacts will not be completed prior to the buffer variance expiration date. The buffer variance time extension, if granted, can be for a period of up to five years. If the applicant can demonstrate that a time extension for a period of greater than five years is reasonable, the Director may grant a buffer variance time extension for a reasonable period of greater than five years. A buffer variance time extension may be issued only once.

(b) The buffer variance time extension must be requested in writing at least 90 calendar days prior to the buffer variance expiration date with justifiable cause demonstrated. Once an approved buffer variance expires, it is no longer eligible for a time extension.

(c) Time extension requests will be reviewed by the Division. The Division will either provide written comments to the applicant or propose to issue a buffer variance time extension within 60 days of receipt of a time extension request. If there are any other changes to the original buffer variance application, the Division shall issue a public notice in accordance with Section 391-3-7-.05(6)(a).

(d) If a variance issued by the Director is acceptable to the issuing authority, the variance shall be included as a condition of permitting and therefore becomes a part of the permit for the proposed land disturbing activity project. If a stream buffer variance is not acceptable to the issuing authority, the issuing authority may issue a land disturbing permit without allowing encroachment into the buffer.

(9) A general variance is provided for piping of trout streams with an average annual flow of 25 gpm or less.

(10) To obtain this general variance in Section 391-3-7-.05(9) for encroaching on the buffer of a trout stream, the applicant must submit information to the issuing authority or EPD if there is no issuing authority demonstrating that the average annual flow in the stream is 25 gpm or less. There are two acceptable methods for making this determination.

(a) The USGS unit area runoff map may be used to determine the threshold acreage that will produce an average annual flow of 25 gpm or less.

(b) The applicant may submit a hydrologic analysis certified by a Registered Professional Engineer or Geologist that presents information sufficient to estimate that the average annual flow of each stream to be piped is 25 gpm or less with a high level of certainty.

(11) Any stream piping performed in accordance with this general variance in Section 391-3-7-.05(9) shall be subject to the following terms:

(a) The total length of stream that is piped in any one property shall not exceed 200 feet.

(b) Any project that involves more than 200 ft of piping will require an individual variance for the entire project. The general variance may not be applied to a portion of a project; e.g., it is not permissible to pipe 200 ft of a stream under the general variance and seek an individual variance for an additional length of pipe.

(c) The downstream end of the pipe shall terminate at least 25 ft before the property boundary.

(d) The applicant for a Land Disturbing Activity Permit shall notify the appropriate issuing authority of the precise location and extent of all streams piping as part of the land disturbing activity permit application. The issuing authority (if other than the Division) shall compile this information and convey it to the Division annually.

(e) Where piping of a stream increases the velocity of stream flow at the downstream end of the pipe, appropriate controls shall be employed to reduce flow velocity to the predevelopment level. Plans for such controls must be submitted as part of the land disturbing activity permit.

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**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [2-7-1](#) et seq., 50-13-9.1.

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**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Land Disturbing Activities Within the 100 Year Flood Plain" adopted. F. Dec. 12, 1989; eff. Jan. 1, 1990.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Buffer Variance Procedures and Criteria" adopted. F. Nov. 2, 2000; eff. Nov. 22, 2000.

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**Amended:** F. Dec. 20, 2004; eff. Jan. 9, 2005.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 19, 2010; eff. Dec. 9, 2010.

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**Amended:** F. Mar. 31, 2016; eff. Apr. 20, 2016.

**Amended:** F. June 25, 2021; eff. July 15, 2021.

### **391-3-7-.09 Local Issuing Authorities**

(1) Criteria for Certification of Municipalities or Counties as Local Issuing Authorities.

(A) Municipality or county has adopted an ordinance which demonstrates compliance with the provisions in Title 12, Chapter 7 of the Official Code of Georgia and related regulation.

(B) Municipality or county has inspection personnel, who are or will be qualified personnel (within 6 months of date of hire) in erosion and sediment control.

(C) Required Documentation. A municipality or county shall provide all of the following documentation to the Division:

1. A letter from the municipality or county requesting certification as a Local Issuing Authority.



2. A listing of the number of inspectors employed by the municipality or county that will be responsible for land disturbance activity inspections and documentation of the training for each inspector.
3. Documentation of the geographic size of the jurisdiction.
4. Documentation of the estimated workload and inspection frequency schedule for the inspectors.
5. A copy of the ordinance which demonstrates compliance with the provisions in Title 12, Chapter 7 of the Official Code of Georgia.

(D) The Division shall provide written notification to the municipality or county of the Director's decision no later than 60 days after receipt of request for certification. In the case of a denial of local issuing authority certification, the Division shall explain the deficiencies causing the denial. The denial of certification by the Division shall not preclude a municipality or county from making any subsequent application for certification.

(2) Criteria for Certification of Water Authorities or Water and Sewer Authorities as Local Issuing Authorities.

(A) Each municipality or county that is served by that water authority or water and sewer authority must be a certified Local Issuing Authority.

(B) The ordinances adopted by each municipality or county that is served by that water authority or water and sewer authority must be in compliance with the provisions of Title 12, Chapter 7 of the Official Code of Georgia and related regulations as of the date of the application by the water authority or water and sewer authority for certification as a Local Issuing Authority or, following application, the water authority or water and sewer authority must provide documentation to the Division of the same before such water authority or water and sewer authority may be certified as a Local Issuing Authority.

(C) Each municipality or county that is served by that water authority or water and sewer authority must have adopted ordinances or other such local law that allows the water authority or water and sewer authority the ability to enforce directly all ordinances described in Rule 391-3-7-.09(2)(B).

(D) The water authority or water and sewer authority has inspection personnel, who are or will be qualified personnel (within 6 months of date of hire) in erosion and sediment control.

(E) Required Documentation. A water authority or water and sewer authority shall provide all of the following documentation to the Division:

1. A letter from the water authority or water and sewer authority requesting certification as a Local Issuing Authority, identifying each municipality or county that is served by that water authority or water and sewer authority, and verifying that each municipality or county that is served by that water authority or water and sewer authority has granted the same legal authority to the water authority or water and sewer authority to carry out the requirements of the provisions of Title 12, Chapter 7 of the Official Code of Georgia and related regulation.

2. A letter from each municipality or county that is served by that water authority or water and sewer authority including all of the following:

- A. A statement confirming that such municipality or county has been certified as a Local Issuing Authority.

- B. A statement confirming that such municipality or county intends to allow the water authority or water and sewer authority to operate solely as the Local Issuing Authority within that municipality's or county's jurisdictional boundaries.

- C. A statement that such municipality or county has adopted ordinances or other local laws that grant to the water authority or water and sewer authority the ability to enforce directly all ordinances required to implement the provisions of Title 12, Chapter 7 of the Official Code of Georgia and related regulation.

3. A listing of the number of inspectors employed by the water authority or water and sewer authority that will be responsible for land disturbance activity inspections and documentation of the training for each inspector.
4. Documentation of the estimated workload and inspection frequency schedule for the inspectors.
5. A detailed boundary map for all areas in which the water authority or water and sewer authority intends to operate as a Local Issuing Authority, including but not limited to labeled street names. Such boundary map shall be provided in an electronic format that is compatible with the Division's GIS software.
6. A copy of the ordinance from each municipality or county that is served by the water authority or water and sewer authority that demonstrates compliance with the provisions in Title 12, Chapter 7 of the Official Code of Georgia and related regulation.
7. A copy of the ordinance or other local law from each municipality or county that is served by the water authority or water and sewer authority that grant to the water authority or water and sewer authority the ability to enforce directly all ordinances required to implement the provisions of Title 12, Chapter 7 of the Official Code of Georgia and related regulation.
8. A copy of the intergovernmental agreement(s) with the governing authority of each municipality or county that is served by the water authority or water and sewer authority. Such intergovernmental agreement shall:
  - A. Be executed by duly authorized representative(s) for each party; and
  - B. Specify how the municipality or county and water authority or water and sewer authority will notify one another regarding any updates to ordinances or local laws relevant to the enforcement by the water authority or water and sewer authority of ordinances required to implement the provisions of Title 12, Chapter 7 of the Official Code of Georgia and related regulation; and
  - C. Specify how changes to the service area of such water authority or water and sewer authority will affect which entity will act as Local Issuing Authority in the affected areas and describe a process by which any necessary updates to or amendments of relevant ordinances or local laws will be conducted; and
  - D. Describe in detail, with reference to and incorporation of boundary maps and customer lists as appropriate, in which areas the municipality or county will act as Local Issuing Authority and in which areas the water authority or water and sewer authority will act as Local Issuing Authority.
- (F) The Division shall provide written notification to the water authority, or water and sewer authority of the Director's decision no later than 60 days after receipt of request for certification. In the case of a denial of local issuing authority certification, the Division shall explain the deficiencies causing the denial. The denial of certification by the Division shall not preclude water authority or water and sewer authority from making any subsequent application for certification.

(3) Responsibilities of Certified Local Issuing Authorities.

- (A) Municipality, county, water authority, or water and sewer authority demonstrates adequate program administration, record keeping and enforcement as evidenced by:
1. Processing land disturbing activity applications, issuing permits and compliance with stream buffer variance requirements; and
  2. Maintaining a list of open land disturbance permits; and
  3. Conducting inspections and maintaining reports of inspections including violations; and
  4. Enforcing the ordinance and keeping record of written notification of violations, stop-work orders, court actions, etc.

(B) Municipality, county, water authority, or water and sewer authority must follow a Complaint Investigation Process which:

1. Includes an investigation of the complaint by the local issuing authority within 5 business days; and
2. Includes a mechanism for referral of unresolved complaints to the Division; and
3. Includes a monthly log of complaints and inquiries, including actions taken.

(C) Municipality, county, water authority, or water and sewer authority with a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the appropriate local Soil and Water Conservation District to review and approve an Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan shall approve or disapprove a revised Plan submittal within 35 days of receipt. Failure of the municipality, county, water authority, or water and sewer authority to act within 35 days shall be considered an approval of the revised Plan submittal.

(D) In the event that a water authority or water and sewer authority that has been certified as a Local Issuing Authority alters the area the water authority or water and sewer authority is acting as a Local Issuing Authority from that described in the application and related boundary maps included in its application for certification, within thirty (30) days from that alteration the water authority or water and sewer authority must send to the Division an updated boundary map and, if any new or different municipalities or counties have been added, a letter like that described in Rule 391-3-7-.09(2)(E)(2) from each municipality or county and a copy of the intergovernmental agreement described in Rule 391-3-7-.09(2)(E)(8).

(4) De-certification of a Local Issuing Authority.

(A) Recommendation for De-certification Investigation. The Division shall begin an investigation for de-certification upon request with adequate documentation by the local Soil and Water Conservation District or Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission or on its own initiative if any of the following occurs:

1. Municipality, county, water authority, or water and sewer authority no longer has an ordinance which demonstrates compliance with the provisions in Title 12, Chapter 7 of the Official Code of Georgia; or
2. Municipality, county, water authority, or water and sewer authority no longer has inspection personnel who are or will be qualified personnel (within 6 months of date of hire) in erosion and sediment control; or
3. Municipality, county, water authority, or water and sewer authority does not utilize their Complaint Investigation Process pursuant to 391-3-7-.09(3)(B); or
4. Municipality, county, water authority, or water and sewer authority no longer has adequate program administration, record keeping and enforcement pursuant to 391-3-7-.09(3)(A).

(B) De-certification Investigation. Within 60 days of receipt of the de-certification request, the Division shall initiate an investigation by providing written notice of the recommendation for de-certification to the local issuing authority and detailing the perceived deficiencies enumerated in the recommendation. Prior to any de-certification of a local issuing authority, the Division must perform an on-site evaluation of the program.

The municipality, county, water authority, or water and sewer authority shall have 30 days in which to respond in writing to the Division and:

1. Acknowledge the noted deficiencies and agree to comply; or
2. Offer explanation of why deficiency or omission has occurred and establish a target deadline to comply; or
3. Disagree with some or all of the noted deficiencies and recommendations for improvement and request mediation between the municipality, county, water authority, or water and sewer authority and the Division.

(C) Review Local Issuing Authority Response. The Director or his/her designee will review any response received from the local issuing authority. The Director may then uphold, modify, suspend or dismiss the de-certification recommendation. The determination of the Director shall be made within 30 days from receipt of the response from the local issuing authority.

(D) Final Decision and Appeal. A determination made by the Director to uphold, modify, suspend or dismiss the de-certification is a final action of the Director and may be appealed in accordance with subsection (c) of Code Section [12-2-2](#).

(5) Continuing Certification.

A local issuing authority shall submit documentation showing continued compliance with the criteria for certification established at 391-3-7-.09(1)(A) and (B) to the Division whenever an event requiring the Division to evaluate a local issuing authority for continuing compliance with the certification requirements occurs.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-3-7-.09

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-7-1](#) et seq.

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Effective Date" adopted. F. Apr. 6, 1977; eff. Apr. 26, 1977.

**Amended:** Rule repealed. F. July 16, 1981; eff. Aug. 5, 1981.

**Amended:** Rule entitled "Inspection and Compliance" was renumbered from [391-3-7-.06](#) to 391-3-7-.09. F. Dec. 12, 1989; eff. Jan. 1, 1990.

**Repealed:** F. Nov. 2, 2000; eff. Nov. 22, 2000.

**Amended:** New Rule entitled "Local Issuing Authorities" adopted. F. Nov. 5, 2003; eff. Nov. 25, 2003.

**Amended:** F. July 5, 2007; eff. July 25, 2007.

**Amended:** F. June 25, 2021; eff. July 15, 2021.

### **391-3-7-.11 Coastal Marshlands Buffer Variance Procedures and Criteria**

(1) Buffers on state waters are valuable in protecting and conserving land and water resources. Therefore, there is established a 25 foot buffer along coastal marshlands, as measured horizontally from the coastal marshland-upland interface, except:

(a) Where the Director determines to allow a variance that is at least as protective of natural resources and the environment under the variance criteria in 391-3-7-.11(2) through (7) or under the variance by rule criteria in 391-3-7-.11(9); or

(b) Where otherwise allowed by the Director pursuant to O.C.G.A. § [12-2-8](#); or

(c) Where an alteration within the buffer area has been authorized pursuant to O.C.G.A. § [12-5-286](#); or

(d) For maintenance of any currently serviceable structure, landscaping, or hardscaping, including bridges, roads, parking lots, golf courses, golf cart paths, retaining walls, bulkheads, and patios; provided, however, that if such maintenance requires any land-disturbing activity, adequate erosion control measures are incorporated into the project plans and specifications and such measures are fully implemented; or

(e) Where a drainage structure or roadway drainage structure is constructed or maintained; provided, however, that adequate erosion control measures are incorporated into the project plans and specifications and such measures are fully implemented; or

(f) On the landward side of any currently serviceable shoreline stabilization structure; or

(g) For the maintenance of any manmade storm-water detention basin, golf course pond, or impoundment that is located entirely within the property of a single individual, partnership, or corporation; provided, however, that adequate erosion control measures are incorporated into the project plans and specifications and such measures are fully implemented; or

(h) Crossings for utility lines that cause a width of disturbance of not more than 50 feet within the buffer; provided, however, that adequate erosion control measures are incorporated into the project plans and specifications and such measures are fully implemented; or

(i) Any land-disturbing activity conducted pursuant to and in compliance with a valid and effective land-disturbing permit issued subsequent to April 22, 2014, and prior to December 31, 2015; provided, however, that adequate erosion control measures are incorporated into the project plans and specifications and such measures are fully implemented; or

(j) Any lot for which the preliminary plat has been approved prior to December 31, 2015 if roadways, bridges, or water and sewer lines have been extended to such lot prior to the effective date of this Act and if the requirement to maintain a 25 foot buffer would consume at least 18 percent of the high ground of the platted lot otherwise available for development; provided, however, that adequate erosion control measures are incorporated into the project plans and specifications and such measures are fully implemented.

(2) The buffer variance process will apply to all projects legally eligible for variances, provided that adequate erosion control measures are incorporated in the project plans and specifications and are implemented. Variance applications will be reviewed by the Director only in the following cases:

(a) The project involves the construction or repair of an existing infrastructure project or a structure that, by its nature, must be located within the buffer. Such structures include, but are not limited to, dams, public water supply intake structures, detention/retention ponds, waste water discharges, docks including access ways, boat launches including access ways and stabilization of areas of public access to water; or

(b) The project will result in the restoration or enhancement to improve water quality and/or aquatic habitat quality; or

(c) Buffer intrusion is necessary to provide reasonable access to a property or properties; or

(d) The intrusion is for utility lines within or adjacent to existing utility or transportation right of ways or that cannot reasonably be placed outside the buffer, and crossings and vegetative disturbance are minimized; or

(e) Crossing for utility lines, including but not limited to gas, liquid, power, telephone, and other pipelines, provided that the number of crossings and the amount of vegetative disturbance are minimized; or

(f) Recreational foot trails and viewing areas, providing that impacts to the buffer are minimal; or

(g) The project involves construction of one (1) single family home for residential use by the owner of the subject property and, at the time of adoption of this rule, there is no opportunity to develop the home under any reasonable design configuration unless a buffer variance is granted. Variances will be considered for such single family homes only if construction is initiated or local government approval is obtained prior to January 10, 2005; or

(h) The proposed land disturbing activity within the buffer will require a permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers under Section 404 of the federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendment of 1972, [33 U.S.C. Section](#)

[1344](#), and the Corps of Engineers has approved a mitigation plan to be implemented as a condition of such a permit; or

(i) A plan is provided for buffer intrusion that shows that, even with the proposed land disturbing activity within the buffer, the completed project will result in maintained or improved water quality; or

(j) The proposed land disturbing activity includes an alteration within the buffer that has been authorized pursuant to a permit issued by the United States Army Corps of Engineers under Section 404 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972, as amended, or Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899; or

(k) The proposed land disturbing activity within the buffer is not eligible for a permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers under Section 404 of the federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendment of 1972, [33 U.S.C. Section 1344](#), and involves:

1. Piping, filling, or re-routing of waters that are not jurisdictional Waters of the U.S.; or

2. Buffer impacts due to new infrastructure projects adjacent to state waters (jurisdictional and non-jurisdictional Waters of the U.S.). This criterion shall not apply to maintenance and/or modification to existing infrastructure.

(3) Except as provided in 391-3-7-.11(9), if the buffer impact will be minor, the buffer variance request shall include the following information at a minimum:

(a) Site map that includes locations of all state waters, wetlands, floodplain boundaries and other natural features, as determined by field survey.

(b) Description of the shape, size, topography, slope, soils, vegetation and other physical characteristics of the property.

(c) Dated and numbered detailed site plan that shows the locations of all structures, impervious surfaces, and the boundaries of the area of soil disturbance, both inside and outside of the buffer. The exact area of the buffer to be impacted shall be accurately and clearly indicated.

(d) Description of the project, with details of the buffer disturbance, including estimated length of time for the disturbance and justification for why the disturbance is necessary.

(e) Calculation of the total area and length of the buffer disturbance.

(f) Letter from the issuing authority (if other than the Division and as applicable) stating that the issuing authority has visited the site and determined the presence of coastal marshlands that require a buffer and that a buffer variance is required.

(g) Erosion, sedimentation and pollution control plan.

(h) Re-vegetation plan as described in the most recent publication of the Division's guidance book, "Streambank and Shoreline Stabilization", or the "Hydromodification Best Management Practice Manual for Coastal Georgia," and/or a plan for permanent vegetation as per the "Manual for Erosion and Sedimentation Control in Georgia."

(i) For projects within the buffer or upstream and within one linear mile of an impaired water body on Georgia's "305(b)/303(d) List Documents (Final)," documentation that the project will have no adverse impacts relative to the pollutants of concern and if applicable, documentation that the project will be in compliance with the TMDL Implementation Plan(s).

(j) Applications must be on the most current forms provided by the Division.

(4) If the buffer impact will be major, the buffer variance request shall include all of the information in 391-3-7-.11(3)(a) through (j) above, with the exception of 391-3-7-.11(3)(h). A buffer variance request for major buffer impacts shall also include the following additional information:

(a) For variance requests made under 391-3-7-.11(2)(h) or (j):

1. Joint Public Notice (JPN), if it is an individual permit;
2. Pre-Construction Notification (PCN), if it is a Nationwide Permit;
3. Mitigation calculations; and
4. Permit approval from the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

(b) Buffer mitigation plan addressing impacts to critical buffer functions, including water quality and floodplain, watershed and ecological functions based on an evaluation of existing buffer conditions and predicted post construction buffer conditions pursuant to 391-3-7-.11(7)(c) herein.

(c) Plan for stormwater control once site stabilization is achieved, when required by a local stormwater ordinance.

(d) For variance requests made under 391-3-7-.11(2)(i), the application shall include the following water quality information:

1. Documentation that post-development stormwater management systems to conform to the minimum standards for water quality, channel protection, overbank flood protection and extreme flood protection as established in the Georgia Stormwater Management Manual or the equivalent and if applicable, the Coastal Stormwater Supplement to the Georgia Stormwater Management Manual.

2. Documentation that existing water quality will be maintained or improved based on predicted pollutant loading under pre- and post-development conditions as estimated by models accepted by the Division.

(e) For variance requests made under 391-3-7-.11(2)(k)1., the application shall include documentation from the United States Army Corps of Engineers verifying the water bodies identified in the application are non-jurisdictional waters of the United States under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

(5) Upon receipt of a complete application, the Division shall consider the complete application and the following factors in determining whether to issue a variance:

(a) Locations of state waters, wetlands, coastal marshlands, floodplain boundaries and other natural features as determined by field surveys.

(b) Shape, size, topography, slope, soils, vegetation and other physical characteristics of the property.

(c) Location and extent of buffer intrusion.

(d) Whether reasonable alternative project designs, such as the use of retaining walls are possible which do not require buffer intrusion or which require less buffer intrusion.

(e) Whether issuance of the variance, with the required mitigation plan, re-vegetation plan and/or plan for permanent vegetation, is at least as protective of natural resources and the environment.

(f) The current condition of the existing buffer, to be determined by:

1. The extent to which existing buffer vegetation is disturbed;
2. The hydrologic function of the buffer; and

3. Hydrologic functional characteristics such as bank vegetative cover, bank stability, or prior channel alteration.

(g) The extent to which the encroachment into the buffer may reasonably impair buffer functions.

(h) The value of mitigation activities conducted pursuant to this rule, particularly 391-3-7-.11(7)(c) and (d) herein, development techniques or other measures that will contribute to the maintenance or improvement of water quality, including the use of low impact designs and integrated best management practices, and reduction in effective impervious surface area.

(i) The long-term water quality impacts of the proposed variance, as well as the construction impacts. And for applications made under 391-3-7-.11(2)(i), the following criteria shall be used by the Director to assist in determining whether the project seeking a variance will, when completed and with approved mitigation, result in maintained or improved water quality downstream of the project and minimal net impact to the buffer:

1. The Division will assume that the existing water quality conditions are commensurate with an undeveloped maritime forested watershed unless the applicant provides documentation to the contrary. If the applicant chooses to provide baseline documentation, site specific water quality, habitat, and /or biological data would be needed to document existing conditions. If additional data are needed to document existing conditions, the applicant may need to submit a monitoring plan and have it approved by the Division prior to collecting any monitoring data. Existing local data may be used, if available and of acceptable quality to the Division.

2. The results of the predicted pollutant loading under pre- and post-development conditions as estimated by models accepted by the Division indicate that existing water quality conditions will be maintained or improved.

(j) For applications made under 391-3-7-.11(2)(i), for which a land disturbing activity is proposed within the buffer of a 303(d) listed water body, or upstream and within one linear mile of a 303(d) listed water body, the results of the model demonstrate that the project has no adverse impact relative to the pollutants of concern.

(6) Within 60 days of receipt of a complete buffer variance application, the Division will either provide written comments to the applicant or propose to issue a variance.

(a) When the Division proposes to issue a variance, it will issue a public notice. The public notice shall describe the proposed buffer encroachment, the location of the project, where the public can review site plans, and where comments should be sent. The public shall have 30 days from the date of publication of the public notice to comment on the proposed buffer variance.

(b) If after the public comment period for a proposed buffer variance has closed or a buffer variance has been issued the applicant proposes to change the project as described in the variance application, the applicant must notify the Division in writing of those proposed changes.

1. If the proposed changes include a change in the location of the buffer impacts, an increase in buffer impact, or change in project concept or design such that there may be a change to the applicable variance criteria described in Section 391-3-7-.11(2) and the Division approves such changes, the Division shall issue public notice in accordance with Section 391-3-7-.11(6)(a).

2. If the proposed changes do not include changes described in 391-3-7-.11(6)(b)(1), the Division may approve those changes in writing or may elect to issue public notice in accordance with Section 391-3-7-.11(6)(a).

(c) If after the public comment period for a proposed buffer variance has closed or a buffer variance has been issued a person or entity other than the applicant wishes to carry out the work described in the proposed variance or variance, the new person or entity must submit an application for that variance and all other requirements and procedures described in this Section 391-3-7-.11 shall apply. A new application shall not be required where the applicant is merely changing its name or corporate structure, but the applicant must notify the Division in writing of that name or corporate structure change.



(7) In all cases in which a buffer variance is issued, the following conditions shall apply:

(a) The variance shall be the minimum reduction in buffer width necessary to provide relief.

(b) Disturbance of existing buffer vegetation shall be minimized.

(c) Mitigation is required for all major buffer impacts and shall offset the buffer encroachment and any loss of buffer functions. Where lost functions cannot be replaced, mitigation shall provide other buffer functions that are beneficial. Buffer functions include, but are not limited to:

1. temperature control (shading);
2. bank stabilization;
3. trapping of sediments, if any;
4. removal of nutrients, heavy metals, pesticides and other pollutants;
5. aquatic habitat and food chain;
6. terrestrial habitat, food chain and migration corridor;
7. buffering of flood flows; and
8. maintenance of salinity through buffering of freshwater flows.

(d) Mitigation should be on-site when possible. Depending on site conditions, acceptable forms of mitigation may include, but are not limited to:

1. Restoration of the buffer to a naturally vegetated state to the extent practicable, or to current existing conditions. Information on natural vegetation in coastal Georgia is available from the University of Georgia Marine Extension Service's website (visit <https://gacoast.uga.edu/> and search the terms "Ecoscapes" or "Native Plant Search Engine");
2. Bioengineering of channels to reduce bank erosion and improve habitat;
3. Creation or restoration of wetlands;
4. Stormwater management systems to better maintain the pre-development flow regime (with consideration given to downstream effects) that exceeds the requirements of applicable ordinances at the time of application;
5. Reduction in pollution sources, such as on-site water quality treatment or improving the level of treatment of septic systems;
6. Other forms of mitigation that protect or improve water quality and/or aquatic wildlife habitat;
7. An increase in buffer width elsewhere on the property;
8. Mitigation as required under a Clean Water Act Section 404 or Nationwide permit issued by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; or
9. Stormwater management systems described in the most recent publication of the Georgia Stormwater Management Manual and the Coastal Stormwater Supplement to the Georgia Stormwater Management Manual.

(e) Forms of mitigation that are not acceptable include:

1. Activities that are already required by the Georgia Erosion and Sedimentation Act, such as the minimal use of best management practices;

2. Activities that are already required by other federal, state and local laws, except as described in 391-3-7-.11(7)(d) above. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers mitigation is acceptable.

(f) The Division will not place a condition on a variance that requires a landowner to deed property or the development rights of property to the state or to any other entity. The landowner may voluntarily preserve property or the development rights of property as a mitigation option with the agreement of the Division.

(g) If a variance issued by the Director is acceptable to the issuing authority, the variance shall be included as a condition of permitting and therefore becomes a part of the permit for the proposed land disturbing activity project. If a buffer variance is not acceptable to the issuing authority, the issuing authority may issue a land disturbing permit without allowing encroachment into the buffer.

(8) A buffer variance will expire five years after the effective date, unless an extension is granted by the Division as specifically provided herein.

(a) The applicant may request a time extension of that buffer variance only if the approved buffer impacts will not be completed prior to the buffer variance expiration date. The buffer variance time extension, if granted, can be for a period of up to five years. If the applicant can demonstrate that a time extension for a period of greater than five years is reasonable, the Director may grant a buffer variance time extension for a reasonable period of greater than five years. A buffer variance time extension may be issued only once.

(b) The buffer variance time extension must be requested in writing at least 90 calendar days prior to the buffer variance expiration date with justifiable cause demonstrated. Once an approved buffer variance expires, it is no longer eligible for a time extension.

(c) Time extension requests will be reviewed by the Division. The Division will either provide written comments to the applicant or propose to issue a buffer variance time extension within 60 days of receipt of a time extension request. If there are any significant changes to the original buffer variance application, the Division shall issue a public notice in accordance with 391-3-7-.11(6)(a).

#### (9) Variance By Rule

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of these Rules, the following activities have minimal impact on the water quality or aquatic habitat of the adjacent coastal marshland and therefore are deemed to have an approved buffer variance.

1. Activities where the area within the buffer is not more than 500 square feet.

2. Activities that have a "Minor Buffer Impact" as defined in [391-3-7-.01\(r\)](#), provided that the total area of buffer impacts is less than 5,000 square feet. A proposed development site may not be subdivided into smaller projects or phases to circumvent the 5,000 square feet limitation.

(b) Bank and shoreline stabilization structures are not eligible for coverage under the variance by rule.

(c) Notification shall be made at least 14 days prior to the commencement of land-disturbing activities to provide the Division an opportunity to review the activity to ensure it meets the applicable criteria. Unless notified by the Division to the contrary, an applicant who submits a notification in accordance with 391-3-7-.11(9) is authorized to encroach into the buffer 14 days after the notification form is received by the Division. A buffer variance by rule expires if the buffer impacts are not completed within two years after the notification form is received by the Division. The Director may deny coverage under this variance by rule and require submittal of an application for an individual variance based on the review of the documentation submitted or other information. Persons failing to notify the Director of such activities shall be deemed to be operating without a variance.

(d) Notification for a variance by rule is to be submitted by return receipt certified mail (or similar service that provides confirmation of receipt) to both the Division and to the Local Issuing Authority in jurisdictions authorized to issue Land Disturbance Permits.

(e) An individual variance will be required for any activity that does not qualify for a variance by rule.

(f) Any notification for a variance by rule shall include the following:

1. Description of the activity, with details of the buffer disturbance, including area and length of the buffer to be impacted and estimated length of time for the disturbance.
2. Photographs of the area that will be affected by the proposed activity.
3. Notice of a land-disturbing activity to be covered by a variance by rule must be on the most current forms provided by the Division.

(g) Any variance by rule shall be subject to the following requirements:

1. The following information shall be maintained onsite until final stabilization of the site is complete:
  - i. Site plan that shows the locations of all structures, impervious surfaces, and the boundaries of the area of soil disturbance, both inside and outside of the buffer. The exact area and length of the buffer to be impacted shall be accurately and clearly indicated.
  - ii. Documentation that adequate erosion control measures are incorporated into the project plans and specifications.
2. Disturbance of existing buffer vegetation shall be minimized.
3. Final stabilization of the site must include a re-vegetation plan as described in the most recent publication of the Division's guidance book, "Streambank and Shoreline Stabilization." It is recommended that vegetation be native riparian vegetation.
4. Temporary vegetative measures must be implemented within 14 calendar days following the completion of any soil disturbance and the site shall be stabilized at the end of every day until project completion.
5. Proper and full implementation of the erosion control measures in 391-3-7-.11(9)(g)1. ii.
6. Post construction stormwater management practices should be considered. Best management practices can be found in the latest edition of the Georgia Stormwater Management Manual or the Coastal Supplement to the Georgia Stormwater Management Manual.
7. All other applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules and ordinances, including erosion and sedimentation control must be fully complied with prior to commencement of project construction.
8. For a variance by rule under 391-3-7-.11(9)(a)1., cumulative impacts shall not exceed 500 square feet within a 5 year period.
9. Any activity that does not meet the requirements of 391-3-7-.11(9)(g) is in violation of the variance by rule.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-3-7-.11

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [12-7-1](#) et seq., 50-13-9.1.

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Coastal Marshlands Buffer Variance Procedures and Criteria" adopted. F. Mar. 31, 2016; eff. Apr. 20, 2016.

**Amended:** F. June 25, 2021; eff. July 15, 2021.

# Department 391. RULES OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## Chapter 391-4. WILDLIFE RESOURCES DIVISION

### Subject 391-4-2. HUNTING REGULATIONS

#### **391-4-2-.01 [Repealed]**

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-2-.01

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [27-1-4](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Effective Date" was filed on October 19, 1973; effective November 8, 1973.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of the same title adopted. Filed July 22, 1974; effective August 11, 1974.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of the same title adopted. Filed December 9, 1973; effective December 29, 1975.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of the same rifle adopted. Filed August 5, 1976; effective August 25, 1976.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of the same rifle adopted. Filed September 14, 1977; effective October 4, 1977.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

#### **391-4-2-.03 Harvest Recording and Reporting Requirements**

(1) It is unlawful for any person killing a black bear, deer, wild turkey, or alligator to:

(a) remove such carcass from the place of killing without first recording all information specified by the department in the manner specified by the department.

(b) fail to report the harvest of each black bear, alligator, deer, or turkey within 24 hours of carcass recovery by providing such information specified by the department in the manner specified by the department; provided, however, that such wildlife killed by a motor vehicle (O.C.G.A. Sec. [27-3-28](#)), taken under authorization of a department-issued permit (O.C.G.A. Secs. [27-2-18](#), [27-2-21](#), or [27-2-31](#)) or tagged by authorized personnel at a public land hunt are exempt from harvest recording and reporting requirements.

(c) transfer possession to any private or commercial cold storage or processing facility without first providing the harvest-reporting confirmation number unless the animal was killed by a motor vehicle, taken under authorization of a department-issued permit, or tagged by authorized personnel at a public land hunt.

(d) transport a carcass (not processed for human consumption) killed by another person unless the following written information is attached to the carcass: name and address of the hunter who killed such black bear, deer, turkey, or alligator, date and county of kill, and the harvest-reporting confirmation number, if applicable in accordance with (b) above.

(e) provide false harvest recording or reporting information.

(2) It is unlawful for any private or commercial cold storage or processing facility to take possession of a black bear, deer, wild turkey, or alligator without first recording the following information for each carcass: name of the hunter who killed the animal, date and county of kill, and sex of the animal.

(3) It is unlawful for a person to hunt black bear, deer, wild turkey, or alligator without first procuring from the department an annual Harvest Record for the current season. The Harvest Record must be carried on the hunter's person either in printed paper or electronic format when hunting.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-2-.03

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [27-3-29](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Required Clothing" adopted. F. Oct. 19, 1973; eff. Nov. 8, 1973.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. July 22, 1974; eff. Aug. 11, 1974.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Dec. 9, 1975; eff. Dec. 29, 1975.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Aug. 5, 1976; eff. Aug. 25, 1976.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Legal Hours" adopted. F. Sept. 14, 1977; eff. Oct. 4, 1977.

**Repealed:** F. Jun. 13, 2013; eff. Jul. 3, 2013.

**Adopted:** New Rule entitled "Harvest Recording and Reporting Requirements." F. May 26, 2015; eff. June 15, 2015.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 1, 2017; eff. June 21, 2017.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 27, 2020; eff. June 16, 2020.

**Amended:** F. June 7, 2021; eff. June 27, 2021.

## **391-4-2-.22 Bear**

(1) Bears may be taken with archery equipment during the statewide archery deer season, with primitive weapons during the statewide primitive weapons deer season, and with firearms during the statewide firearms deer season in Barrow, Carroll, DeKalb, Fulton, Gwinnett, Hart, Jackson, Madison, and Walton counties and all counties north of these counties except that county specific weapons restrictions enumerated in [391-4-2-.25](#) and [391-4-2-.26](#) shall apply to bear hunting in such counties. Youth under 16 years of age may hunt bear with any firearm legal for hunting deer during the northern zone primitive weapons season for bears.

(2) Bears harvested in the counties specified in subsection (1) must be reported within 24 hours of carcass recovery pursuant to [391-4-2-.03](#). The entire hide and skull of any harvested bear shall be taken during normal business hours to any Game Management facility listed as open for bear check-in in the annual Hunting Seasons and Regulations guide for tagging by the department within 3 business days of harvest.

(3) Bears may be taken in Brantley, Camden, Charlton, Clinch, Echols, Lanier, Lowndes and Ware counties on the last two (2) Thursdays of September and the Friday and Saturday immediately following each, and the first two (2) Thursdays of October and the Friday and Saturday immediately following each. Hunting with dogs is allowed except that still hunting only is allowed in Lanier and Lowndes counties. Bears must be checked and tagged at the Georgia Forestry Commission Office at Fargo, the Georgia Forestry Commission Office at Folkston, or the Dixon Memorial check station during the hours and dates listed as open for bear check-in in the annual Hunting Seasons and Regulations guide.

(4) Bears may be taken in Bibb, Bleckley, Houston and Twiggs counties on the third Saturday in December. Hunting with dogs is prohibited. Bears must be checked and tagged at the Oaky Woods WMA check station from 12 noon through 9 p.m. on the day of hunt.

(5) It is unlawful to kill a female with cubs or kill a cub having a live weight of less than 75 pounds.

(6) It is unlawful to possess a bear unless it is reported and tagged as stated in subsections (1), (2) and (3) above.

(7) Bag limit 2; provided, however, that an individual may take no more than 1 bear per season from Bibb, Brantley, Bleckley, Camden, Charlton, Clinch, Echols, Houston, Lanier, Lowndes, Twiggs or Ware counties.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-2-.22

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [27-1-4](#), [27-3-15](#), [27-3-26](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Possession, Sale or Transportation of Alligators and Their Hides" was filed on October 19, 1973; effective November 6, 1973.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of same title adopted. Filed July 22, 1974; effective August 11, 1974.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Importation of Wildlife" adopted. Filed December 9, 1975; effective December 29, 1975.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of same title adopted. Filed August 5, 1976; effective August 25, 1976.

**Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed September 14, 1977; effective October 4, 1977.

**Adopted:** New Rule entitled "Bear." F. Jun. 13, 2013; eff. Jul. 3, 2013.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 26, 2015; eff. June 15, 2015.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 1, 2017; eff. June 21, 2017.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 4, 2019; eff. June 24, 2019.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 26, 2019; eff. July 16, 2019.

**Amended:** F. June 7, 2021; eff. June 27, 2021.

### **391-4-2-.24 General Regulations for Hunting Deer**

(1) Except as otherwise provided in this Rule 391-4-2-.24, the season bag limit shall be 10 antlerless deer and 2 antlered bucks per hunter. One of the antlered bucks must have at least 4 points, one inch or longer, on one side of the antlers or a minimum outside antler spread of fifteen (15) inches.

(2) Deer harvested on public land during bonus deer hunts do not count toward the statewide bag limit when such deer are tagged with department issued single-use tags.

(3) Still hunting for deer is permitted in any area at any time during the legal season for hunting deer with dogs.

(4) In Dooly and Macon Cos., antlered bucks may be taken on private land only if they have a minimum outside antler spread of fifteen (15) inches.

(5) In Hancock, Harris, Meriwether, Montgomery, Randolph, Talbot, and Troup Cos., antlered bucks may be taken on private land only if they have a minimum of 4 antler points 1 inch or longer on one side of the antlers or a minimum outside antler spread of fifteen (15) inches.

(6) In accordance with O.C.G.A. Sec 27-3-15(a) and (b), the department is authorized to prescribe property-specific harvest objectives, based solely on sound wildlife management principles, relating to bag limit and season on properties enrolled in a deer management assistance program as established by the department.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-2-.24

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [27-1-4](#), [27-3-15](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Fur, Hide, and Pelt Reports" was filed on October 19, 1973; effective November 8, 1973.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of same title adopted. Filed July 22, 1974; effective August 11, 1974.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Exportation of Furs, Hides, or Pelts" adopted. Filed December 9, 1975; effective December 29, 1975.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of same title adopted. Filed August 5, 1976; effective August 25, 1976.

**Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed September 14, 1977; effective October 4, 1977.

**Adopted:** New Rule entitled "General Regulations for Hunting Deer." F. Jun. 13, 2013; eff. Jul. 3, 2013.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 26, 2015; eff. June 15, 2015.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 1, 2017; eff. June 21, 2017.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 28, 2018; eff. July 18, 2018.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 4, 2019; eff. June 24, 2019.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Aug. 27, 2019; eff. Sep. 16, 2019.

**Amended:** F. June 7, 2021; eff. June 27, 2021.

### **391-4-2-.25 Archery Deer Hunting**

(1) Deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment in all counties of the state from the second (2nd) Saturday in September through the last day of firearms deer season, except as may otherwise be specified.

(2) Deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment in Barrow, Bibb, Chatham, Cherokee, Clarke, Clayton, Cobb, Columbia, Decatur, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Hall, Henry, Muscogee, Paulding, Rockdale, and Seminole counties from the second (2nd) Saturday in September through the last day of January.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-2-.25

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [27-1-4](#), [27-3-15](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Exportation of Furs, Hides, or Pelts" was filed on October 19, 1973; effective November 8, 1973.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of same title adopted. Filed July 22, 1974; effective August 11, 1974.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Use of Electronic Devices for Calling Fox Prohibited" adopted. Filed December 9, 1975; effective December 29, 1975.



**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of same title adopted. Filed August 5, 1976; effective August 25, 1976.

**Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed September 14, 1977; effective October 4, 1977.

**Adopted:** New Rule entitled "Archery Deer Hunting." F. Jun. 13, 2013; eff. Jul. 3, 2013.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 1, 2017; eff. June 21, 2017.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 4, 2019; eff. June 24, 2019.

**Amended:** F. June 7, 2021; eff. June 27, 2021.

### **391-4-2-.27 Firearms Deer Hunting**

(1) Deer may be taken statewide with firearms authorized by law in accordance with the counties, sex, and seasons set forth below, except as otherwise specified. Deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment any day during open firearms deer season, except as otherwise specified.

COUNTY	SEX	SEASON
(a) All counties, except Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, that portion of Forsyth lying south of GA Hwy 20, that portion of Fulton lying north of GA Hwy 92 and that portion of Glynn lying within Jekyll Island. In that portion of Forsyth lying south of GA Hwy 20, only shotguns and muzzleloaders may be used.	Antlered Bucks	First Saturday after Oct. 15 through the second Sunday in January.
(b) Baker, Ben Hill, Bibb, Bleckley, Brooks, Burke, Calhoun, Candler, Chatham, Chattahoochee, Clarke, Clay, Colquitt, Columbia, Crisp, Decatur, Dodge, Dooly, Douglas, Dougherty, Early, Emanuel, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton (South of Hwy. 92), Glascock, Grady, Gwinnett, Hall, Hancock, Harris, Henry, Houston, Irwin, Jefferson, Jenkins, Johnson, Laurens, Lee, Macon, Marion, Meriwether, Miller, Mitchell, Montgomery, Muscogee, Peach, Pulaski, Quitman, Randolph, Richmond, Rockdale, Schley, Seminole, Stewart, Sumter, Talbot, Taylor, Telfair, Terrell, Thomas, Tift, Treutlen, Troup, Turner, Twiggs, Washington, Webster, Wheeler, Wilcox, Wilkinson, and Worth.  In that portion of Forsyth lying south of GA Hwy 20, only shotguns and muzzleloaders may be used.	Either-sex	First Saturday after Oct. 15 through the second Sunday in January.
(c) Dawson, Gilmer, Habersham, Lumpkin, Murray, Pickens, Stephens, White, and Whitfield.	Either-sex	Nov. 22-28, 2021 and Jan. 1, 2022 & Nov. 21-27, 2022 and Jan. 1, 2023
(d) Fannin, Rabun, Towns, and Union.	Either-sex	Nov. 27-28, 2021 and Jan. 1, 2022 & Nov. 26-27, 2022 and Jan. 1, 2023
(e) Appling, Atkinson, Bacon, Berrien, Brantley, Bryan, Bulloch, Camden, Charlton, Clinch, Coffee, Cook, Echols, Effingham, Evans, Glynn (except that portion lying within Jekyll Island), Jeff Davis, Lanier, Liberty, Long, Lowndes, McIntosh, Pierce, Screven, Tattnall, Toombs, Ware, and Wayne	Either-sex	Oct. 18, 2021 - Jan. 9, 2022 & Oct. 24, 2022 - Jan. 8, 2023
(f) Baldwin, Banks, Barrow, Bartow, Butts, Catoosa, Carroll, Chattooga, Cherokee, Coweta, Crawford, Dade,	Either-sex	Oct. 30 2021 - Jan. 9, 2022 & Nov. 5, 2022 - Jan. 8, 2023

COUNTY	SEX	SEASON
Elbert, Floyd, Franklin, Gordon, Green, Jackson, Jasper, Jones, Hall, Haralson, Hart, Heard, Lamar, Lincoln, Madison, McDuffie, Monroe, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Paulding, Pike, Polk, Putnam, Spalding, Taliaferro, Upson, Walker, Walton, Warren, Wilkes.		

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-2-.27

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [27-1-4](#), [27-3-15](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Use of Drugs, Poisons, Chemicals, Smoke, Gas Explosives to Take Game" adopted. F. Oct. 19, 1973; eff. Nov. 8, 1973.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. July 22, 1974; eff. Aug. 11, 1974.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Training Dogs" adopted. F. Dec. 9, 1975; eff. Dec. 29, 1975.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Aug. 5, 1976; eff. Aug. 25, 1976.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Deer Firearms Zone 1" adopted. F. Sept. 14, 1977; eff. Oct. 4, 1977.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Deer Northern Zone (Firearms)" adopted. F. Sept. 6, 1978; eff. Sept. 26, 1978.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Bobcat, Fox, Grouse, Opossum, Quail, Rabbit, Raccoon, Squirrel" adopted. F. July 26, 1979; eff. Aug. 16, 1979.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. July 29, 1980; eff. Aug. 18, 1980.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Aug. 10, 1981; eff. Aug. 30, 1981.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. July 6, 1982; eff. July 26, 1982.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. July 25, 1983; eff. Aug. 14, 1983.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Fox, Grouse, Opossum, Quail, Rabbit, Raccoon, Squirrel, Bobcat" adopted. F. July 30, 1984; eff. Aug. 19, 1984.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. July 17, 1985; eff. Aug. 6, 1985.

**Amended:** F. July 31, 1986; eff. Aug. 20, 1986.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. July 16, 1987; eff. Aug. 5, 1987.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. July 15, 1988; eff. Aug. 4, 1988.

**Amended:** F. July 17, 1989; eff. Aug. 6, 1989.

**Amended:** F. July 17, 1991; eff. Aug. 6, 1991.

**Amended:** F. June 5, 1992; eff. June 25, 1992.

**Amended:** F. June 3, 1993; eff. June 23, 1993.

**Amended:** F. May 25, 1995; eff. June 14, 1995.

**Amended:** F. May 21, 1998; eff. June 10, 1998.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 30, 2003; eff. June 19, 2003.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Firearms Deer Hunting" adopted. F. Jun. 13, 2013; eff. Jul. 3, 2013.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 30, 2014; eff. Jun. 19, 2014.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 26, 2015; eff. June 15, 2015.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 1, 2017; eff. June 21, 2017

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 4, 2019; eff. June 24, 2019.

**Amended:** F. June 7, 2021; eff. June 27, 2021.

### **391-4-2-.29 Hunting Deer with Dogs, Permits and Violations**

(1) For purposes of administering O.C.G.A. Sec. [27-3-17](#) and issuance of permits, the following terms are defined:

(a) "Contiguous acres" means a single unit of land described on an application for a permit to hunt deer with dogs that may include multiple ownerships and may be transected by public roads, creeks, rivers, or rights-of-way of any public service corporation.

(b) "Eligible tracts" are those tracts of real property that contain a minimum of 1000 contiguous acres or a minimum of 250 contiguous acres owned by the applicant; provided, however, that any eligible tract or any part thereof which was included in an application for a permit pursuant to this Chapter which has been the subject of a revocation or non-renewal pursuant to O.C.G.A. Sec. [27-2-25](#) shall not be eligible for inclusion in any subsequent application for a permit for a period up to 2 years regardless of a change in the name or membership of the applicant until the expiration period of revocation or non-renewal.

(c) "Hunting deer with dogs" includes the act of placing, releasing or in any other manner causing or procuring the cause of dog(s) to be, or attempting to be, in the pursuit of running, trailing or baying deer, whether such act results in a taking or attempted taking or not. Once the owner of the dog(s), his agents, or permittees place, release or otherwise cause dog(s) to be in the pursuit of running, trailing or baying deer, then the owner, his agents or permittees are deemed to be "hunting deer with dogs" until such time that the dog owner, his agents or permittees have regained physical possession and control of the dog(s), or the dog(s) have otherwise ceased in the pursuit or attempted pursuit of running, trailing or baying deer.

(2) Permit applications are to include a written description of the eligible tract boundaries and associated acreage. Acceptable documents are limited to certified plats, recorded deeds, surveys, tax maps or notarized leases. Additionally, any person not included on the membership list provided with the application for the permit and hunting under the authority of the permit is considered a guest of the permittee and must possess written permission on his or her person from the permittee. Finally, permit applications are to be received by the department not less than 30 days prior to the first day for hunting deer with dogs on an eligible tract.

(3) It is unlawful to:

(a) enter or exit permitted property for any purpose other than points of access from public roads marked on the map without the express written permission of the adjacent landowner upon whose land entry or exit is made. The express written permission of the adjacent landowner or a copy thereof must be carried on the person making the entry or exit; or,

(b) fail to control hunting dogs to keep them on the permitted property; or,

(c) interfere with the right of any person to freely, and in an unrestricted manner, travel any public road or stream transecting or bordering the permitted property; or,

(d) violate any of the terms and/or conditions of a permit; or,

(e) submit false information on a permit application. The submission of false information makes said permit invalid and persons hunting under authority of that permit may be considered hunting in violation of the laws, rules and regulations authorizing the hunting of deer with dogs.

(4) A serious or habitual violation of laws, rules and regulations or conditions of a permit while engaged in deer hunting with dog activities on or commencing from permitted tracts provide justification for revocation and or denial of permitted activities.

(5) The Commissioner, pursuant to O.C.G.A. Sec. [50-13-18\(c\)\(1\)](#) may, upon a finding that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, incorporate such a finding into his order and order a summary suspension of a permit pending proceedings for revocation or other action, which proceeding shall be promptly instituted and determined. Evidence of physical harm or threats of physical harm to adjacent landowners, interference with the free and unrestricted travel of public roads or streams, significant destruction of the property of adjacent landowners or multiple violations of a permit in a single season is sufficient for a finding that the public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action.

(6) Revocation or denial of a permit is for an eligible tract in its entirety, regardless of size, and remains in effect for a period of up to two years.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-2-.29

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [27-1-4](#), [27-3-17](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Field Trial Permits" was filed on October 19, 1973; effective November 8, 1973.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of the same title adopted. Filed July 22, 1974; effective August 11, 1974.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Taxidermist Permits" adopted. Filed December 9, 1975; effective December 29, 1975.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Trapping" adopted. Filed August 5, 1976; effective August 25, 1976.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Deer Firearms Zone III" adopted. Filed September 14, 1977; effective October 4, 1977.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Fox Statewide" adopted. Filed September 6, 1978; effective September 26, 1978.

**Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed July 26, 1979; effective August 15, 1979.

**Adopted:** New Rule entitled "Permit Requirements for Hunting Deer with Dogs." F. Jun. 13, 2013; eff. Jul. 3, 2013.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. July 13, 2017; eff. Aug 2, 2017.

**Amended:** New title "Hunting Deer with Dogs, Permits and Violations." F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-4-2-.32 Turkey**

- (1) Turkeys may be taken from the first Saturday after March 26 through May 15 in all counties of the state.
- (2) The bag limit is 2 gobblers per hunter per season.
- (3) The daily bag limit is 1 gobbler per hunter.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-2-.32

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [27-1-4](#), [27-3-15](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Deer" was filed on October 19, 1973; effective November 8, 1973.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of the same title adopted. Filed July 22, 1974; effective August 11, 1974.

**Amended:** Filed December 9, 1975; effective December 29, 1975.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Deer Firearms Zone I" adopted. Filed August 5, 1976; effective August 25, 1976.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Deer Firearms Zone VI" adopted. Filed September 14, 1977; effective October 4, 1977.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Opossum" adopted. Filed September 6, 1978; effective September 26, 1978.

**Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed July 26, 1979; effective August 15, 1979.

**Adopted:** New Rule entitled "Turkey." F. Jun. 13, 2013; eff. Jul. 3, 2013.

**Amended:** F. June 7, 2021; eff. June 27, 2021.

### **391-4-2-.60 General Regulations on Wildlife Management Areas**

- (1) It is unlawful for any person to place bait or any wildlife food on a Wildlife Management Area (WMA).
- (2) It is unlawful for any person to consume or use alcoholic beverages on any WMA except in houses or at campsites on these areas; provided, however, that this provision does not apply to national forest lands.
- (3) The use of paintballs, paintball guns and related activities is prohibited on WMAs except on WMAs located on national forest lands.
- (4) Dogs entering WMAs must be kept on a leash or otherwise confined except when hunting or while training dogs during designated seasons and on designated areas. Dog owners are responsible for their dogs and any damage the dogs may do to wildlife not being legally hunted.
- (5) Except for Public Fishing Areas, fishing on WMAs is allowed in accordance with statewide seasons and limits, unless otherwise indicated or posted at the WMA check station.
- (6) U.S. Forest Service regulations shall apply on all WMAs located on National Forest lands.
- (7) It is unlawful for any person to unreasonably disturb or annoy others through abrasive, insulting or threatening words or actions, or physically harm or threaten any other person, or disobey any lawful order of a law enforcement official or act in a manner resulting in a breach of the peace.

(8) Camping, pre-season scouting, hiking, picnicking, horse riding, canoeing, and other recreational uses are allowed year-round unless otherwise indicated or posted at the WMA check station or at a specific recreation site. The department may close specific sites as needed for management purposes by posting at the site.

(9) It is unlawful for any unauthorized person to close or restrict access to roads, trails or other access features using motor vehicles, signage, or other methods. Roads, trails and other access features may be closed at the discretion of the department.

(10) It is unlawful to shoot from a motor vehicle except that disabled hunters on a designated handicapped access road or hunters who have been issued a department Special Use Permit as specified in said permit may shoot from a vehicle provided such vehicle is stationary and not under power.

(11) It shall be unlawful for any person to possess a loaded firearm in designated camping areas except as provided in O.C.G.A. § [16-11-126](#).

(12) O.C.G.A. Section [27-3-1.1](#) prohibits loaded long guns being carried in a motor vehicle on WMAs except for provisions stated in (10) above. Handguns may be loaded only as provided in O.C.G.A. § [16-11-126](#). A firearm shall be considered loaded if a shell is in the chamber or magazine except that muzzle-loading firearms are considered loaded only if a cap is on the nipple or powder is present on the frizzen pan. Crossbows must be un-cocked while being transported in a vehicle on a WMA.

(13) Suppressed firearms may be used for hunting on WMAs.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-2-.60

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [12-3-9](#), [27-1-4](#), [27-3-4](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Turkey" was filed on March 14, 1975; effective April 3, 1975.

**Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed December 9, 1975; effective December 29, 1975.

**Amended:** Rule entitled "Shooting Hours" adopted. Filed October 26, 1976; effective November 15, 1976.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of same title adopted. Filed September 16, 1977; effective August 26, 1977; the date of adoption, in accordance with Ga. L. 1977, pp. 396, 455.

**Amended:** Rule repealed. Filed September 6, 1978; effective September 26, 1978.

**Amended:** Rule entitled "Shooting Hours" adopted. Filed November 2, 1978; effective September 29, 1978, as specified by Certification of said Rule in accordance with Ga. Code Sec. 45-513(d).

**Amended:** Filed October 14, 1988; effective November 3, 1988.

**Amended:** F. Sept. 12, 1989; eff. Oct. 2, 1989.

**Repealed:** New Rule, same Title, adopted. F. Jun. 6, 1992; eff. Jun. 25, 1992.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "General Regulations on Wildlife Management Areas" adopted. F. Jun. 13, 2013; eff. Jul. 3, 2013.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 1, 2017; eff. June 21, 2017.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 4, 2019; eff. June 24, 2019.

**Amended:** F. June 7, 2021; eff. June 27, 2021.

## **391-4-2-.62 Vehicle, Horse, ATV and Other Conveyance Use on Wildlife Management Areas**

(1) As used in this Rule:

(a) "all-terrain vehicle" or "ATV" means a tracked or wheeled motor vehicle powered by an electrical or motor fuel engine and generally characterized by low-pressure tires, an open operator area, a seat designed to be straddled by the operator or a bench style seat, handlebars, lever arms or steering wheel for steering, and is intended for off-road use by an individual or multiple riders on natural terrain. This includes off-road motorcycles (dirt bikes), utility vehicles, golf carts, 4 and 3-wheeled cycles and other off road vehicles.

(b) "Open roads" shall mean those roads not closed with a gate, sign, earthen berm, or similar device.

(c) "Bicycle" includes electric assisted bicycles as defined in O.C.G.A 40-1-1.

(2) Horses, bicycles and all motor vehicles, including off-road vehicles, are restricted to open roads. Provided, however, that horses and bicycles may use designated trails or designated areas; bicycles may be used on closed roads for hunter access; horses may be used off roads and trails during permitted field trials.

(3) Vehicles, including ATVs, marked by official handicap license plates, placard, or sticker for special handicap access may be used on roads otherwise closed for vehicular access but specifically designated by the department for handicapped hunter access. WMA users possessing a Department issued Other Power-Driven Mobility Device (OPDMD) Special Use Permit may also use OPDMD's on handicap access roads or any other closed roads and locations as specified by the Department in the OPDMD Special Use Permit.

(4) Motor vehicles must meet safety, insurance, licensing, and registration requirements for use on public roads. However, 3-wheel and 4-wheel All-Terrain Vehicles, (ATVs) need not be licensed (tagged) to be operated on a WMA unless the WMA is on National Forest lands.

(5) ATVs may be operated only on roads within WMAs during the period between 2 hours before sunrise and 2 hours after sunset one day prior to and during big game, small game, and special hog only hunts by hunters actively participating in the hunt except where otherwise specified in [391-4-2-.70](#).

(6) ATV operators must be at least 16 years old.

(7) Trails and areas open to horses and bicycles may be closed during certain hunting seasons or certain times of day to avoid user conflicts.

(8) Horses and non-motorized bicycles may be used on National Forest lands not otherwise closed.

(9) No person may operate any motor vehicle, including off-road vehicles, in a reckless and negligent manner, or in a manner that willfully causes damage to improved roads, open roads, seasonal roads, ditches, wildlife openings, wildlife habitat, berms, firebreaks, campgrounds, or parking areas.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-2-.62

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [12-3-9](#), [27-1-4](#), [40-7-5](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Turkey" adopted. F. Mar. 14, 1975; eff. Apr. 3, 1975.

**Repealed:** Rule reserved. F. Dec. 9, 1975; eff. Dec. 29, 1975.

**Amended:** New Rule entitled "Turkey" adopted. F. Mar. 14, 1977; eff. Apr. 3, 1977 (Not Published at request of the Agency as the adoption of a new Chapter 391-4-2 was contemplated in April, 1977).

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "General Information" adopted. F. Mar. 6, 1978; eff. Mar. 26, 1978.

**Repealed:** F. Sept. 6, 1978; eff. Sept. 26, 1978.

**Amended:** New Rule entitled "General Information" adopted. F. Mar. 2, 1979; eff. Mar. 22, 1979.

**Amended:** F. June 3, 1993; eff. June 23, 1993.

**Repealed:** F. June 2, 1997; eff. June 22, 1997.

**Amended:** New Rule entitled "Alligators" adopted. F. May 30, 2003; eff. June 19, 2003.

**Amended:** F. July 1, 2004; eff. July 21, 2004.

**Amended:** F. June 16, 2005; eff. July 6, 2005.

**Amended:** F. May 24, 2007; eff. June 13, 2007.

**Amended:** F. May 27, 2009; eff. June 16, 2009.

**Amended:** F. Sept. 8, 2009; eff. Sept. 28, 2009.

**Amended:** F. June 7, 2010; eff. June 27, 2010.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Vehicle, Horse, ATV and Other Conveyance Use on Wildlife Management Areas" adopted. F. Jun. 13, 2013; eff. Jul. 3, 2013.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 1, 2017; eff. June 21, 2017.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 4, 2019; eff. June 24, 2019.

**Amended:** F. June 7, 2021; eff. June 27, 2021.

### **391-4-2-.65 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-2-.65

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [27-1-4](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Feral Hog Hunting Weapons" adopted. F. May 30, 2003; eff. June 19, 2003.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Managed Hunts on Wildlife Management Areas" adopted. F. Jun. 13, 2013; eff. Jul. 3, 2013.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 1, 2017; eff. June 21, 2017.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 4, 2019; eff. June 24, 2019.

**Repealed:** F. June 7, 2021; eff. June 27, 2021.



### **391-4-2-.66 Big Game Regulations on Wildlife Management Areas**

- (1) Two (2) deer may be killed during any one bonus deer hunt. However, on bonus hunts when antler restrictions are in effect, no more than one (1) of the two (2) deer allowed may be an antlered buck.
- (2) On bonus deer hunts, hunters should not record deer on the harvest record nor enter it in the Georgia Game Check harvest reporting system, but deliver the deer on the date of kill to the Wildlife Resources Division check station on the area where department personnel will provide a single-use tag. On all other deer hunts, the hunter's deer harvest record must be completed and the harvest must be reported pursuant to Rule [391-4-2-.03](#).
- (3) All deer hunts are either sex unless otherwise specified in [391-4-2-.70](#).
- (4) A hunter shall harvest no more than 1 gobbler per season on any single wildlife management area, department-managed property, the Oconee National Forest outside of wildlife management areas or the Chattahoochee National Forest outside of wildlife management areas, unless otherwise specified in [391-4-2-.70](#).
- (5) Turkeys harvested on WMAs must be recorded on the hunter's harvest record and reported pursuant to Rule [391-4-2-.03](#).
- (6) The head and hide of all bears killed during open seasons must be presented at the check station on same date as killed on hunt dates when the check station is staffed. If the check station is unstaffed, the hunter shall report the harvest pursuant to [391-4-2-.03](#).
- (7) Sign in is required for all big game hunts unless otherwise specified in Rule [391-4-2-.70](#).
- (8) Man-drives are prohibited during deer hunts. A man-drive is defined as an organized hunting technique involving three (3) or more hunters using a coordinated effort to drive animals from cover to another hunter for the purpose of shooting.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-2-.66

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [27-1-4](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Big Game Regulations on Wildlife Management Areas" adopted. F. Jun. 13, 2013; eff. Jul. 3, 2013.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 26, 2015; eff. June 15, 2015.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 1, 2017; eff. June 21, 2017.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 4, 2019; eff. June 24, 2019.

**Amended:** F. June 7, 2021; eff. June 27, 2021.

### **391-4-2-.67 Small Game Regulations on Wildlife Management Areas**

- (1) During small game hunts, hunters may hunt any small game in season subject to state seasons, regulations and bag limits except as may otherwise be provided in Rule [391-4-2-.70](#).
- (2) Sign-in is not required for small game hunting (including migratory birds) unless otherwise provided in Rule [391-4-2-.70](#).
- (3) Small game and furbearer hunting are not allowed during quota hunts unless otherwise provided in Rule [391-4-2-.70](#).

(4) Small game hunters hunting on dates concurrent with deer and bear primitive weapons or firearm hunts must wear fluorescent orange as specified in Rule [391-4-2-.04](#), except for dove hunters hunting on managed dove fields, furbearer hunters hunting at night, and waterfowl hunters hunting on managed waterfowl impoundments or other water bodies.

(5) Only waterfowl hunting can take place on managed impoundments during waterfowl hunting dates. Waterfowl on all other WMA locations may be taken any day of the waterfowl seasons whenever the area is open for small game hunting unless otherwise specified.

(6) On quota waterfowl hunts, hunters must hunt from assigned areas. Shooting hours begin in accordance with applicable federal regulations and end at 12:00 noon except that on the last Saturday of the season, hunters may shoot until sunset.

(7) No night hunting is allowed on any WMA except for raccoon, fox, opossum, or bobcat on open dates. Coyotes and feral hogs may be taken at night while hunting raccoon, fox, opossum, or bobcat. When hunting fox and bobcat at night centerfire weapons may not be used.

(8) Raccoon, opossum, fox and bobcat may be hunted within statewide seasons during small game and furbearer dates, unless otherwise specified; electronic calls may not be used.

(9) Permitted alligator hunters may hunt during day or night on open small game and big game dates unless otherwise specified in Rule [391-4-2-.70](#).

(10) Coyotes and feral hogs may be taken during all hunts but weapon types are restricted to only those weapons allowed for the game species in season. Coyotes and feral hogs may be taken during small game season with any weapon legal for small game except that centerfire rifles may not be used, unless otherwise specified in Rule [391-4-2-.70](#).

(11) Special coyote season:

(a) May 16-May 31 unless otherwise specified in [391-4-2-.70](#).

(b) Hunters may use any weapon legal for small or big game unless otherwise specified in [391-4-2-.70](#).

(c) Hunters and any person accompanying a hunter afield shall wear a total of at least 500 visible square inches of daylight fluorescent orange material as an outer garment above the waistline.

(d) Night hunting is prohibited.

(e) Feral hogs may not be taken unless otherwise specified in [391-4-2-.70](#).

(f) Dogs may not be used to hunt hogs unless otherwise specified in [391-4-2-.70](#). Where allowed, hunting dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number.

(g) Hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.

(12) Unless otherwise specified in [391-4-2-.70](#), small game may be taken on WMAs by permitted falconers at any time during the state falconry season pursuant to O.C.G.A. [27-3-15](#) except during any quota big game hunts or small game quota hunts for which the falconer has not been drawn.

(13) The daily bag limit on fox squirrels is 1 per hunter.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-2-.67

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [27-1-4](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Small Game Regulations on Wildlife Management Areas" adopted. F. Jun. 13, 2013; eff. Jul. 3, 2013.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 26, 2015; eff. June 15, 2015.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 1, 2017; eff. June 21, 2017.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 4, 2019; eff. June 24, 2019.

**Amended:** F. June 7, 2021; eff. June 27, 2021.

### **391-4-2-.68 Training of Hunting Dogs on Wildlife Management Areas**

(1) The training of hunting dogs for hunting any particular species may occur only during dates open for hunting such species on each WMA, unless otherwise specified, and in accordance with O.C.G.A. Section [27-3-16](#).

(2) There is no limit on the number of trail dogs for rabbit, fox, squirrel, raccoon, bobcat or opossum unless otherwise provided in Rule [391-4-2-.70](#).

(3) Trail dogs for rabbit are limited to beagles, bassets and dachshunds only.

(4) Dogs are not allowed for pursuing big game or for pursuing or catching hogs unless otherwise specified in rules [391-4-2-.70](#), [391-4-2-.71](#) and [391-4-2-.73](#). Hunters whose dogs are found in violation of this regulation shall be deemed in violation of O.C.G.A. Section [27-1-33](#).

(5) On bird dog training areas, as indicated in [391-4-2-.70](#) for individual WMAs, dog training is restricted to designated portions of WMA only and is allowed year-round and during daylight hours only unless otherwise specified in [391-4-2-.70](#). Pen-reared quail or pigeons may be used during training exercises on bird dog training areas in accordance with O.C.G.A. [27-3-16](#).

(6) Dog training is prohibited during quota quail or rabbit hunts.

(7) Field trials may be held on WMAs provided the organizer has the proper permit authorized by O.C.G.A. Section [27-2-21](#). The conditions provided in the permit shall be met. No permits will be issued if there are conflicts with area objectives as determined by the department.

(8) It is unlawful for any person to fail to remove his/her dog(s) from a WMAs upon his/her departure from such WMA.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-2-.68

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [27-1-4](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Training of Hunting Dogs on Wildlife Management Areas" adopted. F. Jun. 13, 2013; eff. Jul. 3, 2013.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 1, 2017; eff. June 21, 2017.

**Amended:** F. June 7, 2021; eff. June 27, 2021.

### 391-4-2-.70 Wildlife Management Areas, Other State Lands, and Federal Areas

The following species may be hunted on State areas in accordance with restrictions set forth below except as prescribed in [391-4-2-.60](#) through [391-4-2-.68](#), and on Federal areas in accordance with the restrictions set forth below.

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 17 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 23-Oct 24 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 11-Nov 13 Bonus Deer
Firearms Either Sex Nov 24-Nov 28, Dec 14-Dec 19 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 23 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 29-Oct 30 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 10-Nov 12 Bonus Deer
Firearms Either Sex Nov 23-Nov 27, Dec 13-Dec 18 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
Saturdays only during 1st season.
2021-22
Sep 11, Sep 18, Sep 25, Oct 2, Oct 9 Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
Sep 4 Sign-in Quota 50
2022-23
Sep 10, Sep 17, Sep 24, Oct 1, Oct 8, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31
Sep 3 Sign-in Quota 50
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 23-May 15 Sign-in
Apr 9-Apr 15, Apr 16-Apr 22 Sign-in Quota 15
2022-23
Apr 22-May 15 Sign-in
Apr 8-Apr 14, Apr 15-Apr 21 Sign-in Quota 15
<b>Albany Nursery WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Physically Disabled hunters should apply by letter by Mar. 10 to Albany Nursery Quota Turkey Hunt, Game Management, 2024 Newton Road, Albany, Georgia 31701. Include a phone number. See page 74 for all other quota hunt application instructions.; No camping. No May 16-31 coyote season. Dog training in designated area only.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Dec 5-Jan 9 Sign-in
Mobility Impaired Firearms Either Sex Oct 28-Oct 31, Nov 25-Nov 28 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Dec 4-Jan 8 Sign-in
Mobility Impaired Firearms Either Sex Oct 27-Oct 30, Nov 24-Nov 27 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
Quota on designated fields only. All other areas open to the public.
2021-22
Sep 11-Oct 10, Nov 21-Nov 24, Dec 19-Jan 31
Sep 4 Sign-in Quota 35
2022-23
Sep 10-Oct 9, Nov 19-Nov 23, Dec 19-Jan 31
Sep 3 Sign-in Quota 35

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
<b>Quail</b>
Quail hunting by quota only. Maximum 3 persons per party. Bag limit is 3 per person. Hunting party must check-in harvest at kiosk or online. Complete one check-in (survey) per party.
2021-22
Jan 15 Sign-in Quota 1
Youth Nov 20, Dec 4 Sign-in Quota 1
2022-23
Jan 14 Sign-in Quota 1
Youth Nov 19, Dec 3 Sign-in Quota 1
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Mobility Impaired Apr 16-Apr 20, Apr 30-May 4 Sign-in Quota 1
Youth Apr 9-Apr 13, Apr 23-Apr 27 Sign-in Quota 1
2022-23
Mobility Impaired Apr 15-Apr 19, Apr 29-May 3 Sign-in Quota 1
Youth Apr 8-Apr 12, Apr 22-Apr 26 Sign-in Quota 1
<b>Alexander WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No camping. Bird dog training allowed year-round in designated areas.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 15, Dec 1-Jan 9 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 16-Nov 30 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 21, Dec 1-Jan 8 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 22-Nov 30 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
Quota; No dove hunting outside of dove field; Shooting hours from 12 noon - sunset on quota hunts
2021-22
Sep 18, Sep 25, Oct 2, Oct 9, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31 Sign-in
Sep 4, Sep 11 Sign-in Quota 50
2022-23
Sep 17, Sep 24, Oct 1, Oct 8, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31 Sign-in
Sep 3, Sep 10 Sign-in Quota 50
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28 Sign-in
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Allatoona WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Firearms prohibited in U.S. Corps of Engineers developed campsites. Horse and bicycle trails & areas are closed all day during Firearms Specialty Hunt and before 10:00 a.m. EST during all other deer and turkey seasons. No ATVs. No camping.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 15 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 2-Jan 1 Sign-in
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Oct 16-Oct 17 Sign-in
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 18-Nov 1 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 21 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 1-Jan 1 Sign-in
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Oct 22-Oct 23 Sign-in
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 24-Oct 31 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Alligator Creek WMA</b>
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 16-Jan 9 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 22-Jan 8 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Altama Plantation WMA</b>
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Nov 10, Dec 31-Jan 9 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Dec 28-Dec 30 Bonus Deer
Firearms Either Sex Nov 11-Nov 13, Dec 2-Dec 4 Sign-in Quota 50
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Nov 9, Dec 30-Jan 8 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Dec 27-Dec 29 Bonus Deer
Firearms Either Sex Nov 10-Nov 12, Dec 1-Dec 3 Sign-in Quota 50
<b>Small Game</b>

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
No furbearer season.
2021-22
Firearms Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Firearms Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Firearms Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Firearms Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Altamaha WMA - Buffalo Swamp, Lewis Island, and McGowan Lake Tracts</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
This area includes those Altamaha WMA lands west of Butler & Champney Islands.
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may be hunted with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 16-Oct 17 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 18-Jan 9 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 22-Oct 23 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 24-Jan 8 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Firearms Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Firearms Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Firearms Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Firearms Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Altamaha WMA - Waterfowl Management Area</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
This area includes Broughton, Butler, Champney, Rabbit and Rhett's Islands. Butler Refuge (located on Butler Island east of HWY 17) and Ansley Hodges MARSH Project (located west of HWY 17 on Champney Island) are closed to firearms at all times, but open to archery deer hunting seasons and archery rabbit hunting after the last Saturday of waterfowl season. Airboats are prohibited inside managed waterfowl impoundments. Boats are restricted to one motor of 25hp or less. Access to Rhett's Island at designated crossover sites only. Waterfowl shooting hours end at noon, except last day of season when shooting hours end at sunset. Rhett's Island is closed to fishing, shrimping & crabbing during early teal season & statewide waterfowl season. Butler Island ponds & impoundments closed to cast netting west of Highway 17. Drone use prohibited, including launching and landing.
<b>Coyote</b>
Mar. 1-May 31. Small game weapons only. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Nov 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Nov 15 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 4-Sep 5, Sep 11-Sep 12, Sep 18-Sep 19, Sep 25-Sep 26
2022-23
Sep 3-Sep 4, Sep 10-Sep 11, Sep 17-Sep 18, Sep 24-Sep 25
<b>Rabbit</b>
Bag Limit of 6/person/day. Archery Youth Only, Butler Refuge Area
2021-22
Youth Archery Jan 29-Jan 30
2022-23
Youth Archery Jan 28-Jan 29
<b>Small Game</b>
Butler Island opens after the last Saturday of waterfowl season. Aug. 15-Nov. 15, Feb. 1-Feb.28. No furbearer season. Snipe: Wed.-Sun. & State Holidays during season.
<b>Turkey</b>
No turkey season
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Shooting hours end at 12 noon, except last day of season when shooting hours end at sunset. Rhett's Island: Wed., Sat., Sun. & State Holidays during statewide season. Q25 Butler Island: Saturday Only. Stand selection drawing will be held at 5:00am. Stand-by hunters will be issued unfilled quota slots based on drawing the morning of the hunt. Maximum of 3 persons per party. Q25 Champney Island: Weekends Only. Quota selection required, no stand-by allowed. Maximum 3 persons per party. First hunt open only to youth and veterans to apply; other 2 party members do not have to be youth or veterans.
2021-22
Butler Island Nov 20, Nov 27, Dec 18, Jan 1, Jan 8, Jan 15, Jan 22, Jan 29 Quota 25
Champney Island Youth and Veterans only: Nov 20-Nov 21 General Quota: Nov 27-Nov 28, Dec 18-Dec 19, Dec 25-Dec 26, Jan 1-Jan 2, Jan 8-Jan 9, Jan 15-Jan 16, Jan 22-Jan 23, Jan 29-Jan 30 Quota 25
2022-23
Butler Island Nov 19, Nov 26, Dec 17, Dec 24, Dec 31, Jan 7, Jan 14, Jan 21, Jan 28 Quota 25
Champney Island Youth and Veterans only: Nov 19-Nov 20; General Quota: Nov 26-Nov 27, Dec 17-Dec 18, Dec 24-Dec 25, Dec 31-Jan 1, Jan 7-Jan 8, Jan 14-Jan 15, Jan 21-Jan 22, Jan 28-Jan 29 Quota 25
<b>Appling County Dove Field VPA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
On opening day, hunters shall not enter a managed dove field and hunting structures shall not be placed on a managed dove field prior to 10:00 am. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 11, Sep 18 Sign-in
Youth Sep 4 Sign-in
2022-23
Sep 10, Sep 17 Sign-in
Youth Sep 3 Sign-in
<b>Arrowhead WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATV's except by mobility impaired hunters during mobility impaired hunts. No camping.
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Small game weapons only.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Dec 6-Jan 9 Sign-in



<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Mobility Impaired Archery Either Sex Nov 29-Dec 5 Sign-in
Youth Archery Either Sex Nov 1-Nov 28 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Dec 5-Jan 8 Sign-in
Mobility Impaired Archery Either Sex Nov 28-Dec 4 Sign-in
Youth Archery Either Sex Nov 1-Nov 27 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Youth Aug 15-Oct 31, Feb 1-Feb 28
2022-23
Youth Aug 15-Oct 31, Feb 1-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Mobility Impaired Apr 9-Apr 15 Sign-in
Youth Apr 16-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Mobility Impaired Apr 8-Apr 14 Sign-in
Youth Apr 15-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Saturdays only during statewide season.
<b>B.F. Grant WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No hunting on or access through pastures.
<b>Deer</b>
Antlered bucks must have at least 4 points (1 inch or longer) on either side OR a 15 inch outside spread to be legal.
2021-22
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 11-Sep 19, Dec 2-Dec 5 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Nov 4-Nov 6, Nov 18-Nov 20 Bonus Deer Quota 300
Primitive Weapons Quality Buck and Antlerless Dec 17-Dec 19 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 10-Sep 18, Dec 1-Dec 4 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Nov 3-Nov 5, Nov 17-Nov 19 Bonus Deer Quota 300
Primitive Weapons Quality Buck and Antlerless Dec 16-Dec 18 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 4, Sep 11, Sep 18, Sep 25, Oct 2-10, Nov 21-Nov 28, Dec 20-Jan 31
2022-23
Sep 3, Sep 10, Sep 17, Sep 24, Oct 1-9, Nov 20-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 16-Apr 22 Sign-in Quota 80
Apr 23-May 15 Sign-in
Youth Apr 9-Apr 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 15-Apr 21 Sign-in Quota 80
Apr 22-May 15 Sign-in
Youth Apr 8-Apr 14 Sign-in

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
<b>Waterfowl</b>
No waterfowl hunting on MARSH ponds. Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
2021-22
First Sat. of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Season, Jan 22 Sign-in Quota 3
2022-23
First Sat. of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Season, Jan 21 Sign-in Quota 3
<b>Balls Ferry State Park</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No camping. On youth hunts, only youth may hunt. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8, Oct 16-Jan 9 Sign-in
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14, Oct 22-Jan 8 Sign-in
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Archery Apr 18-May 15 Sign-in
Youth Apr 9-Apr 17 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Apr 17-May 15 Sign-in
Youth Apr 8-Apr 16 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
<b>Banks Lake NWR</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No commercial activities allowed. Open only to Quota selected hunters in Alligator Hunt Zone 4.
<b>Alligator</b>
2021-22
Aug 27-Aug 29
2022-23
Aug 26-Aug 28
<b>Bartram Forest WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Archery only for all species. No firearms hunting is allowed. Bartram Forest is a multiple- use recreation area; other users may be present during open hunting seasons. Gates may be opened or closed at the discretion of Georgia Forestry Commission. Please see WMA maps for safety zones. No camping. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Archery Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Archery Aug 15-Feb 28

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Archery Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
<b>Beaverdam WMA</b>
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Sep 17, Sep 25-Oct 15 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Nov 25-Nov 27, Dec 15-Dec 18 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 4-Nov 6 Bonus Deer
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Sep 18-Sep 24 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Sep 16, Sep 24-Oct 21 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Nov 24-Nov 26, Dec 14-Dec 17 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 3-Nov 5 Bonus Deer
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Sep 17-Sep 23 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Berry College WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
There is no open season for the taking of any wildlife on Berry College campus and refuge. Firearms and archery equipment are prohibited on the campus and refuge. Hunters may not use the campus or refuge for gaining access to the WMA. No ATV's. Horse, bicycle, and foot trails and areas are closed all day during firearms deer season and before 10:00am during deer archery and turkey season. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Nov 2, Nov 7-Nov 12 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Dec 1-Dec 4 Bonus Deer Quota 1000
Firearms Either Sex Last Day Nov 3-Nov 6 Bonus Deer Quota 1000
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Jan 8-Jan 9 Bonus Deer
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Nov 6-Nov 11 Sign-in
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Nov 1 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Last Day Nov 2-Nov 5 Bonus Deer Quota 1000
Firearms Either Sex Nov 30-Dec 3 Bonus Deer Quota 1000
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Jan 7-Jan 8 Bonus Deer
<b>Dog Training</b>
Aug 15 - Mar 19, except during firearms deer hunts.
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 4, Sep 11, Sep 18, Sep 25, Oct 2, Oct 9-Oct 10, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 7, Jan 10-Jan 31
2022-23
Sep 3, Sep 10, Sep 17, Sep 24, Oct 1, Oct 8-Oct 9, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 6, Jan 9-Jan 31

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
<b>Small Game</b>
No night hunting.
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Big Dukes Pond WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Camping, ATVs & horses prohibited. Note Safety Zone on map - access prohibited between Feb. 1 and July 15.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 16-Nov 30 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 22-Nov 30 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Wednesdays and Saturdays only during statewide season. Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
<b>Big Hammock WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
If the river stage is 9 feet or higher, measured at the Doctortown Gauge, the gates will be closed. Deer hunters may not hunt within 50 feet of the nature trail off Mack Phillips Rd.
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Dec 1-Jan 9 Sign-in
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 6, Oct 10-Oct 15 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 23-Nov 7 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 7-Oct 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Dec 1-Jan 8 Sign-in
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 5, Oct 9-Oct 21 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 29-Nov 13 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 6-Oct 8 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Big Lazer Creek WMA</b>

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>	
<b>Coyote</b>	
2021-22	
May 16-May 31	
2022-23	
May 16-May 31	
<b>Deer</b>	
Antlered bucks must have at least 4 points (1 inch or longer) on either side OR a 15 inch outside spread to be legal.	
2021-22	
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 11-Sep 24, Oct 17-Oct 31 Sign-in	
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Last Day Oct 14-Oct 16, Nov 11-Nov 13 Bonus Deer	
Specialty Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Nov 19-Nov 21 Sign-in	
Youth Firearms Either Sex Sep 25-Sep 26 Sign-in	
2022-23	
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 10-Sep 23, Oct 16-Oct 30 Sign-in	
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Last Day Oct 13-Oct 15, Nov 10-Nov 12 Bonus Deer	
Specialty Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Nov 18-Nov 20 Sign-in	
Youth Firearms Either Sex Sep 24-Sep 25 Sign-in	
<b>Dove</b>	
2021-22	
Sep 4, Sep 11, Sep 18-Sep 24, Nov 24-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31	
2022-23	
Sep 3, Sep 10, Sep 17-Sep 23, Nov 23-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31	
<b>Small Game</b>	
2021-22	
Aug 15-Feb 28	
2022-23	
Aug 15-Feb 28	
<b>Turkey</b>	
2021-22	
Apr 9-Apr 17, Apr 23-May 1 Sign-in Quota 50	
May 2-May 15 Sign-in	
2022-23	
Apr 8-Apr 16, Apr 22-Apr 30 Sign-in Quota 50	
May 1-May 15 Sign-in	
<b>Waterfowl</b>	
PFA is open for waterfowl hunting Wednesdays and Saturdays only during statewide waterfowl season.	
<b>Blackbeard Island NWR</b>	
<b>Special Regulations</b>	
All hunters 16 years of age or older must purchase a \$25 Savannah Coastal Refuges Complex Annual Hunt Permit at <a href="http://www.savannahcoastalpermits.com">www.savannahcoastalpermits.com</a> . No alligator hunting. Visit <a href="http://www.fws.gov/refuge/blackbeard_island">www.fws.gov/refuge/blackbeard_island</a> for seasons, dates and more information. No May 16-31 coyote season.	
<b>Blanton Creek WMA</b>	
<b>Coyote</b>	
2021-22	
May 16-May 31	
2022-23	
May 16-May 31	
<b>Deer</b>	
Antlered bucks must have at least 4 points (1 inch or longer) on either side OR a 15 inch outside spread to be legal.	
2021-22	
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 11-Oct 8, Oct 11-Oct 17, Nov 21-Nov 28 Sign-in	
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 21-Oct 23, Nov 18-Nov 20 Bonus Deer Quota 200	

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Specialty Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 9-Oct 10 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 10-Oct 6, Oct 10-Oct 16, Nov 20-Nov 27 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 20-Oct 22, Nov 17-Nov 19 Bonus Deer Quota 200
Specialty Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 8-Oct 9 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 18-Sep 30, Nov 21-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
Sep 4, Sep 11 Sign-in Quota 75
2022-23
Sep 17-Sep 30, Nov 20-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31
Sep 3, Sep 10 Sign-in Quota 75
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 23-May 15 Sign-in
Apr 9-Apr 15, Apr 16-Apr 22 Sign-in Quota 35
2022-23
Apr 22-May 15 Sign-in
Apr 8-Apr 14, Apr 15-Apr 21 Sign-in Quota 35
<b>Waterfowl</b>
No waterfowl hunting on MARSH ponds. Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
<b>Blue Ridge WMA</b>
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Buck Only Sep 11-Oct 6, Oct 16-Oct 31 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Nov 24-Nov 27 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Nov 3-Nov 7 Bonus Deer
Primitive Weapons Buck Only Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Buck Only Sep 10-Oct 12, Oct 22-Oct 31 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Nov 23-Nov 26 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Nov 2-Nov 6 Bonus Deer
Primitive Weapons Buck Only Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Bond Swamp NWR</b>

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>	
<b>Special Regulations</b>	
Refuge permits are required for all hunts. Quota deer and waterfowl application deadline is September 22, 2021 & September 21, 2022. Quota turkey application deadline is February 16, 2022 & February 15, 2023. Sign-in required for youth deer hunt. Contact the Piedmont Refuge office to obtain applications, permits and refuge specific hunting regulations. Hunters are required to sign out harvested game at refuge check stations. Feral hogs may only be taken during refuge big game and small game hunts with applicable weapons restrictions. No May 16-31 coyote season. Baiting is prohibited. For more information call 478-986-5441 or email.	
<b>Deer</b>	
2021-22	
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Nov 7	
Firearms Either Sex Nov 19-Nov 20, Dec 3-Dec 4 Quota 200	
Youth Firearms Either Sex Nov 13-Nov 14 Sign-in Quota 50	
2022-23	
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Nov 6	
Firearms Either Sex Nov 18-Nov 19, Dec 2-Dec 3 Quota 200	
Youth Firearms Either Sex Nov 12-Nov 13 Sign-in Quota 50	
<b>Quail</b>	
2021-22	
Dec 5-Jan 31	
2022-23	
Dec 4-Jan 31	
<b>Rabbit</b>	
2021-22	
Dec 5-Jan 31	
2022-23	
Dec 4-Jan 31	
<b>Small Game</b>	
Bag Limit of 1/day for Fox Squirrel	
<b>Squirrel</b>	
2021-22	
Aug 15-Sep 10, Dec 5-Jan 31	
2022-23	
Aug 15-Sep 9, Dec 4-Jan 31	
<b>Turkey</b>	
Bag Limit 1	
2021-22	
Apr 9-Apr 10, Apr 22-Apr 23 Quota 40	
2022-23	
Apr 8-Apr 9, Apr 21-Apr 22 Quota 40	
<b>Waterfowl</b>	
Shooting hours end at 12 noon.	
2021-22	
Dec. 12-13, Dec 23-Dec 24, Jan 7-Jan 8, Jan 21-Jan 22 Quota 20	
2022-23	
Dec 12-13, Dec 23-Dec 24, Jan 6-Jan 7, Jan 20-Jan 21 Quota 20	
<b>Broad River WMA</b>	
<b>Deer/Bear</b>	
2021-22	
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Nov 30	
2022-23	
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Nov 30	
<b>Small Game</b>	
2021-22	

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15
<b>Buck Shoals WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Day Use access is available on River Rd. Access for scheduled events is available on Cloverleaf Dr. and Buck Shoals Dr. Limit of 1 for all big game (Turkey and Deer) hunts. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
1 deer limit on all hunts
2021-22
Hunt-and-Learn Firearms Either Sex Nov 6-Nov 7 Bonus Deer Quota 12
Youth Firearms Either Sex Nov 20-Nov 21, Dec 4-Dec 5 Bonus Deer Quota 12
2022-23
Hunt-and-Learn Firearms Either Sex Nov 5-Nov 6 Bonus Deer Quota 12
Youth Firearms Either Sex Nov 19-Nov 20, Dec 3-Dec 4 Bonus Deer Quota 12
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Hunt-and-Learn Sep 11-Sep 12 Quota 15
Youth Sep 4 Quota 25
2022-23
Hunt-and-Learn Sep 10-Sep 11 Quota 15
Youth Sep 3 Quota 25
<b>Small Game</b>
No night hunting.
2021-22
Youth Jan 1-Jan 9, Jan 22-Jan 30 Sign-in Quota 10
2022-23
Youth Jan 7-Jan 15, Jan 21-Jan 29 Sign-in Quota 10
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Hunt-and-Learn Apr 9-Apr 10 Quota 3
Youth Apr 23-Apr 24, May 7-May 8 Quota 5
2022-23
Hunt-and-Learn Apr 8-Apr 9 Quota 3
Youth Apr 22-Apr 23, May 6-May 7 Quota 5
<b>Bullard Creek WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No firearms deer hunting within posted Towns Bluff Tract but legal firearms permitted for turkey and small game hunting.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Sep 22, Sep 26-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Dec 16-Dec 18 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 24-Nov 27 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 14-Oct 16 Bonus Deer
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Sep 23-Sep 25 Sign-in
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Oct 29-Oct 31 Sign-in
2022-23



<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Sep 21, Sep 25-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Dec 15-Dec 17 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 23-Nov 26 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 20-Oct 22 Bonus Deer
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Sep 22-Sep 24 Sign-in
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Oct 28-Oct 30 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-Apr 15 Sign-in Quota 80
Apr 16-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-Apr 14 Sign-in Quota 80
Apr 15-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Bullard Creek WMA - Bell Telephone Tract</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No firearms deer hunting but legal firearms permitted for turkey and small game.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Bullard Creek WMA - Montgomery Tract</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Access is limited to foot or boat travel only and is quality buck which means bucks must have a minimum of four points (1 inch or longer) on one side. No firearms deer hunting but legal firearms permitted for turkey and small game hunting.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Bullard Creek WMA - Ocmulgee Tract</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No firearms deer hunting but legal firearms permitted for turkey and small game.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Camp Creek VPA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Camp Thunder VPA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATVs. No camping.
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31, archery only.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Archery Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Archery Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Archery Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
<b>Canoochee Sandhills WMA</b>
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 9 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Dec 16-Dec 18 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 21-Oct 23, Nov 11-Nov 13 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Dec 15-Dec 17 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 27-Oct 29, Nov 10-Nov 12 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
Saturdays only during 1st season.
2021-22
Sep 4, Sep 11, Sep 18, Sep 25, Oct 2, Oct 9 Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
2022-23
Sep 3, Sep 10, Sep 17, Sep 24, Oct 1, Oct 8, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Cardinal VPA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Firearms Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Firearms Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Firearms Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Firearms Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Carter's Lake WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATV's except by mobility impaired hunters during the mobility impaired hunt. No camping. Quota hunters must apply by letter to US Army Corps of Engineers, 975 Powerhouse Rd, Chatsworth, GA 30705 between Aug 15 and Sept 10.
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Small game weapons only.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Nov 14-Jan 1 Sign-in
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Nov 4, Nov 8-Nov 12 Sign-in
Mobility Impaired Firearms Either Sex Nov 5-Nov 7 Bonus Deer Quota 20
Youth Firearms Either Sex Nov 13 Bonus Deer Quota 20
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Nov 13-Jan 1 Sign-in
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Nov 3, Nov 7-Nov 11 Sign-in
Mobility Impaired Firearms Either Sex Nov 4-Nov 6 Bonus Deer Quota 20
Youth Firearms Either Sex Nov 12 Bonus Deer Quota 20
<b>Dog Training</b>
Rabbit Dog Training Only: Wed/Fri/Sat from Nov-Feb, except during firearms deer hunts.
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Cedar Creek WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
ATVs prohibited.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 10 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Nov 29-Dec 12 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 14-Oct 16 Bonus Deer
Firearms Either Sex Last Day Nov 11-Nov 13 Bonus Deer

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Nov 23-Nov 28 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 16 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Nov 28-Dec 11 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 20-Oct 22 Bonus Deer
Firearms Either Sex Last Day Nov 10-Nov 12 Bonus Deer
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Nov 22-Nov 27 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 4, Sep 11, Sep 18, Sep 25, Oct 2-10, Nov 20-Nov 22, Dec 19-Jan 31
2022-23
Sep 3, Sep 10, Sep 17, Sep 24, Oct 1-9, Nov 19-Nov 21, Dec 19-Jan 31
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
<b>Cedar Creek WMA - Little River Area</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATVs. No camping.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8, Oct 16-Jan 9 Sign-in
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14, Oct 22-Jan 8 Sign-in
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
<b>Cedar Grove VPA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No furbearer hunting.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Ceylon WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
This area includes new acquisitions, including the Black Point Tract and Grover Island. Black Point is accessible from Harriet's Bluff Road. Access to Grover Island is by river only.
<b>Deer</b>
Antlered bucks must have at least 4 points (1 inch or longer) on either side OR a 15 inch outside spread to be legal.
2021-22
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 11-Oct 17, Dec 3-Dec 26 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 21-Oct 23, Nov 11-Nov 13, Dec 2-Dec 4 Bonus Deer Quota 100
2022-23
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 10-Oct 16, Dec 4-Dec 27 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 20-Oct 22, Nov 10-Nov 12, Dec 1-Dec 3 Bonus Deer Quota 100
<b>Dog Training</b>
Bird dog training area: The mature pine stands bounded by hardwood drains/marsh adjacent to the intersection of Boat House and Ceylon Rd.
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Firearms Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Firearms Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Firearms Apr 9-Apr 15, Apr 23-Apr 29, May 7-May 13 Sign-in Quota 40
2022-23
Firearms Apr 8-Apr 14, Apr 22-Apr 28, May 6-May 12 Sign-in Quota 40
<b>Chattahoochee Bend State Park</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Hunters must attend pre-hunt meeting at 7:00 p.m. on the evening before the hunt. Hunt participants will be charged a \$30 nonrefundable, nontransferable hunt fee and a \$5 Park Pass will be required. Coyotes and feral hogs may be taken during deer hunts. Campsites (hunters only) will be available for hunter use and may be reserved through the park office at (770) 254-7271. ATVs Prohibited. All park access will be closed to the general public during the hunt. No May 16-31 Coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
5 deer limit, no more than 2 may be antlered bucks.
2021-22
Firearms Either Sex Nov 30-Dec 1 Bonus Deer Quota 100
2022-23
Firearms Either Sex Nov 29-Nov 30 Bonus Deer Quota 100
<b>Chattahoochee Fall Line WMA - Almo</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATVs. No horses. Hunters must check kiosk daily for prescribed burning schedule and location.
<b>Coyote</b>
2021-22
May 16-May 31
2022-23

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
May 16-May 31
<b>Deer</b>
Antlered bucks must have at least 4 points (1 inch or longer) on either side OR a 15 inch outside spread to be legal.
2021-22
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Nov 20-Nov 28 Sign-in
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 11-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 21-Oct 23, Nov 11-Nov 13 Bonus Deer Quota 150
2022-23
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Nov 19-Nov 27 Sign-in
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 10-Oct 13 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 20-Oct 22, Nov 10-Nov 12 Bonus Deer Quota 150
<b>Quail</b>
Quail hunting prohibited due to low population levels.
<b>Small Game</b>
Hunting of fox squirrels prohibited.
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-Apr 17, Apr 30-May 8 Sign-in Quota 50
Hunt-and-Learn Apr 22-Apr 24
May 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-Apr 16, Apr 29-May 7 Sign-in Quota 50
Hunt-and-Learn Apr 21-Apr 23
May 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
<b>Chattahoochee Fall Line WMA - Blackjack Crossing</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Archery only for all hunting. No camping. No ATVs. No horses. Hunters must check kiosk daily for prescribed burning schedule and location.
<b>Coyote</b>
2021-22
May 16-May 31
2022-23
May 16-May 31
<b>Deer</b>
Antlered bucks must have at least 4 points (1 inch or longer) on either side OR a 15 inch outside spread to be legal.
2021-22
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
Hunting of fox squirrels prohibited.
2021-22
Archery Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Archery Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
Exception to Archery Area Rules. Hunt and Learn can use firearms.

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
2021-22
Archery Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
<b>Chattahoochee Fall Line WMA - Fort Perry</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATVs. No horses. Hunters must check kiosk daily for prescribed burning schedule and locations.
<b>Coyote</b>
2021-22
May 16-May 31
2022-23
May 16-May 31
<b>Deer</b>
Antlered bucks must have at least 4 points (1 inch or longer) on either side OR a 15 inch outside spread to be legal.
2021-22
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Nov 21-Nov 28 Sign-in
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 11-Sep 19, Oct 4-Oct 10 Sign-in
Firearms Antlerless Only Oct 1-Oct 3 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 28-Oct 30, Nov 11-Nov 13 Bonus Deer Quota 35
Hunt-and-Learn Firearms Nov 5-Nov 7
Youth Firearms Either Sex Sep 25-Sep 26 Sign-in Quota 35
2022-23
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Nov 20-Nov 27 Sign-in
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 10-Sep 18, Oct 3-Oct 9 Sign-in
Firearms Antlerless Only Sep 30-Oct 2 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 27-Oct 29, Nov 10-Nov 12 Bonus Deer Quota 35
Hunt-and-Learn Firearms Nov 4-Nov 6
Youth Firearms Either Sex Sep 24-Sep 25 Sign-in Quota 35
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 4, Sep 11, Sep 18-Sep 24, Sep 27-Sep 30, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
2022-23
Sep 3, Sep 10, Sep 17-Sep 23, Sep 26-Sep 30, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31
<b>Quail</b>
Quail hunting prohibited due to low population levels.
<b>Small Game</b>
Hunting of fox squirrels prohibited.
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-Apr 11, Apr 23-Apr 25 Sign-in Quota 15
May 11-May 15 Sign-in
Youth Apr 16-Apr 18 Sign-in Quota 15
2022-23
Apr 8-Apr 10, Apr 22-Apr 24 Sign-in Quota 15
May 10-May 15 Sign-in
Youth Apr 15-Apr 17 Sign-in Quota 15

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
<b>Chattahoochee Fall Line WMA - Hilliard</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATVs. No horses. Hunters must check kiosk daily for prescribed burning schedule and locations.
<b>Coyote</b>
2021-22
May 16-May 31
2022-23
May 16-May 31
<b>Deer</b>
Antlered bucks must have at least 4 points (1 inch or longer) on either side OR a 15 inch outside spread to be legal.
2021-22
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 11-Sep 30, Nov 21-Dec 10 Sign-in
Firearms Antlerless Only Oct 1-Oct 3, Sep 30-Oct 1 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 28-Oct 30, Nov 18-Nov 20 Bonus Deer Quota 50
Hunt-and-Learn Firearms Nov 5-Nov 7
Youth Firearms Either Sex Nov 13-Nov 14 Sign-in Quota 50
2022-23
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 10-Sep 29, Nov 20-Dec 9 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 27-Oct 29, Nov 17-Nov 19 Bonus Deer Quota 50
Hunt-and-Learn Firearms Nov 4-Nov 6
Youth Firearms Either Sex Nov 12-Nov 13 Sign-in Quota 50
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 4, Sep 11, Sep 18-Sep 30, Nov 21-Nov 28, Dec 19-Dec 31, Jan 2-Jan 14, Jan 16-Jan 31
Youth Sep 4, Sep 11 Sign-in Quota 35
2022-23
Sep 3, Sep 10, Sep 17-Sep 29, Nov 20-Nov 27, Dec 19-Dec 30, Jan 1-Jan 13, Jan 15-Jan 31
Youth Sep 3, Sep 10 Sign-in Quota 35
<b>Quail</b>
Bag limit is 3 per person. Hunting party must check-in harvest at kiosk or online. Complete one check-in (survey) per party.
2021-22
Dec 11, Jan 1, Jan 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Dec 10, Dec 31, Jan 14 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
Hunting of fox squirrels prohibited.
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 23
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-Apr 17, Apr 30-May 8 Sign-in Quota 40
Hunt-and-Learn Apr 22-Apr 24
2022-23
Apr 8-Apr 16, Apr 29-May 7 Sign-in Quota 40
Hunt-and-Learn Apr 21-Apr 23
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Wednesdays and Saturdays only during statewide season. Shooting hours end at 12 noon.



<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
<b>Chattahoochee Fall Line WMA - VPA Tracts</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATVs. No horses. Hunters must check kiosk daily for prescribed burning schedule and locations. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
Antlered bucks must have at least 4 points (1 inch or longer) on either side OR a 15 inch outside spread to be legal.
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
Hunting of fox squirrels prohibited
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
<b>Chattahoochee National Forest - Outside of WMAs</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Transportation of any loaded weapon in a motor vehicle or possession of alcohol when hunting are prohibited. Placing, leaving, or depositing any food, bait, or garbage in a manner likely to attract or concentrate any wildlife, whether for purposes of hunting or viewing animals. Failure to properly store food or garbage so as to prevent access by wildlife. Baiting is prohibited. No night hunting. Hogs and coyotes may be taken with archery equipment during archery deer season, with deer weapons during firearms deer season, with turkey weapons during turkey season and with small game weapons during small game dates. Hogs may be hunted with dogs with appropriate weapons restrictions while training dogs during dates when training season coincides with small game or turkey season. No May 16-31 coyote season. NOTE: Be aware of hikers and campers.
<b>Bear</b>
Hunting bears with dogs is prohibited on the Chattahoochee National Forest.
2021-22
Archery Jan 2-Jan 9
Archery Sep 11-Oct 8
Firearms Oct 16-Jan 1
Primitive Weapons Oct 9-Oct 15
2022-23
Archery Jan 2-Jan 8
Archery Sep 10-Oct 14
Firearms Oct 22-Jan 1
Primitive Weapons Oct 15-Oct 21
<b>Deer-East of I-75</b>
2021-22
Archery Buck Only Jan 2-Jan 9
Archery Buck Only Sep 11-Oct 8
Firearms Buck Only Oct 16-Jan 1
Primitive Weapons Buck Only Oct 9-Oct 15
2022-23

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Archery Buck Only Jan 2-Jan 8
Archery Buck Only Sep 10-Oct 14
Firearms Buck Only Oct 22-Jan 1
Primitive Weapons Buck Only Oct 15-Oct 21
<b>Deer-West of I-75</b>
2021-22
Archery Buck Only (except during county either-sex days) Jan 2-Jan 9
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8
Firearms Buck Only (except during county either-sex days) Oct 16-Jan 1
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15
2022-23
Archery Buck Only (except during county either-sex days) Jan 2-Jan 8
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14
Firearms Buck Only (except during county either-sex days) Oct 22-Jan 1
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21
<b>Dog Training</b>
Other requirements apply, see Dog Training page in the Popular Guide.
2021-22
Aug 1-Sep 9, Jan 2-Mar 19
2022-23
Aug 1-Sep 8, Jan 2-Mar 19
<b>Small Game</b>
Use of centerfire firearms at night prohibited.
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
Bag Limit 1
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15
<b>Chattahoochee WMA</b>
<b>Bear</b>
Dog-bear hunters must check in at the Chestatee WMA check station prior to hunting and are required to attend a pre-hunt meeting as directed in their draw notification email. All dogs used in the dog-bear hunt must be marked with the selected hunter's name and phone number. The party bag limit is 5 bears.
2021-22
Firearms Dogs Oct 2-Oct 10 Quota 9
Firearms Sep 18-Sep 24 Sign-in
2022-23
Firearms Dogs Oct 1-Oct 9 Quota 9
Firearms Sep 17-Sep 23 Sign-in
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Buck Only Sep 11-Sep 17, Sep 25-Oct 1, Oct 11-Oct 27 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Nov 20-Nov 28 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 28-Oct 31, Dec 9-Dec 12 Bonus Deer
2022-23

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Archery Buck Only Oct 10-Oct 26 Sign-in
Archery Buck Only Sep 10-Sep 16, Sep 24-Sep 30 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Nov 19-Nov 27 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 27-Oct 30, Dec 8-Dec 11 Bonus Deer
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Chestatee WMA</b>
<b>Bear</b>
Dog-bear hunters must check in at the Chestatee WMA check station prior to hunting and are required to attend a pre-hunt meeting as directed in their draw notification email. All dogs used in the dog-bear hunt must be marked with the selected hunter's name and phone number. The party bag limit is 5 bears.
2021-22
Firearms Dogs Oct 2-Oct 10 Quota 6
Firearms Sep 18-Sep 24 Sign-in
2022-23
Firearms Dogs Oct 1-Oct 9 Quota 6
Firearms Sep 17-Sep 23 Sign-in
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Buck Only Sep 11-Sep 17, Oct 11-Oct 31 Sign-in
Archery Buck Only Sep 25-Oct 1 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Dec 26-Jan 1 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Nov 17-Nov 21, Dec 8-Dec 12 Bonus Deer
2022-23
Archery Buck Only Sep 10-Sep 16, Oct 10-Oct 31 Sign-in
Archery Buck Only Sep 24-Sep 30 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Dec 26-Jan 1 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Nov 16-Nov 20, Dec 7-Dec 11 Bonus Deer
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Chickasawhatchee WMA</b>
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8, Dec 30-Jan 9 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Dec 9-Dec 11 Sign-in Quota 350
Firearms Either Sex Nov 4-Nov 6 Bonus Deer Quota 350
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
Youth Firearms Either Sex Nov 21-Nov 27, Dec 24-Dec 29 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14, Dec 29-Jan 8 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Dec 8-Dec 10 Sign-in Quota 350
Firearms Either Sex Nov 3-Nov 5 Bonus Deer Quota 350
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
Youth Firearms Either Sex Nov 20-Nov 26, Dec 23-Dec 28 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
Quota on designated fields only. All other areas open to the public.
2021-22
Sep 11-Oct 10, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
Sep 4 Sign-in Quota 40
2022-23
Sep 10-Oct 9, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31
Sep 3 Sign-in Quota 40
<b>Quail</b>
Quail hunting by quota only. Maximum 3 persons per party. Bag limit is 3 per person. Hunting party must check-in harvest at kiosk or online. Complete one check-in (survey) per party.
2021-22
Nov 13, Dec 4, Jan 1, Jan 15, Jan 22, Jan 29 Sign-in Quota 4
Nov 23, Nov 30 Sign-in
Youth Jan 29 Sign-in Quota 1
Youth Nov 13, Dec 4, Jan 1, Jan 15, Jan 22 Sign-in Quota 1
2022-23
Nov 12, Dec 3, Dec 31, Jan 14, Jan 21, Jan 28 Sign-in Quota 4
Nov 22, Nov 29 Sign-in
Youth Jan 28 Sign-in Quota 1
Youth Nov 12, Dec 3, Dec 31, Jan 14, Jan 21 Sign-in Quota 1
<b>Small Game</b>
No fox squirrel hunting.
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 30-May 15 Sign-in
Apr 9-Apr 15, Apr 16-Apr 22, Apr 23-Apr 29 Sign-in Quota 40
2022-23
Apr 29-May 15 Sign-in
Apr 8-Apr 14, Apr 15-Apr 21, Apr 22-Apr 28 Sign-in Quota 40
<b>Clarks Hill WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Areas west of U.S. HWY 78/GA HWY 17 are open for hunting during statewide seasons only. Camping in designated sites only.
<b>Deer</b>

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Sep 23, Sep 27-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 1-Nov 21 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Sep 24-Sep 26 Bonus Deer
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Oct 22-Oct 24 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Sep 22, Sep 26-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 7-Nov 27 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Sep 23-Sep 25 Bonus Deer
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Oct 28-Oct 30 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
Quota on designated fields only.
2021-22
Sep 11-Sep 14, Sep 18, Oct 2, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
Sep 4 Sign-in Quota 30
2022-23
Sep 10, Sep 17, Oct 1, Oct 8, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31
Sep 3 Sign-in Quota 30
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28 Sign-in
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Clayhole Swamp WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Horseback riding prohibited during ALL deer hunts. Area west of Cowpen Swamp is archery only for all species, open during their respective statewide seasons.
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may be hunted with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Sep 15, Sep 20-Sep 28, Oct 3-Nov 26, Dec 4-Dec 17 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 27-Dec 3, Dec 18-Jan 9 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Sep 30-Oct 2 Bonus Deer
Youth Firearms Either Sex Sep 17-Sep 19 Bonus Deer
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Sep 14, Sep 19-Sep 27, Oct 2-Nov 25, Dec 3-Dec 16 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 26-Dec 2, Dec 17-Jan 8 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Sep 29-Oct 1 Bonus Deer
Youth Firearms Either Sex Sep 16-Sep 18 Bonus Deer
<b>Small Game</b>
No furbearer hunting or dog training in Archery Only Areas.
2021-22
Firearms Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Firearms Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Firearms Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Firearms Apr 8-May 15
<b>Clybel WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Multi-use trails and areas are closed all day during firearms deer hunts and before 10:00 a.m. during archery and turkey seasons. Rules are posted at trailhead.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Sep 30, Nov 12-Nov 14 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 4-Nov 6, Nov 18-Nov 20 Bonus Deer Quota 200
Hunt-and-Learn Firearms Either Sex Oct 8-Oct 10, Nov 15-Nov 16
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Nov 23-Nov 28 Sign-in
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 2-Oct 7 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Sep 30, Nov 11-Nov 13 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 3-Nov 5, Nov 17-Nov 19 Bonus Deer Quota 200
Hunt-and-Learn Firearms Either Sex Oct 7-Oct 9, Nov 14-Nov 15
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Nov 22-Nov 27 Sign-in
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 1-Oct 6 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Hunt-and-Learn Georgia R3 Dove Field Sep 4, 11, 18, 25 Sign-in
Sep 11, Sep 18, Sep 25, Oct 2, Oct 9, Nov 21-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31 Sign-in
Sep 4 Sign-in Quota 200
2022-23
Hunt-and-Learn Georgia R3 Dove Field Sep 3, Sep 10 Sign-in
Sep 10, Sep 17, Sep 24, Oct 1, Oct 8, Nov 20-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31 Sign-in
Sep 3 Sign-in Quota 200
<b>Quail</b>
Bag limit is 6 per person or 12 per party for quail.
2021-22
Dec 4, Dec 18, Jan 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Dec 3, Dec 17, Jan 21 Sign-in
<b>Rabbit</b>
Bag limit=3 rabbits/person/day.
2021-22
Hunt-and-Learn Dec 11, Jan 7-Jan 9
2022-23
Hunt-and-Learn Dec 10, Jan 6-Jan 8
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28 Sign-in
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 16-Apr 22, May 9-May 15 Sign-in Quota 25

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Hunt-and-Learn Apr 29-May 1
Youth Apr 9-Apr 15, May 2-May 8 Sign-in Quota 25
2022-23
Apr 15-Apr 21, May 8-May 14 Sign-in Quota 25
Hunt-and-Learn Apr 28-Apr 30
Youth Apr 8-Apr 14, May 1-May 7 Sign-in Quota 25
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
<b>Cohutta WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATV's except on designated ATV trails.
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Buck Only Sep 11-Oct 6, Oct 11-Nov 30, Dec 6-Jan 1 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 7-Oct 10, Dec 1-Dec 5 Bonus Deer
2022-23
Archery Buck Only Sep 10-Oct 5, Oct 10-Nov 29, Dec 5-Jan 1 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 6-Oct 9, Nov 30-Dec 4 Bonus Deer
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Collins Rd VPA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATVs. No camping. Bird dog training: Sun-Tues & Thurs-Fri year-round. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Rabbit</b>
Wed & Sat during statewide season
2021-22
Nov 13, Nov 17, Nov 20, Nov 24, Nov 27, Dec 1, Dec 4, Dec 8, Dec 11, Dec 15, Dec 18, Dec 22, Dec 25, Dec 29, Jan 1, Jan 5, Jan 8, Jan 12, Jan 15, Jan 19, Jan 22, Jan 26, Jan 29, Feb 2, Feb 5, Feb 9, Feb 12, Feb 16, Feb 19, Feb 23, Feb 26
2022-23
Nov 12, Nov 16, Nov 19, Nov 23, Nov 26, Nov 30, Dec 3, Dec 7, Dec 10, Dec 14, Dec 17, Dec 21, Dec 24, Dec 28, Dec 31, Jan 4, Jan 7, Jan 11, Jan 14, Jan 18, Jan 21, Jan 25, Jan 28, Feb 1, Feb 4, Feb 8, Feb 11, Feb 15, Feb 18, Feb 22, Feb 25
<b>Small Game</b>
Rabbit only
<b>Conasauga River WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATVs. No camping.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Dec 10, Dec 12-Dec 17, Dec 19-Dec 24, Dec 26-Jan 1 Sign-in
2022-23

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Dec 9, Dec 11-Dec 16, Dec 18-Dec 23, Dec 25-Jan 1 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-Apr 24 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-Apr 23 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
January - Saturdays only during statewide season.
2021-22
Dec 11, Dec 18, Dec 25 Sign-in Quota 3
2022-23
Dec 10, Dec 17, Dec 24 Sign-in Quota 3
<b>Coopers Creek WMA</b>
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Buck Only Sep 11-Oct 6, Nov 1-Nov 14 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Dec 1-Dec 5 Bonus Deer
Firearms Buck Only Dec 26-Jan 1 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Buck Only Oct 27-Oct 31 Sign-in
Youth Firearms Buck Only Oct 8-Oct 10 Bonus Deer
2022-23
Archery Buck Only Sep 10-Oct 5, Nov 1-Nov 13 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Dec 26-Jan 1 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Nov 30-Dec 4 Bonus Deer
Primitive Weapons Buck Only Oct 26-Oct 30 Bonus Deer
Youth Firearms Buck Only Oct 7-Oct 9 Bonus Deer
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Coosawattee WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATV's. Hunters must sign-in for big game hunts and check-out bonus deer and bear at the Carter's Lake WMA check station.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 14, Oct 18-Nov 3, Nov 7-Jan 1 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 4-Nov 6 Bonus Deer Quota 35
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 17 Bonus Deer



<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 20, Oct 18-Nov 2, Nov 6-Jan 1 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 3-Nov 5 Bonus Deer Quota 35
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Oct 21-Oct 23 Bonus Deer
<b>Dove</b>
State Season
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Cordele Fish Hatchery</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Maximum 3 persons per party. Shooting hours end at 12 noon. Designated Pond Only.
2021-22
Dec 18, Jan 1 Sign-in Quota 3
Youth Dec 4, Jan 15 Sign-in Quota 3
2022-23
Dec 17, Dec 31 Sign-in Quota 3
Youth Dec 3, Jan 14 Sign-in Quota 3
<b>Crockford-Pigeon Mountain WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATV's. All non-hunting activities except camping are closed during firearms deer hunts. Additionally, horse and bicycle trails and areas are closed before 10:00am during archery deer and turkey season. Firearms restrictions apply to certain portions of the WMA (consult WMA map for specific limitations).
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Dec 12-Jan 1 Sign-in
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 15, Oct 18-Nov 10, Nov 14-Dec 7 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Dec 8-Dec 11 Bonus Deer
Firearms Either Sex Last Day Nov 11-Nov 13 Bonus Deer
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Oct 16-Oct 17 Bonus Deer
2022-23
Archery Sep 10-Oct 21, Oct 24-Nov 9, Nov 13-Dec 6, Dec 11-Jan 1 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Dec 7-Dec 10 Bonus Deer
Firearms Either Sex Last Day Nov 10-Nov 12 Bonus Deer
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Oct 22-Oct 23 Bonus Deer
<b>Dog Training</b>
Aug 15 - Mar 19, except during firearms deer hunts. Training limited to designated areas (see map).
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 4, Sep 11, Sep 18, Sep 25, Oct 2, Oct 9-Oct 10, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
2022-23
Sep 3, Sep 10, Sep 17, Sep 24, Oct 1, Oct 8-Oct 9, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 16-May 15 Sign-in
Apr 9-Apr 15 Sign-in Quota 40
2022-23
Apr 15-May 15 Sign-in
Apr 8-Apr 14 Sign-in Quota 40
<b>Cumberland Island National Seashore</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Registration opens July 1st at <a href="http://www.pav.gov">www.pav.gov</a> . Hunting fee is \$35. No standby hunters. No non-hunters. Cumberland Island Ferry is available for access to and from the island for a fee. Mandatory check-in starts at 9:00 AM EST one day prior to hunt at Plum Orchard Camp and Brickhill Campground. Children must be 12-17 for Youth Hunt; under age 16 must be accompanied by and under direct supervision of an adult at all times during the hunt. All NPS regulations apply to hunting areas. On primitive weapons hunts, modern centerfire handguns that meet state regulations may be used. Buckshot prohibited. Visit <a href="http://www.nps.gov/cuis/">www.nps.gov/cuis/</a> for detailed information. No May 16-31 Coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Oct 5-Oct 7, Bonus Deer Quota 125
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Nov 9-Nov 11, Dec 7-Dec 9, Bonus Deer Quota 100
Youth Firearms Either Sex Dec 20-Dec 21, Bonus Deer Quota 50
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Oct 4-Oct 6, Bonus Deer Quota 125
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Nov 8-Nov 10, Dec 6-Dec 8, Bonus Deer Quota 100
Youth Firearms Either Sex Dec 19-Dec 20, Bonus Deer Quota 50
<b>Feral hog</b>
2021-22
Firearms Hog Only Jan 4-Jan 6, Jan 25-Jan 27 Sign-in Quota 100
2022-23
Firearms Hog Only Jan 3-Jan 5, Jan 24-Jan 26 Sign-in Quota 100
<b>Dawson Forest WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
All trails are closed all day during firearms deer hunts and before 10:00 AM during archery and turkey seasons. Special rules apply to horse, bicycle and camping use; rules are posted at trailhead, camping areas & WMA check station. Permits are required for horse, bicycle and camping use. Permits must be completed and on person to be valid. Roads on the city of Atlanta Tract are closed to vehicles daily from 10:00 PM to 6:00 AM except for individuals legally camping, hunting, or fishing on the area.
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>
Antlered bucks must have at least 4 points (1 inch or longer) on either side OR a 15 inch outside spread to be legal.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 11-Oct 13, Dec 13-Dec 26 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Last Day Oct 28-Oct 31 Bonus Deer
Firearms Quality Buck Only Nov 10-Nov 14, Dec 2-Dec 5 Bonus Deer
Specialty Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 15-Oct 17 Bonus Deer
2022-23
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 10-Oct 12, Dec 12-Dec 25 Sign-in

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Last Day Oct 27-Oct 30 Bonus Deer
Firearms Quality Buck Only Nov 9-Nov 13, Dec 1-Dec 4 Bonus Deer
Specialty Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 14-Oct 16 Bonus Deer
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 4 Quota 40
Sep 6, Sep 11, Sep 18, Sep 25, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
2022-23
Sep 3 Quota 40
Sep 5, Sep 10, Sep 17, Sep 24, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Di-Lane Plantation WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Only Quality Bucks with at least four points (1 inch long or longer) on either side are legal. For information about bird dog field trials call 706-595-4222. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
Antlered bucks must have at least 4 points (1 inch or longer) on either side OR a 15 inch outside spread to be legal.
2021-22
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 11-Oct 6 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Nov 11-Nov 13 Bonus Deer
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 7-Oct 9, Oct 21-Oct 23 Bonus Deer Quota 400
2022-23
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 10-Oct 12 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Nov 10-Nov 12 Bonus Deer
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 13-Oct 15, Oct 27-Oct 29 Bonus Deer Quota 400
<b>Dove</b>
Quota; No dove hunting outside of dove fields. Field 2 only (South of Rocky Creek) Jan. 1-31
2021-22
Field 1 & 2 Sep 11, Sep 18, Sep 25, Oct 2, Nov 20-Nov 28 Sign-in
Field 1 Sep 4 Sign-in Quota 100
Field 2 Jan 1-Jan 31 Sign-in
Youth Field 2 Sep 4 Sign-in Quota 75
2022-23
Field 1 & 2 Sep 10, Sep 17, Sep 24, Oct 1, Oct 8, Nov 19-Nov 27 Sign-in
Field 1 Sep 3 Sign-in Quota 100
Field 2 Jan 1-Jan 31 Sign-in
Youth Field 2 Sep 3 Sign-in Quota 75
<b>Quail</b>
Quota: limit 6 quail/person, 12 quail/party. Quail hunters may take woodcock, snipe, and other gamebirds with an open season.
2021-22
Dec 1, Dec 4, Dec 8, Dec 11, Dec 15, Dec 18, Dec 22, Dec 29, Feb 9 Sign-in Quota 8
Youth Feb 5 Sign-in Quota 8

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
2022-23
Dec 3, Dec 7, Dec 10, Dec 14, Dec 17, Dec 21, Dec 28, Dec 31, Feb 8 Sign-in Quota 8
Youth Feb 4 Sign-in Quota 8
<b>Rabbit</b>
Rabbit hunting in designated areas only.
<b>Small Game</b>
Squirrel hunting area wide during state season on dates open for small game. Rabbit hunting in designated areas only. Rabbit, raccoon, and woodcock hunting permitted South of Rocky Creek only Jan. 1-31. Designated areas posted at check station.
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28 Sign-in
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 16-Apr 22, Apr 23-Apr 29 Sign-in Quota 30
Apr 30-May 15 Sign-in
Youth Apr 9-Apr 15 Sign-in Quota 20
2022-23
Apr 15-Apr 21, Apr 22-Apr 28 Sign-in Quota 30
Apr 29-May 15 Sign-in
Youth Apr 8-Apr 14 Sign-in Quota 20
<b>Dixon Bay WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No camping.
<b>Alligator</b>
Alligator hunting prohibited.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Nov 12 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Nov 13-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Nov 11 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Nov 12-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
Furbearer hunting prohibited.
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Dixon Memorial WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Alligators may not be taken on the Federal portion of Cowhouse Island or Laura S. Walker State Park. No airboats.
<b>Bear</b>
Bears may not be taken on the Federal portion of Cowhouse Island.
2021-22
Archery Sep 23-Sep 25 Sign-in
Firearms Nov 4-Nov 6 Bonus Deer
Primitive Weapons Oct 7-Oct 9 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Sep 30-Oct 2 Bonus Deer
2022-23

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Archery Sep 22-Sep 24 Sign-in
Firearms Nov 3-Nov 5 Bonus Deer
Primitive Weapons Oct 6-Oct 8 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Sep 29-Oct 1 Bonus Deer
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may be hunted with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>
Dog-deer hunting allowed in designated area only. All dogs used in the dog-deer hunt must be marked with the selected hunter's name and phone number. The dog-deer hunting area will be closed to all users during dog-deer hunts except to hunters with a valid quota permit.
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Sep 28, Oct 3-Oct 6, Oct 10-Oct 15 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 16-Oct 17, Oct 23-Oct 26 Sign-in
Firearms Dog Deer Nov 20, Dec 4 Sign-in, Buckshot only Quota 3
Firearms Either Sex Nov 24-Nov 28 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 4-Nov 6 Bonus Deer
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 7-Oct 9 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Sep 29-Oct 2 Bonus Deer
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Sep 27, Oct 2-Oct 5, Oct 9-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 15-Oct 16, Oct 22-Oct 25 Sign-in
Firearms Dog Deer Nov 19, Dec 3 Sign-in, Buckshot Only Quota 3
Firearms Either Sex Nov 23-Nov 27 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Sep 28-Oct 1 Bonus Deer
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2022-23
Firearms Either Sex Nov 3-Nov 5 Bonus Deer
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 6-Oct 8 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 4-Oct 10, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
2022-23
Sep 3-Sep 27, Nov 19-Nov 22, Dec 19-Jan 31
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Dodge County PFA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Hunting in designated area only. Area map posted at office and kiosk. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Alligator</b>
Night hunting only.
2021-22
Sep 10-Sep 12 Sign-in
2022-23
Sep 9-Sep 11 Sign-in

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Nov 4-Nov 14 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Nov 3-Nov 13 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Youth Apr 22-Apr 23, Apr 29-Apr 30 Sign-in Quota 2
2022-23
Youth Apr 21-Apr 22, Apr 28-Apr 29 Sign-in Quota 2
<b>Doerun Pitcherplant Bog WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Doerun Pitcherplant Bog WMA contains rare species and sensitive habitats. To protect these resources, vehicular access is limited. No ATVs or horses allowed. No Camping. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
No fox or bobcat hunting. No fox squirrel hunting.
2021-22
Jan 10-Feb 28
2022-23
Jan 9-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Youth Apr 9-Apr 10, Apr 16-Apr 17 Sign-in Quota 1
2022-23
Youth Apr 8-Apr 9, Apr 15-Apr 16 Sign-in Quota 1
<b>Dukes Creek - Smithgall Woods State Park</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Buck Only Sep 17-Sep 19 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Dec 1-Dec 4 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Buck Only Nov 10-Nov 13 Sign-in
Specialty Firearms Buck Only Oct 15-Oct 17 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Buck Only Sep 16-Sep 18 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Nov 30-Dec 3 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Buck Only Nov 9-Nov 12 Sign-in
Specialty Firearms Buck Only Oct 14-Oct 16 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
Small Game hunting by reservation only. Maximum 10 furbearer hunters/25 small game hunters per hunt period. Reservations must be made beginning Nov. 1 by calling (706) 878-3087.
2021-22
Dec 9-Dec 11, Jan 6-Jan 8, Feb 3-Feb 5
2022-23
Dec 8-Dec 10, Jan 5-Jan 7, Feb 2-Feb 4
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Apr 15-Apr 17, Apr 29-May 1, May 13-May 15 Bonus Deer Quota 20
2022-23
Apr 14-Apr 16, Apr 28-Apr 30, May 12-May 14 Bonus Deer Quota 20
<b>Dupont Tract VPA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Sep 16-Sep 18 Sign-in
Archery Sep 23-Sep 25, Sep 30-Oct 2, Oct 7 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Sep 15-Sep 17 Sign-in
Archery Sep 22-Sep 24, Sep 29-Oct 1, Oct 6-Oct 8 Sign-in
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Nov 15-Jan 9 Sign-in
Archery Sep 11-Oct 29 Sign-in
Firearms Oct 30-Nov 14 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Nov 14-Jan 8 Sign-in
Archery Sep 10-Oct 28 Sign-in
Firearms Oct 29-Nov 13 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Echeconnee Creek WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Archery only area. Public access to Ocmulgee River tract is only by boat. No camping. Firearms prohibited.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Archery Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Archery Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Archery Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
<b>Elbert County WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No camping. Sign-in required only on Vaughter Tract.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 16-Oct 29 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 30-Jan 1 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 22-Nov 4 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 5-Jan 1 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Elmodel WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No Camping. Dog training in designated area only.
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 4-Oct 10, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
2022-23
Sep 3-Oct 9, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31
<b>Quail</b>
Quail hunting on designated dates only. Hunting party must check-in harvest at kiosk or online. Complete one check-in (survey) per party. Bag limit is 3 per person.
2021-22
Nov 13, Nov 16, Nov 20, Nov 23, Nov 27, Nov 30, Dec 4, Dec 7, Dec 11, Dec 14, Dec 18, Dec 21, Dec 28, Jan 1, Jan 4, Jan 8, Jan 11, Jan 15, Jan 18, Jan 22, Jan 25, Jan 29, Feb 5, Feb 12, Feb 19
2022-23
Nov 12, Nov 15, Nov 19, Nov 22, Nov 26, Nov 29, Dec 3, Dec 6, Dec 10, Dec 13-Dec 17, Dec 17, Dec 20, Dec 27, Dec 31, Jan 3, Jan 7, Jan 10, Jan 14, Jan 17, Jan 21, Jan 24, Jan 28, Feb 4, Feb 11, Feb 18 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
No fox or bobcat hunting.



<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Eufaula NWR</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Apply July 9-Aug. 15 for youth deer hunts; Aug. 1-Sept. 15 for waterfowl hunts. User fees must be prepaid (\$2 per hunter). Eligible ages for all youth hunts (deer and waterfowl) are 10-15 years. A waterfowl permit holder is allowed to bring up to two guests (no more than 3 individuals/blind). No May 16-31 Coyote season.
<b>Alligator</b>
Closed to alligator hunting.
<b>Deer</b>
Bradley Unit opens for archery Nov. 1.
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 2, Oct 16 Bonus Deer
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 1, Oct 15 Bonus Deer
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Q16 Ducks and Geese Only: Wednesdays during statewide season. Shell limit is 25. Youth Hunt: Check with refuge office for specific dates. Shell limit is 25. Portions of Chattahoochee River and Walter F. George Reservoir within the Eu-Eufaula NWR boundaries are closed to waterfowl hunting.
<b>Evans County PFA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Alligator</b>
Night hunting only.
2021-22
Sep 3-Sep 5 Sign-in
2022-23
Sep 2-Sep 4 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Hunting allowed in waterfowl impoundment only. No boats allowed. Maximum of 3 people per blind. Parties must stay in designated spots, must stay together, and must stay within 100 feet of blind marker except when retrieving game. Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
<b>F.D. Roosevelt State Park</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Hunters must attend a pre-hunt meeting at 7:00 pm on the evening before the hunt. Hunt participants will be charged a \$30 non-refundable, non-transferable park-hunting fee and a \$5 Park Pass will be required. ATVs prohibited. Cabins and campsites (hunters only) may be reserved by calling the park office at (706) 663-4858. All park facilities will be closed during the hunt. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
2022-23
Firearms Either Sex Jan 3-Jan 4 Bonus Deer Quota 100
<b>Fishing Creek WMA</b>
<b>Coyote</b>

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 16-Oct 29 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 30-Jan 1 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 22-Nov 4 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 5-Jan 1 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 4-Oct 10, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
2022-23
Sep 3-Oct 9, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Wednesdays and Saturdays only during statewide season. Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
<b>Flat Creek PFA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No camping. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Alligator</b>
Night only. No daytime hunting.
2021-22
Sep 10-Sep 12
2022-23
Sep 9-Sep 11
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Dog Training</b>
Bird dog training allowed August 15-March 15 only.
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Oct 2, Oct 9, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
Youth Sep 4, Sep 11, Sep 18, Sep 25
2022-23
Oct 1, Oct 8, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Youth Sep 3, Sep 10, Sep 17, Sep 24
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
During second season Wednesdays and Saturdays only. Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
2021-22
Nov 20, Nov 27 Sign-in Quota 3
2022-23
Nov 19, Nov 26 Sign-in Quota 3
<b>Flat Tub WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATVs.
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 16-Nov 20, Dec 26-Jan 9 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 21-30 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 22-Nov 19, Dec 26-Jan 8 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 20-30 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Flint River WMA</b>
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>
Antlered bucks must have at least 4 points (1 inch or longer) on either side OR a 15 inch outside spread to be legal.
2021-22
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 11-Sep 20, Nov 21-Nov 30 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Nov 18-Nov 20 Bonus Deer Quota 25
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Nov 4-Nov 6 Sign-in Quota 25
Specialty Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 9-Oct 17 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 10-Sep 19, Nov 20-Nov 29 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Nov 17-Nov 19 Bonus Deer Quota 25

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Nov 3-Nov 5 Sign-in Quota 25
Specialty Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 8-Oct 16 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 4, Sep 11, Sep 18-Sep 30, Nov 21-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
2022-23
Sep 3, Sep 10, Sep 17-Sep 30, Nov 20-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Fort Gordon</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Hunting and fishing permits are offered to the general public through "ftgordon.isportsman.net". Lottery winners can purchase any outdoor recreation permit, valid for one year from date of purchase or no later than Aug. 1 of the year following the drawing. Application period begins July 1 and ends July 15 each year. All hunters, regardless of age, must possess a Hunter Education Certificate. For more information go to " <a href="https://ftgordon.isportsman.net">https://ftgordon.isportsman.net</a> ". No May 16-31 Coyote season.
<b>Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
All hunters must set up an account and acquire a permit at <a href="https://ftstewart.isportsman.net">https://ftstewart.isportsman.net</a> . Mandatory check-in. All hunting is subject to post regulations and access for hunting is not guaranteed. No May 16-31 Coyote season.
<b>Alligator</b>
2021-22
Either Sex Aug 21-Oct 3
2022-23
Aug 20-Oct 2
<b>Deer</b>
Additional permits and restrictions apply, visit <a href="https://ftstewart.isportsman.net">https://ftstewart.isportsman.net</a> for details.
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Jan 10-Jan 30
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8
Firearms Either Sex Oct 16-Jan 9
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 7, Jan 9-Jan 29
Firearms Either Sex Oct 15-Jan 8
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 8-Oct 14
<b>Quail</b>
2021-22
Nov 13-Feb 27
2022-23
Nov 12-Feb 26
<b>Rabbit</b>
2021-22
Nov 13-Feb 27
2022-23

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>	
Nov 12-Feb 26	
	<b>Squirrel</b>
2021-22	
Aug 21-Feb 27	
2022-23	
Aug 20-Feb 26	
	<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22	
Apr 9-May 15	
2022-23	
Apr 8-May 15	
<b>Fort Yargo State Park</b>	
	<b>Special Regulations</b>
Hunters must attend pre-hunt meeting at 7:00 pm. on the evening before the hunt. Hunt participants will be charged a \$30 nonrefundable, nontransferable hunt fee and a \$5 Park Pass will be required. Cabins and campsites may be reserved by calling the park office at (706) 356-4362. All other Park facilities will be closed to the general public during hunt. No ATVs. No May 16-31 Coyote season.	
	<b>Deer</b>
5 deer limit, no more than 2 may be antlered bucks.	
2021-22	
Firearms Either Sex Nov 30-Dec 1 Bonus Deer Quota 85	
2022-23	
Firearms Either Sex Nov 29-Nov 30 Bonus Deer Quota 85	
<b>Gaither WMA</b>	
	<b>Special Regulations</b>
No horseback riding. Bicycles are only permitted for hunter access. Archery only area is South of Old Post Rd and East of Davis Ford Rd and is only for deer on the deer hunting dates. All other species can be hunted with firearms except deer in this area. No May 16-31 coyote season.	
	<b>Deer</b>
2021-22	
Archery Either Sex Oct 16-Oct 24, Nov 15-Nov 17 Sign-in	
Youth Firearms Either Sex Dec 20-Dec 26 Sign-in Quota 25	
2022-23	
Archery Either Sex Oct 22-Oct 30, Nov 14-Nov 16 Sign-in	
Firearms Either Sex Nov 4-Nov 6, Jan 6-Jan 8 Sign-in Quota 25	
Youth Firearms Either Sex Dec 19-Dec 25 Sign-in Quota 25	
	<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22	
Aug 15-Feb 28 Sign-in	
2022-23	
Aug 15-Feb 28 Sign-in	
	<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22	
Apr 9-Apr 15, Apr 16-Apr 22, Apr 23-Apr 29 Sign-in Quota 10	
2022-23	
Apr 8-Apr 14, Apr 15-Apr 21, Apr 22-Apr 28 Sign-in Quota 10	
	<b>Waterfowl</b>
Shooting hours end at 12 noon.	
<b>Germany Creek WMA</b>	
	<b>Special Regulations</b>
No camping.	
	<b>Deer</b>

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 16-Oct 29 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 30-Jan 1 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 22-Nov 4 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 5-Jan 1 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Grand Bay WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No May 16-31 Feral Hog and Coyote season. Harvested deer must be removed from the area whole (no field dressing). No ATVs or motorcycles. A valid Moody Air Force Base Hunting and Fishing Permit may be substituted for WMA license. Hiking trail from check station closed to hikers during firearms deer hunts. Federal lands within WMA may be closed for military training. No firearms hunting within designated archery-only areas.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Sep 12, Sep 18-Sep 19, Sep 25-Sep 26, Nov 20-Nov 21, Dec 4-Dec 5, Dec 18-Dec 19, Dec 25-Dec 26, Jan 1-Jan 2 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 16-Oct 17 Bonus Deer
Firearms Either Sex Oct 23-Oct 24, Oct 30-Oct 31, Nov 6-Nov 7, Nov 13-Nov 14, Nov 27-Nov 28, Dec 11-Dec 12 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 10 Sign-in
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 2-Oct 3 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Sep 11, Sep 17-Sep 18, Sep 24-Sep 25, Nov 19-Nov 20, Dec 3-Dec 4, Dec 17-Dec 18, Dec 24-Dec 25, Dec 31-Jan 1 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 16 Bonus Deer
Firearms Either Sex Oct 22-Oct 23, Oct 29-Oct 30, Nov 5-Nov 6, Nov 12-Nov 13, Nov 26-Nov 27, Dec 10-Dec 11 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 8-Oct 9 Sign-in
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 1-Oct 2 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
No fox squirrel or furbearer hunting.
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 30-May 1 Sign-in
Youth Apr 9-Apr 10, Apr 23-Apr 24 Sign-in

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
2022-23
Apr 29-Apr 30 Sign-in
Youth Apr 8-Apr 9, Apr 22-Apr 23 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Saturdays and Sundays only during statewide season.
<b>Griffin Ridge WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATVs or horses. No vehicles allowed beyond designed parking areas. River access allowed. Camping only at Fountain Hole camping area.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8, Dec 4-Dec 26 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 5-Nov 14 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 17 Sign-in
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 29-Oct 31 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14, Dec 3-Dec 25 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 4-Nov 13 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 23 Sign-in
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 28-Oct 30 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
No furbearer season.
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 16-Apr 22, Apr 30-May 6, May 7-May 13 Sign-in Quota 25
Youth Apr 9-Apr 15 Sign-in Quota 25
2022-23
Apr 15-Apr 21, Apr 29-May 5, May 6-May 12 Sign-in Quota 25
Youth Apr 8-Apr 14 Sign-in Quota 25
<b>Hannahatchee WMA</b>
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 16-Jan 9 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 22-Jan 8 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 4, Sep 11, Sep 18-Sep 30, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
2022-23
Sep 3, Sep 10, Sep 17-Sep 30, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31
<b>Small Game</b>

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Hard Labor Creek State Park</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Hunters must attend pre-hunt meeting at 7:00 p.m. on the evening before the hunt. Hunt participants will be charged a \$30 nonrefundable, nontransferable hunt fee and a \$5 Park Pass will be required. Cabins and campsites may be reserved by calling the park office at (706) 557-3001. All other park facilities will be closed to the general public during deer hunt. No ATVs. No May 16-31 Coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
5 deer limit, no more than 2 may be antlered bucks.
2021-22
Firearms Either Sex Nov 2-Nov 3 Bonus Deer Quota 250
2022-23
Firearms Either Sex Nov 2-Nov 3 Bonus Deer Quota 250
<b>Harris Neck NWR</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
All hunters 16 years of age or older must purchase a \$25 Savannah Coastal Refuges Complex Annual Hunt Permit at <a href="http://www.savannahcoastalpermits.com">www.savannahcoastalpermits.com</a> . Visit <a href="http://www.fws.gov/refuge/harris_neck_for_seasons">www.fws.gov/refuge/harris_neck_for_seasons</a> , dates and more information. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Hart County WMA</b>
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 16-Nov 11 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 12-Nov 14 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 22-Nov 17 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 18-Nov 20 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 4, Sep 6, Sep 11, Sep 18, Sep 25, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
2022-23
Sep 3, Sep 5, Sep 10, Sep 17, Sep 24, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in



<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
<b>Hiltonia WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No camping.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Nov 12 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Nov 13-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Nov 11 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Nov 12-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
Saturdays only during 1st season.
2021-22
Sep 4, Sep 11, Sep 18, Sep 25, Oct 2, Oct 9 Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
2022-23
Sep 3, Sep 10, Sep 17, Sep 24, Oct 1, Oct 8 Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31
<b>Small Game</b>
No furbearer season.
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Hitchiti Experimental Forest</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Dates and regulations are the same as Piedmont NWR. The Hitchiti Experimental Forest is open for hunting only during Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge hunting seasons with a valid Piedmont Refuge hunting permit and in accordance with refuge specific regulations. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Small Game</b>
Bag Limit of 1/day for Fox Squirrel
<b>Turkey</b>
Bag Limit 1
<b>Horse Creek WMA</b>
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Sep 15, Sep 19-Oct 1, Oct 4-Oct 26, Jan 1-Jan 9 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 27-Oct 30 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Dec 9-Dec 11 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 18-Nov 20 Bonus Deer
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Sep 16-Sep 18 Sign-in
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Oct 2-Oct 3 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Sep 14, Sep 18-Sep 30, Oct 3-Oct 25, Jan 1-Jan 8 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 26-Oct 29 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Dec 8-Dec 10 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 17-Nov 19 Bonus Deer
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Sep 15-Sep 17 Sign-in
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Oct 1-Oct 2 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>	
<b>Hugh M. Gillis PFA</b>	
<b>Deer</b>	
2021-22	
Archery Either Sex Nov 4-Nov 14 Sign-in	
2022-23	
Archery Either Sex Nov 3-Nov 13 Sign-in	
<b>Turkey</b>	
2021-22	
Youth Apr 15-Apr 16, Apr 29-Apr 30 Sign-in Quota 2	
2022-23	
Youth Apr 14-Apr 15, Apr 28-Apr 29 Sign-in Quota 2	
<b>Indian Ford Farm Dove Fields</b>	
<b>Special Regulations</b>	
No May 16-31 coyote season. Hunters must sign-in at check station at 12:00 P.M. Maps and instructions will be provided at sign-in. Hunt is 12:00 PM until 7:00 PM. No ATVs. Hunters must use open gates to access fields; DO NOT climb fences. It is of utmost importance to have no litter left behind, including expended shotgun shells. Extra caution should be taken to ensure absolutely no live shells are left behind!	
<b>Dove</b>	
2021-22	
Youth Sep 11 Sign-in Quota 50	
2022-23	
Youth Sep 10 Sign-in Quota 50	
<b>J.L. Lester WMA</b>	
<b>Special Regulations</b>	
No ATV's. No night hunting. Fishing prohibited during deer hunts, quota hunts and field trials. No May 16-31 coyote season.	
<b>Deer/Bear</b>	
2021-22	
Archery Either Sex Nov 22-Nov 28, Dec 25-Dec 31 Sign-in	
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 2-Oct 3, Jan 8-Jan 9 Bonus Deer Quota 20	
2022-23	
Archery Either Sex Nov 21-Nov 27, Dec 24-Jan 1 Sign-in	
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 8-Oct 9, Jan 7-Jan 8 Bonus Deer Quota 20	
<b>Dog Training</b>	
Aug 15 - Mar 19, except during deer hunts, quota hunts and field trials.	
<b>Dove</b>	
2021-22	
Sep 18, Sep 25	
Youth Sep 4, Sep 11	
2022-23	
Sep 17, Sep 24	
Youth Sep 3, Sep 10	
<b>Quail</b>	
2021-22	
Jan 1, Feb 27 Quota 5	
2022-23	
Dec 31, Feb 26 Quota 5	
<b>Rabbit</b>	
2021-22	
Jan 2, Feb 26 Quota 5	
2022-23	
Jan 1, Feb 25 Quota 5	

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Joe Kurz WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Bird dog training allowed August 15-March 15 in designated areas, except during deer and quota quail hunts, in designated area only.
<b>Deer</b>
Antlered bucks must have at least 4 points (1 inch or longer) on either side OR a 15 inch outside spread to be legal.
2021-22
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 31-Nov 7 Sign-in
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 11-Sep 19 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Last Day Oct 14-Oct 16, Oct 28-Oct 30 Bonus Deer Quota 100
2022-23
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 10-Sep 18, Nov 6-Nov 11 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Last Day Oct 20-Oct 22, Nov 3-Nov 5 Bonus Deer Quota 100
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 4, Sep 11, Sep 18, Sep 25, Oct 2, Oct 9-Oct 10, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 15, Jan 17-Jan 31
2022-23
Sep 3, Sep 10, Sep 17, Sep 24, Oct 1, Oct 8-Oct 9, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 14, Jan 16-Jan 31
<b>Quail</b>
Bag limit is 6 per person or 12 per party.
2021-22
Dec 11, Jan 16, Feb 5 Sign-in Quota 3
2022-23
Dec 10, Jan 15, Feb 4 Sign-in Quota 3
<b>Rabbit</b>
Bag limit=3 rabbits/person/day.
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-Apr 17, Apr 30-May 8 Sign-in Quota 25
2022-23
Apr 8-Apr 16, Apr 29-May 7 Sign-in Quota 25
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Wednesdays and Saturdays only during statewide season. Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
<b>John's Mountain WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATV's.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 29, Nov 1-Nov 17, Nov 21-Dec 25 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Dec 26-Jan 1 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Last Day Nov 18-Nov 20 Bonus Deer

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Oct 30-Oct 31 Bonus Deer
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 28, Oct 31-Nov 16, Nov 20-Dec 25 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Dec 26-Jan 1 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Last Day Nov 17-Nov 19 Bonus Deer
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Oct 29-Oct 30 Bonus Deer
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Keg Creek WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No camping.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Kretlow Farm VPA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
<b>Lake Russell WMA</b>
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 7, Oct 11-Oct 16 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Nov 24-Nov 27 Bonus Deer
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Dec 9-Dec 15 Bonus Deer
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Oct 8-Oct 10 Bonus Deer
Youth Firearms Either Sex Nov 5-Nov 7 Bonus Deer
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 6, Oct 10-Oct 15 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Nov 23-Nov 26 Bonus Deer
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Dec 8-Dec 14 Bonus Deer
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Oct 7-Oct 9 Bonus Deer
Youth Firearms Either Sex Nov 4-Nov 6 Bonus Deer
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Lake Seminole WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No camping. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 16-Jan 9 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 22-Jan 8 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
State Season. No hunting waterfowl within 300 yards of a house, dock, building, or other structure, or a developed recreation area (i.e. beach, campground, boat ramp, etc.)

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
<b>Lake Sidney Lanier - Buford Dam</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
All facilities will be closed to the general public during the hunts. Limit: 2, only one of which may be antlered. Hunters must apply by letter no later than October 10, 4:30 PM. Hunters must attend a pre-hunt meeting at 7:00 P.M. the evening before the hunt. Visit <a href="http://go.usa.gov/SE85">http://go.usa.gov/SE85</a> for more information. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Lake Sidney Lanier - Islands</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Hunters must apply by letter no later than October 10, 4:30 PM. Visit <a href="http://go.usa.gov/SE85">http://go.usa.gov/SE85</a> for more information. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
Limit of one deer per day which counts against state bag limit. Hunters must record harvest through Georgia Game Check.
<b>Lake Walter F. George WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No camping. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
State season. No hunting waterfowl within 300 yards of a house, dock, building, or other structure, or a developed recreation area (i.e. beach, camp-ground, boat ramp, etc.) Eufaula Wildlife Refuge has separate regulations.
<b>Lanahassee Creek VPA</b>
<b>Quail</b>
Quail hunting by quota only. Maximum 3 persons per party. Bag limit is 3 per person. Hunting party must check-in harvest at kiosk or online. Complete one check-in (survey) per party.
<b>Lanahassee WMA</b>
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>
Antlered bucks must have at least 4 points (1 inch or longer) on either side OR a 15 inch outside spread to be legal.
2021-22
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 11-Oct 8, Oct 16-Nov 7 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Nov 18-Nov 20, Dec 2-Dec 4 Bonus Deer Quota 50
Primitive Weapons Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
Specialty Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Dec 26-Jan 1 Sign-in
2022-23

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 10-Oct 14, Oct 22-Nov 6 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Nov 17-Nov 19, Dec 1-Dec 3 Bonus Deer Quota 50
Primitive Weapons Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
Specialty Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Dec 25-Dec 31 Sign-in
<b>Quail</b>
Bag limit is 3 per person. Hunting party must check-in harvest at kiosk or online. Complete one check-in (survey) per party.
2021-22
Nov 21, Dec 5, Dec 12 Sign-in
2022-23
Nov 20, Dec 4, Dec 11 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
Turkey hunting prohibited due to low population levels.
<b>Little Ocmulgee State Park</b>
<b>Alligator</b>
Alligator hunting by special permit only; open only to drawn quota hunters for alligator zone #4 who apply and are selected for the park hunt. Interested hunters must call 229-896-3551 no later than close of business on July 31 to apply. Selected hunters will be charged a \$30 nonrefundable, nontransferable hunt fee and a \$5 Park Pass is required. Only night hunting is permitted (30 minutes after sunset to 30 minutes before sunrise). Hunting is allowed Sunday nights through Thursday nights only, during state season. Special permit restriction apply. Special permit hunters may legally harvest one alligator at least 48" or greater in length. Only one vessel is permitted per special permit. Fishing/boating and other non-permitted lake activities are prohibited by regulation after sunset and before sunrise.
<b>Little Satilla WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No camping.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 16-Oct 17 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 18-Jan 9 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 22-Oct 23 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 24-Jan 8 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Lola Tract VPA</b>

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Sep 16-Sep 18, Sep 23-Sep 25, Sep 30-Oct 2, Oct 7-Oct 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Sep 15-Sep 17, Sep 22-Sep 24, Sep 29-Oct 1, Oct 6-Oct 8 Sign-in
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 29, Nov 15-Jan 9 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 30-Nov 14 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 28, Nov 14-Jan 8 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 29-Nov 13 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>London Farms VPA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No May 16-31 coyote season. Selected hunters may start checking in at noon on the first hunt (Sept 4, 2021) and hunt until 30 minutes before official sunset. Selected hunters may check in 6:00 AM on the Sept 11, 2021 hunt and hunt from 30 minutes before sunrise until noon. No blinds, buckets, seats or other devices may be placed on the field until the hunter has checked in. No stand-bys. Selected hunters may bring up to two guests.
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 4, Sep 11 Quota 30
2022-23
Sep 3, Sep 10 Quota 30
<b>Lower Broad River WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No camping.
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 16-Oct 29 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 30-Jan 1 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 22-Nov 4 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 5-Jan 1 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>



<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
2021-22
Sep 11, Sep 18, Sep 25, Oct 2, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
Sep 4 Sign-in Quota 30
2022-23
Sep 10, Sep 17, Sep 24, Oct 1, Oct 8, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31
Sep 3 Sign-in Quota 30
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Lula Bridge WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Waterfowl</b>
2021-22
Sep 4-Sep 26, Oct 9-Oct 24, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 12-Jan 31
Youth Nov 13-Nov 14
2022-23
Sep 3-Sep 25, Oct 8-Oct 23, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 12-Jan 31
Youth Nov 12-Nov 13
<b>Mayhaw WMA</b>
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 16-Nov 30 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Dec 1-Jan 9 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 22-Nov 30 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Dec 1-Jan 8 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>McDuffie PFA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 11, Sep 18, Sep 25, Oct 2, Oct 9
Sep 4 Sign-in Quota 25
2022-23
Sep 10, Sep 17, Sep 24, Oct 1, Oct 8
Sep 3 Sign-in Quota 25
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Waterfowl hunters must check kiosk at entrance gate for information on which ponds are open. Designated ponds only. Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
2021-22
Dec 18, Dec 25, Jan 1
2022-23
Dec 17, Dec 24, Dec 31
<b>McEntire Road VPA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATV's. VPA is only open to the public for hunting during designated seasons. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 4, Sep 11, Sep 18, Sep 25-Oct 3
2022-23
Sep 3, Sep 10, Sep 17, Sep 24-Oct 2
<b>McGraw Ford WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATV's.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 1 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 1 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 4, Sep 11, Sep 18, Sep 25, Oct 2, Oct 9-Oct 10, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
2022-23
Sep 3, Sep 10, Sep 17, Sep 24, Oct 1, Oct 8-Oct 9, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 16-May 15 Sign-in
Apr 9-Apr 15 Sign-in Quota 10
2022-23
Apr 15-May 15 Sign-in
Apr 8-Apr 14 Sign-in Quota 10
<b>Mead Farm WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Foot traffic only. No camping. Bird dog training is allowed year-round.
<b>Deer</b>
Archery only
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 1 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 1 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
2021-22
Sep 11, Sep 15, Sep 18, Sep 22, Sep 25, Dec 15, Dec 18, Dec 22, Dec 25, Dec 29, Jan 1, Jan 5, Jan 8, Jan 12, Jan 15, Jan 19, Jan 22, Jan 26, Jan 29
Youth Nov 13, Nov 20, Nov 27
2022-23
Sep 10, Sep 14, Sep 17, Sep 21, Sep 24, Dec 14, Dec 17, Dec 21, Dec 24, Dec 28, Dec 31, Jan 4, Jan 7, Jan 11, Jan 14, Jan 18, Jan 21, Jan 25, Jan 28
Youth Nov 12, Nov 19, Nov 26
<b>Mistletoe State Park</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Hunters must attend a pre-hunt meeting at 7:00 pm on the evening before the hunt. Two deer limit. Hunt participants will be charged a \$30 nonrefundable, nontransferable hunt fee and a \$5 Park Pass will be required. Cabins and campsites may be reserved by calling the Park Office at 706-541-0321. All other Park facilities will be closed to the general public during the hunt. No ATVs. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
2022-23
Firearms Either Sex Nov 15-Nov 16 Bonus Deer Quota 75
<b>Montezuma Bluffs WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Montezuma Bluffs WMA contains rare species and sensitive habitats. To protect these resources, vehicular access is limited to boat landing road. No ATVs or horses allowed. No camping. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
Antlered bucks must have at least 4 points (1 inch or longer) on either side OR a 15 inch outside spread to be legal.
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
No fox or bobcat hunting.
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Archery Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Moody Forest WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No May 16-31 coyote season. No ATVs. Check for prescribed burn info and Sign-In at kiosk on East River Rd.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Firearms Either Sex Nov 1-Dec 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Firearms Either Sex Nov 1-Dec 15 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
Squirrel hunting only. No fox squirrels may be taken.
<b>Squirrel Only</b>
2021-22
Nov 1-Jan 20
2022-23
Nov 1-Jan 20
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 15-Apr 30 Sign-in
Youth Apr 9-Apr 10 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 14-Apr 29 Sign-in
Youth Apr 8-Apr 9 Sign-in
<b>Morgan Lake WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Archery Only Area for all species. The operation of a Personal Watercraft (defined in GA Code 52-7-8.2 and commonly known as a "jet ski") on Morgan Lake and other water bodies within Morgan Lake WMA is prohibited.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Archery Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Archery Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Archery Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Oaky Woods WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No bear hunting.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Dec 23-Dec 26 Sign-in

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Firearms Buck Only Oct 28-Oct 30 Bonus Deer
Firearms Either Sex Last Day Dec 2-Dec 4 Bonus Deer
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 7 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Dec 22-Dec 25 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 27-Oct 29 Bonus Deer
Firearms Either Sex Last Day Dec 1-Dec 3 Bonus Deer
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 8-Oct 14 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 16-May 15 Sign-in
Apr 9-Apr 15 Sign-in Quota 80
2022-23
Apr 15-May 15 Sign-in
Apr 8-Apr 14 Sign-in Quota 80
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
<b>Ocmulgee WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No bear hunting.
<b>Alligator</b>
Alligator hunting on Ocmulgee PFA allowed Sept. 3-5, 2021, and Sept. 2-4, 2022. No hunting during daylight hours.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 1 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Dec 9-Dec 12 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 21-Oct 23 Bonus Deer
Firearms Either Sex Last Day Nov 18-Nov 20 Bonus Deer
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 2-Oct 8 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Sep 30 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Dec 8-Dec 11 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 27-Oct 29 Bonus Deer
Firearms Either Sex Last Day Nov 17-Nov 19 Bonus Deer
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 1-Oct 7 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 23-May 15 Sign-in
Apr 9-Apr 15, Apr 16-Apr 22 Sign-in Quota 100
2022-23
Apr 22-May 15 Sign-in
Apr 8-Apr 14, Apr 15-Apr 21 Sign-in Quota 100
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Shooting hours end at 12 noon.

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
<b>Ocmulgee WMA - Gum Swamp Creek</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No camping. Bird dog training allowed August 15-March 15.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Archery Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
<b>Oconee National Forest</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No dog training Mar. 20-July 31, 2021, 2022 & 2023, Sept. 12, 2021-Jan. 1, 2022 and Sept. 10, 2022-Jan. 1, 2023. Pursuit of bears with dogs is prohibited. Hogs may be taken only during daylight hours consistent with regulations above. Coyotes may be taken during deer, turkey and small game hunts; weapons are restricted to legal firearms and archery equipment for the game species specified for a particular hunt as indicated heretofore; electronic calls may be used; night hunting is prohibited. Placing, leaving, or depositing any food, bait or refuse in a manner likely to attract or concentrate any wildlife, whether for purposes of hunting or viewing animals, is prohibited. It is also prohibited to fail to properly store food or refuse to prevent access by wildlife. For public health and safety, the transportation of a loaded long gun or cocked crossbow in a motor vehicle is prohibited. NOTE: A firearm is considered "loaded" if a round of ammunition is in the chamber or magazine, a percussion cap is on the nipple, or powder is present in the frizzen pan. A "Long gun" is a firearm with an extended barrel, usually designed to be fired braced against the shoulder. It shall include all rifles, shotguns, carbines, muzzleloaders, and/or other such weapons. For public health and safety, the possession of an alcoholic beverage as defined by state law, while hunting, is prohibited.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8
Firearms Buck Only Oct 16-Oct 29, Nov 1-Nov 26, Nov 29-Dec 5, Dec 26-Dec 31, Jan 3-Jan 9
Firearms Either Sex Oct 30-Oct 31, Nov 27-Nov 28, Jan 1-Jan 2
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14
Firearms Buck Only Oct 22-Nov 4, Nov 7-Nov 25, Nov 28-Dec 4, Dec 26-Dec 30, Jan 2-Jan 8
Firearms Either Sex Nov 5-Nov 6, Nov 26-Nov 27, Dec 31-Jan 1
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
Bag Limit 1
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15
2022-23

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Apr 8-May 15
<b>Oconee WMA</b>
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8, Nov 15-Jan 9 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 16-Nov 14 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14, Nov 14-Jan 8 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 22-Nov 13 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 11-Sep 14, Sep 18, Sep 25, Oct 2, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
Sep 4 Sign-in Quota 60
2022-23
Sep 10, Sep 17, Sep 24, Oct 1, Oct 8, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31
Sep 3 Sign-in Quota 60
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28 Sign-in
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 23-May 15 Sign-in
Apr 9-Apr 15, Apr 16-Apr 22 Sign-in Quota 30
2022-23
Apr 22-May 15 Sign-in
Apr 8-Apr 14, Apr 15-Apr 21 Sign-in Quota 30
<b>Oconee WMA - Dan Denton Waterfowl Area</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No fishing or hunting (other than ducks & geese and archery deer hunting during statewide archery and primitive weapons season) on waterfowl impoundments. Waterfowl hunting on impoundments 1 & 3 open only to hunters selected in quota drawing. Waterfowl hunters are prohibited from entering impoundments before 5:00 am on the day of the hunt and shooting hours end at 12 noon except on last hunt of the season when shooting hours end at legal sunset. Herndon Pond and Impoundment 2 are closed to hunting. Waterfowl hunting is prohibited on the Oconee River between Wallace Dam and GA HWY 16. Handicapped quota hunters may request assistance by calling (706) 595-4222. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
2021-22
Pond 1 Dec 18, Dec 25, Jan 1, Jan 8, Jan 15, Jan 22, Jan 29 Sign-in Quota 3
Pond 3 Dec 18, Dec 25, Jan 1, Jan 8, Jan 15, Jan 22, Jan 29 Sign-in Quota 2
Youth Pond 1 Nov 13, Nov 27 Sign-in Quota 3
Youth Pond 3 Nov 13 Sign-in Quota 2
Youth Pond 3 Nov 27 Sign-in Quota 2
2022-23
Pond 1 Dec 17, Dec 24, Dec 31, Jan 7, Jan 14, Jan 21, Jan 28 Sign-in Quota 3

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Pond 3 Dec 17, Dec 24, Dec 31, Jan 7, Jan 14, Jan 21, Jan 28 Sign-in Quota 2
Youth Pond 1 Nov 12, Nov 26 Sign-in Quota 3
Youth Pond 3 Nov 12, Nov 26 Sign-in Quota 2
<b>Oconee WMA - Rock Hawk Trails &amp; Effigy</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Nov 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Nov 21-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
Selected quota turkey hunters only may hunt with firearms during quota hunt dates in this area.
2021-22
Archery Apr 23-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Apr 22-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Oohopee Dunes WMA - North Tract</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Oohopee Dunes WMA contains rare species and sensitive habitats. To protect these resources vehicular access is limited. No ATV's or horses. No dogs from Mar. 1 - Nov. 1.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Dec 5-Jan 9 Sign-in
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Dec 2-Dec 4 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 28-Oct 30 Bonus Deer
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Dec 4-Jan 8 Sign-in
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Dec 1-Dec 3 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 27-Oct 29 Bonus Deer
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 23-May 15 Sign-in
Apr 9-Apr 15, Apr 16-Apr 22 Sign-in Quota 20
2022-23
Apr 22-May 15 Sign-in
Apr 8-Apr 14, Apr 15-Apr 21 Sign-in Quota 20
<b>Oohopee Dunes WMA - South Tract</b>
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22



<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge-Cowhouse Unit</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Bears and alligators may not be taken. Foot travel only on ONWR portion of Cowhouse Island. No dogs allowed except pointing dogs for hunting quail. Sign-in at Dixon Memorial WMA. Visit <a href="http://www.fws.gov/refuge/okefenokee">www.fws.gov/refuge/okefenokee</a> for more information. Feral hogs may be taken May 16-31, no dogs allowed. No coyote hunting.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Sep 28, Oct 3-Oct 6, Oct 10-Oct 15 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 4-Nov 6 Bonus Deer
Firearms Buck Only Oct 16-Oct 17, Oct 23-Oct 26
Firearms Either Sex Nov 24-Nov 28 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 7-Oct 9 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Sep 29-Oct 2 Bonus Deer
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Sep 27, Oct 2-Oct 5, Oct 9-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 3-Nov 5 Bonus Deer
Firearms Buck Only Oct 15-Oct 16, Oct 22-Oct 2
Firearms Either Sex Nov 23-Nov 27 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 6-Oct 8 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Sep 28-Oct 1 Bonus Deer
<b>Small Game</b>
Quail, rabbit, squirrel only.
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge-Pocket Unit</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Sign-in/sign-out required. Bears and alligators may not be taken. Foot travel only off paved road. No dogs allowed. Visit <a href="http://www.fws.gov/refuge/okefenokee">www.fws.gov/refuge/okefenokee</a> for more information. No May 16-31 coyote season, no coyote hunting.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Nov 7 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Nov 6 Sign-in
<b>Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge-Suwannee Canal Unit</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Quota applications accepted Aug. 15 - Sept. 15 at <a href="http://www.fws.gov/forms/32354.pdf">http://www.fws.gov/forms/32354.pdf</a> . Youth hunters are those 16 and under and supervised by an adult 21 or older. Hunter Education is required for youth hunters. Shooting hours close at noon; shotguns with slugs or muzzleloaders only; hunters will be charged a \$15.00 permit fee; check-out required; hunters are not required to tag deer prior to check out - special NWR tags provided for two harvested deer; hunt area zoned; Chesser Island zone is for wheelchair and/or youth hunters only. No dogs allowed. Feral hogs may be taken: no limit. Visit <a href="http://www.fws.gov/refuge/okefenokee">www.fws.gov/refuge/okefenokee</a> for more information. No May 16-31 coyote season, no coyote hunting.
<b>Deer</b>

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
2021-22
Firearms Either Sex Oct 22-Oct 23 Bonus Deer Quota 30
Youth/Wheelchair Firearms Either Sex Oct 22-Oct 23 Bonus Deer Quota 10
2022-23
Firearms Either Sex Oct 21-Oct 22 Bonus Deer Quota 30
Youth/Wheelchair Firearms Either Sex Oct 21-Oct 22 Bonus Deer Quota 10
<b>Oliver Bridge WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATVs. No camping.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 16-Jan 9 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 22-Jan 8 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Ossabaw Island WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Hunters on Ossabaw Island WMA will be required to furnish their own boat transportation to & from the island. Limited docking space is available; some boats may have to stream anchor. All hunter access to the island will be over the dock facilities at Newell Creek on the south end of the island. Hunters may not enter upon Ossabaw Island until 12:00 PM EST one day prior to check-in. Hunters may check-in at 9:00 AM EST one day prior to hunt & camps must be removed by 12:00 PM EST on the day following the hunt. One person from each campsite must check in and upon leaving check out from the campsite at the check-in station. No motorized vehicles allowed & only permitted activities allowed. No pets. Campfires restricted to provided fire rings. No access permitted to Ossabaw above high tide mark. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Oct 7-Oct 9 Bonus Deer Quota 100
Firearms Either Sex Nov 4-Nov 6, Dec 9-Dec 11 Bonus Deer Quota 100
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 21-Oct 23 Bonus Deer Quota 100
Youth Firearms Either Sex Nov 25-Nov 27 Bonus Deer Quota 75
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Oct 6-Oct 8 Bonus Deer Quota 100
Firearms Either Sex Nov 3-Nov 5, Dec 8-Dec 10 Bonus Deer Quota 100
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 20-Oct 22 Bonus Deer Quota 100
Youth Firearms Either Sex Nov 24-Nov 26 Bonus Deer Quota 75
<b>Feral hog</b>
2021-22
Firearms Hog Only Jan 20-Jan 22, Feb 3-Feb 5 Bonus Deer Quota 100
2022-23
Firearms Either Sex Jan 19-Jan 21, Feb 2-Feb 4 Bonus Deer Quota 100
<b>Otting WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATV's
<b>Deer/Bear</b>

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 1 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 1 Sign-in
<b>Dog Training</b>
Furbearer Dog Training Area: Aug 15-Mar 19
<b>Furbearer Dog Training</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Mar 19
2022-23
Aug 15-Mar 19
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Panola Mountain State Park</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Hunters must attend pre-hunt meeting at 7:00 p.m. on the evening before the hunt. Hunt participants will be charged a \$30 nonrefundable, nontransferable hunt fee and \$5 Park Pass will be required. Hunting within 50 yards of the PATH Trail is prohibited. An archery-only portion of the park may be available to a limited number of hunters drawn for the quota, details will be provided in selection letter. All other park facilities will be closed during the hunt. No ATVs. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
5 deer limit, no more than 2 may be antlered bucks.
2021-22
Firearms Either Sex Nov 9-Nov 10 Bonus Deer Quota 54
2022-23
Firearms Either Sex Nov 8-Nov 9 Bonus Deer Quota 54
<b>Paradise PFA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Dove</b>
Dove hunting in designated fields only; shooting hours follow state regulations.
2021-22
Sep 11, Sep 18, Sep 25, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
Youth Sep 4
2022-23
Sep 10, Sep 17, Sep 24, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 8-Jan 31
Youth Sep 3
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Hunting for ducks and geese in designated areas only. Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
2021-22
Dec 16, Dec 30
2022-23
Dec 15, Dec 29
<b>Paulding Forest WMA</b>

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATV's. Horse and bicycle trails and areas, except Silver Comet Trail, are closed all day during firearms deer hunts and before 10:00am during archery deer and turkey hunts.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8, Oct 11-Nov 10 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Last Day Dec 9-Dec 12 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Last Day Nov 11-Nov 14 Bonus Deer
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 10 Bonus Deer
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14, Oct 17-Nov 9 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Last Day Dec 8-Dec 11 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Last Day Nov 10-Nov 13 Bonus Deer
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 16 Bonus Deer
<b>Dog Training</b>
Bird and Rabbit Dog Training Area: Aug 15-Mar 19 except during firearms deer hunts.
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-Apr 17, Apr 23-May 1 Sign-in Quota 40
May 2-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-Apr 16, Apr 22-Apr 30 Sign-in Quota 40
May 1-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Paulks Pasture WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No camping. No horseback riding during deer hunts.
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may be hunted with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>
Dog-deer hunting allowed in designated areas only. Dog-deer hunters must check in at check station prior to hunt. All dogs used in the dog-deer hunt must be marked with the selected hunter's name and phone number. The WMA will be closed to all users during dog-deer hunts except to hunters with a valid quota hunt permit.
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Sep 15, Sep 20-Sep 28, Oct 4-Nov 19 Sign-in
Buckshot Only Dog Deer Either Sex Nov 26-Nov 27, Dec 3-Dec 4, Dec 17-Dec 18 Bonus Deer Quota 3
Firearms Buck Only Oct 16-Nov 2 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 20-Nov 24, Dec 19-Dec 29 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Sep 30-Oct 2 Bonus Deer
Youth Firearms Either Sex Sep 17-Sep 19 Bonus Deer
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Sep 14, Sep 19-Sep 27, Oct 3-Nov 18 Sign-in
Buckshot Only Dog Deer Either Sex Nov 25-Nov 26, Dec 2-Dec 3, Dec 16-Dec 17 Bonus Deer Quota 3
Firearms Buck Only Oct 15-Nov 1 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 19-Nov 23, Dec 18-Dec 28 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Sep 29-Oct 1 Bonus Deer
Youth Firearms Either Sex Sep 16-Sep 18 Bonus Deer

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
<b>Small Game</b>
No furbearer hunting or dog training in Archery Only Areas.
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Penholoway Swamp WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Idle speed only on Cogden Lake. Access to Boyle's Island is by river only, except during the early season managed firearms hunts, pending river level and road conditions.
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may be hunted with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Sep 22, Sep 27-Oct 5, Oct 10-Nov 19, Nov 27-Jan 9 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 20-Nov 26 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 7-Oct 9 Bonus Deer
Youth Firearms Either Sex Sep 24-Sep 26 Bonus Deer
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Sep 21, Sep 26-Oct 4, Oct 9-Nov 18, Nov 26-Jan 8 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 19-Nov 25 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 6-Oct 8 Bonus Deer
Youth Firearms Either Sex Sep 23-Sep 25 Bonus Deer
<b>Small Game</b>
Bird dog training area located in the areas of Redman and Deadend Rds. No furbearer hunting or dog training in Archery Only Areas.
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Perry Dove Field</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No camping. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 12, Sep 19, Sep 26, Oct 3, Oct 10, Oct 17, Oct 24, Oct 31, Nov 7, Nov 14, Nov 21, Nov 28, Dec 5, Dec 12, Dec 19, Dec 26, Jan 2, Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 11, Sep 18, Sep 25, Oct 2, Oct 9, Oct 16, Oct 23, Oct 30, Nov 6, Nov 13, Nov 20, Nov 27, Dec 4, Dec 11, Dec 18, Dec 25, Jan 1, Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Sep 4, Sep 11, Sep 18, Sep 25, Nov 20, Nov 27, Dec 25, Jan 1, Jan 8, Jan 15, Jan 22, Jan 29
2022-23
Sep 3, Sep 10, Sep 17, Sep 24, Nov 19, Nov 26, Dec 24, Dec 31, Jan 7, Jan 14, Jan 21, Jan 28
<b>Phinizy Swamp WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No camping.
<b>Deer</b>
Archery only
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Wednesdays and Saturdays only during statewide season. Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
2021-22
Sep 11, Sep 15, Sep 18, Sep 22, Sep 25, Nov 20, Nov 24, Nov 27, Dec 15, Dec 18, Dec 22, Dec 25, Dec 29, Jan 1, Jan 5, Jan 8, Jan 12, Jan 15, Jan 19, Jan 22, Jan 26, Jan 29
Youth Nov 13
2022-23
Sep 10, Sep 14, Sep 17, Sep 21, Sep 24, Nov 19, Nov 23, Nov 26, Dec 14, Dec 17, Dec 21, Dec 24, Dec 28, Dec 31, Jan 4, Jan 7, Jan 11, Jan 14, Jan 18, Jan 21, Jan 25, Jan 28
Youth Nov 12
<b>Piedmont NWR</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Refuge permits are required for all hunts. Applications for quota deer hunts must be received by August 25, 2021 and August 31, 2022. Quota turkey hunts applications must be received by February 23, 2022 and February 22, 2023. Permit fee required for all quota hunts. The Hitchiti Experimental Forest is open for hunting only during refuge hunting seasons with a valid Piedmont Refuge hunting permit and in accordance with refuge regulations. Baiting is prohibited. No May 16-31 coyote season. Contact the refuge office to obtain applications, permits and refuge specific hunting regulations (478-986-5441) or email <a href="mailto:piedmont@fws.gov">piedmont@fws.gov</a> .
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 3
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 28-Oct 30 Quota 1250
Wheelchair Firearms Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 16 Sign-in Quota 25
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 16 Sign-in Quota 50
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 2
Firearms Either Sex Nov 3-Nov 5, Nov 10-Nov 12 Quota 1250
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 27-Oct 29 Quota 1250
Wheelchair Firearms Either Sex Oct 14-Oct 15 Sign-in Quota 25
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 14-Oct 15 Sign-in Quota 50
<b>Quail</b>

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
2021-22
Nov 26-Nov 27, Dec 10-Dec 11, Dec 23-Dec 24, Jan 7-Jan 8, Jan 21-Jan 22
2022-23
Nov 25-Nov 26, Dec 9-Dec 10, Dec 23-Dec 24, Jan 6-Jan 7, Jan 20-Jan 21
<b>Rabbit</b>
2021-22
Nov 15-Jan 31
2022-23
Nov 15-Jan 31
<b>Raccoon/Opossum</b>
2021-22
Dec 3-Dec 4, Dec 10-Dec 11, Dec 17-Dec 18, Dec 23-Dec 24, Dec 31-Jan 1, Jan 7-Jan 8, Jan 14-Jan 15, Jan 21-Jan 22, Jan 28-Jan 29
2022-23
Dec 2-Dec 3, Dec 9-Dec 10, Dec 16-Dec 17, Dec 23-Dec 24, Dec 30-Dec 31, Jan 6-Jan 7, Jan 13-Jan 14, Jan 20-Jan 21, Jan 27-Jan 28
<b>Small Game</b>
Bag Limit of 1/day for Fox Squirrel
<b>Squirrel</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Sep 10, Oct 4-Oct 14, Oct 17-Oct 27, Oct 31-Nov 3, Nov 7-Nov 10, Nov 14-Jan 31
2022-23
Aug 15-Sep 9, Oct 3-Oct 13, Oct 16-Oct 26, Oct 30-Nov 2, Nov 6-Nov 9, Nov 13-Jan 31
<b>Turkey</b>
Bag Limit 1
2021-22
Apr 12-Apr 16, Apr 26-Apr 30, May 10-May 14 Quota 300
2022-23
Apr 11-Apr 15, Apr 25-Apr 29, May 9-May 13 Quota 300
<b>Pine Log WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATV's. Horse and bicycle trails and areas are closed all day during firearms deer hunts and before 10:00am during archery deer and turkey hunts. No night hunting.
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture. No night hunting.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 15 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Dec 15-Dec 18 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Last Day Nov 17-Nov 20 Bonus Deer
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 21 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Dec 14-Dec 17 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Last Day Nov 16-Nov 19 Bonus Deer
<b>Dog Training</b>
Bird & Rabbit Dog Training Area: Aug 15 - Mar 19, except during firearms deer hunts.
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 4 Sign-in Quota 100

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Sep 5-Sep 6, Sep 10-Sep 13, Sep 17-Sep 20, Sep 24-Sep 27, Oct 1-Oct 4, Oct 8-Oct 10, Nov 21-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
2022-23
Sep 3 Sign-in Quota 100
Sep 4-Sep 5, Sep 9-Sep 12, Sep 16-Sep 19, Sep 23-Sep 26, Sep 30-Oct 3, Oct 7-Oct 9, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31
<b>Small Game</b>
No night hunting.
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Pleasant Valley VPA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATV's.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Youth Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 15 Sign-in
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 16-Oct 22, Oct 23-Oct 29, Oct 30-Nov 5, Nov 6-Nov 12 Sign-in Quota 4
2022-23
Youth Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21, Oct 22-Oct 28, Oct 29-Nov 4, Nov 5-Nov 11 Sign-in Quota 4
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Sep 10, Feb 1-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Sep 9, Feb 1-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Youth Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Youth Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Youth: Saturdays only during statewide season.
<b>Rayonier Corridor Lands WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
WMA consists of 300ft wide section of non-contiguous property on the Wayne County side of the Altamaha River, extending from mile 61 (Doe Eddy) to 1.2 miles down river. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
Area closed to deer hunting.
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>



<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Area closed to turkey hunting
<b>Red Top Mountain State Park</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Hunters must attend pre-hunt meeting at 7:00 p.m. on the evening before the hunt. Hunt participants will be charged a \$30 nonrefundable, nontransferable hunt fee and \$5 Park Pass will be required. Cabins and campsites (hunters only) will be available for hunter use and may be reserved through the park office at (770) 975-0055. All other park facilities will be closed during the hunt. No ATVs. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
5 deer limit, no more than 2 may be antlered bucks.
2021-22
Firearms Either Sex Nov 16-Nov 17 Bonus Deer Quota 50
2022-23
Firearms Either Sex Nov 15-Nov 16 Bonus Deer Quota 50
<b>Redlands WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No hunting on Dyar's Pasture MARSH Pond.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 16-Oct 29 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 30-Nov 30, Dec 26-Jan 1 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 22-Nov 4 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 5-Nov 30, Dec 26-Jan 1 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 11, Sep 18, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
Youth Sep 4 Sign-in Quota 80
2022-23
Sep 10, Sep 17, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31
Youth Sep 3 Sign-in Quota 80
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28 Sign-in
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Redlands WMA - Watson's Spring Area</b>
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Nov 30, Dec 26-Jan 1 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Nov 30, Dec 26-Jan 1 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Reed Bingham State Park</b>
<b>Alligator</b>
Alligator hunting by special permit only; open only to drawn quota hunters for alligator zone #5 who apply and are selected for the park hunt. Interested hunters must call 229-868-7474 no later than close of business on July 31 to apply. Selected hunters will be charged a \$30 nonrefundable, nontransferable hunt fee and a \$5 Park Pass is required. Only night hunting is permitted (30 minutes after sunset to 30 minutes before sunrise). Hunting is allowed Sunday nights through Thursday nights only, during state season. Special permit restriction apply. Special permit hunters may legally harvest one alligator 48" or greater in length. Only one vessel is permitted per special permit. Fishing/boating and other non-permitted lake activities are prohibited by regulation after sunset and before sunrise.
<b>Rich Mountain WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATV's.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Buck Only Sep 11-Nov 22, Nov 29-Jan 1 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Nov 23-Nov 28 Bonus Deer
2022-23
Archery Buck Only Sep 10-Nov 21, Nov 28-Jan 1 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Nov 22-Nov 27 Bonus Deer
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Rich Mountain WMA - Cartecay</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATV's. Horse and bicycle trails and areas are closed before 10:00am during deer, bear and turkey seasons.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 1 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 1 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Richard B. Russell State Park</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Hunters must attend a pre-hunt meeting at 7:00 on the evening before the hunt. Hunt participants will be charged a \$30 nonrefundable, nontransferable hunt fee and a \$5 Park Pass will be required. Cabins and campsites may be reserved by calling the park office at 706-213-2045. All other park facilities will be closed to the general public during the hunt. No ATVs. Wheelchair hunters must apply by letter by Oct. 15 to: Wheelchair Hunt RBR State Park, 2650 Russell State Park Dr., Elberton, GA 30635. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
5 deer limit, no more than 2 may be antlered bucks.
2021-22
Firearms Either Sex Dec 7-Dec 8 Bonus Deer Quota 60
Mobility Impaired Firearms Either Sex Dec 7-Dec 8 Bonus Deer Quota 20
2022-23
Firearms Either Sex Dec 6-Dec 7 Bonus Deer Quota 60
Mobility Impaired Firearms Either Sex Dec 6-Dec 7 Bonus Deer Quota 20
<b>Richmond Hill WMA</b>
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 16-Oct 17 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 18-Jan 9 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 22-Oct 23 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 24-Jan 8 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
No furbearer hunting or dog training in Archery Only Areas.
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>River Bend WMA</b>
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Sep 30, Oct 4-Oct 15 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Dec 2-Dec 4 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 11-Nov 13 Bonus Deer
Mobility Impaired Firearms Either Sex Oct 2-Oct 3 Sign-in
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Oct 22-Oct 24 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Sep 29, Oct 3-Oct 21 Sign-in

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Firearms Either Sex Dec 1-Dec 3 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 10-Nov 12 Bonus Deer
Mobility Impaired Firearms Either Sex Oct 1-Oct 2 Sign-in
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Oct 28-Oct 30 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
Saturdays only during 1st season.
2021-22
Sep 11, Sep 18, Sep 25, Oct 9, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
Sep 4 Sign-in Quota 30
2022-23
Sep 10, Sep 17, Sep 24, Oct 8, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31
Sep 3 Sign-in Quota 30
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 23-May 15 Sign-in
Apr 9-Apr 15, Apr 16-Apr 22 Sign-in Quota 15
2022-23
Apr 22-May 15 Sign-in
Apr 8-Apr 14, Apr 15-Apr 21 Sign-in Quota 15
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Waterfowl may be hunted on impoundment and its surrounding roads/dikes until noon only on Wed., Sat. and Sun. during statewide season.
<b>River Creek, The Rolf and Alexandra Kauka WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
Antlered bucks must have at least 4 points (1 inch or longer) on either side OR a 15 inch outside spread to be legal.
2021-22
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 18-Sep 26, Oct 9-Oct 17 Sign-in
Firearms Antlerless Only Jan 2-Jan 4 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Dec 1-Dec 4 Bonus Deer Quota 35
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Nov 3-Nov 6 Sign-in Quota 35
Youth Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Dec 20-Dec 22 Sign-in Quota 35
2022-23
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 17-Sep 25, Oct 8-Oct 16 Sign-in
Firearms Antlerless Only Jan 1-Jan 3 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Dec 1-Dec 3 Bonus Deer Quota 35
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Nov 2-Nov 5 Sign-in Quota 35
Youth Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Dec 19-Dec 21 Sign-in Quota 35
<b>Dove</b>
Dove hunting by quota only.
2021-22
Youth Sep 4, Sep 11 Sign-in Quota 15
2022-23
Youth Sep 3, Sep 10 Sign-in Quota 15
<b>Quail</b>
Quail hunting on designated dates only. Hunting party must check-in harvest at kiosk or online. Complete one check-in (survey) per party. Bag limit is 3 per person.
2021-22
Nov 13-Nov 16, Nov 20, Nov 27, Dec 18, Jan 1, Jan 21, Jan 22 Sign-in Quota 3
Nov 17, Nov 24, Dec 8, Dec 29, Jan 4, Jan 5 Sign-in
Youth Jan 28, Jan 29 Sign-in Quota 3

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
2022-23
Nov 12, Nov 19, Nov 26, Dec 17, Dec 31 Sign-in Quota 3
Nov 16, Nov 23, Dec 7, Dec 14, Dec 28 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
No fox or bobcat hunting. No fox squirrel hunting.
2021-22
Jan 23-Feb 8
2022-23
Jan 22-Feb 7
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 23-Apr 25 Sign-in Quota 5
Youth Apr 9-Apr 11, Apr 16-Apr 18 Sign-in Quota 5
2022-23
Apr 22-Apr 24 Sign-in Quota 5
Youth Apr 8-Apr 10, Apr 15-Apr 17 Sign-in Quota 5
<b>Waterfowl</b>
2021-22
Youth Dec 11, Jan 7, Jan 8, Jan 14, Jan 15 Sign-in Quota 3
2022-23
Youth Dec 10 Sign-in Quota 3
<b>Rocky Mountain Recreation PFA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Daily use fee (per vehicle) required for all users. Waterfowl hunters only may use firearms. No ATV's. All activities prohibited on upper and lower reservoirs. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Archery Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Archery Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Archery Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Antioch Lake: Jan 1-31, except No Sunday Hunting.
Heath Lake: State Season
<b>Rogers State Prison Farm Dove Fields</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Hunters must check in at the Rogers State Prison front office (1978 GA Hwy 147, Reidsville, GA) and sign in at the sign-in kiosks located at the entrances to each field prior to hunting. WMA license is NOT required. A map of the fields will be located in the kiosks (and on our website) with designated parking areas delineated on the maps. State hunting regulations will apply to the dove fields for the first segment of the dove season. No ATVs or UTVs will be allowed on the fields. No hunting within 100 yards of residences or 50 yards of county roads. Hunters must use

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
open gates to access fields; DO NOT climb fences. Please leave no litter behind, which includes spent shotgun shells. Extra caution should be taken to ensure no live shells are left on the field. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 4, Sep 11, Sep 18 Sign-in
2022-23
Sep 3, Sep 10, Sep 17 Sign-in
<b>Rogers WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No camping.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 16-Oct 17 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 18-Jan 9 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 22-Oct 23 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 24-Jan 8 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Rum Creek WMA</b>
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 3, Nov 20-Dec 3 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Last Day Nov 11-Nov 13 Bonus Deer Quota 200
Firearms Either Sex Oct 21-Oct 23 Bonus Deer Quota 200
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Oct 4-Oct 10 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 2, Nov 19-Dec 2 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Last Day Nov 10-Nov 12 Bonus Deer Quota 200
Firearms Either Sex Oct 27-Oct 29 Bonus Deer Quota 200
Specialty Firearms Either Sex Oct 3-Oct 9 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 18, Sep 25, Oct 2, Oct 9, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
Sep 4, Sep 11 Sign-in Quota 75
2022-23
Sep 17, Sep 24, Oct 1, Oct 8, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31
Sep 3, Sep 10 Sign-in Quota 75
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 16-Apr 22, Apr 30-May 6 Sign-in Quota 25
Youth Apr 9-Apr 15, Apr 23-Apr 29 Sign-in Quota 25
Youth May 7-May 13 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 15-Apr 21, Apr 29-May 5 Sign-in Quota 25
Youth Apr 8-Apr 14, Apr 22-Apr 28 Sign-in Quota 25
Youth May 6-May 12 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Rum Creek is broken up into 3 areas for waterfowl hunting (shooting hours 30 minutes before sunrise until noon): East of Ebenezer Rd. (includes Lake Juliette) open for all hunters. Youth Waterfowl Days (youth only) and Wed.-Sun. during statewide season. Boat motors in excess of 25hp prohibited on Lake Juliette. Youth Area: Between Juliette Rd and Ebenezer Rd; only youth may hunt. Youth Waterfowl Days and Wednesday through Sunday only during statewide season. The MARSH Project: Area (everything west of Juliette Rd.) is only open for 2 youth quota hunts each season (only youths may hunt).
2021-22
Youth Dec 18, Jan 15 Sign-in Quota 3
2022-23
Youth Dec 17, Jan 14 Sign-in Quota 3
<b>Rum Creek WMA - Berry Creek</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Archery only area. Camping prohibited. Firearms prohibited except as provided in O.C.G.A. <a href="#">16-11-126</a> .
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31, archery only.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
Falconry permitted during small game season.
2021-22
Archery Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Archery Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Archery Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
<b>Sandhills WMA - East</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No camping. Bird dog training allowed Aug. 15-March 15 only.
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
Hunting of fox squirrels is prohibited.
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
<b>Sandhills WMA - West</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Camping in designated areas only. Bird dog training allowed Aug. 15-March 15 only.
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 16-Nov 5, Nov 8-Nov 26, Nov 29-Dec 24, Dec 27-Jan 9 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 6-Nov 7, Nov 27-Nov 28, Dec 25-Dec 26 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Buck Only Oct 11-Oct 15 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 10 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 22-Nov 4, Nov 7-Nov 25, Nov 28-Dec 23, Dec 26-Jan 8 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 5-Nov 6, Nov 26-Nov 27, Dec 24-Dec 25 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Buck Only Oct 17-Oct 21 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 16 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
Hunting of fox squirrels is prohibited.
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Shooting hours end at 12 noon.
<b>Sansavilla WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>



<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
This area includes the Wire Road Tract
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may be hunted with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>
Dog-deer hunting allowed in designated areas only. All dogs must be marked with the selected hunter's name and phone number. All vehicles used in the dog-deer hunt must display DNR issues permit on vehicle dash. Hunting area will be closed to all users during dog-deer hunt except to hunters with a valid quota permit.
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Sep 22, Sep 27-Oct 5, Oct 10-Oct 22, Oct 30-Nov 26 Sign-in
Buckshot Only Dog Deer Either Sex Dec 27-Dec 28 Sign-in Quota 1
Firearms Buck Only Oct 23-Oct 29 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 27-Dec 26, Dec 29-Jan 9 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 7-Oct 9 Bonus Deer
Youth Firearms Either Sex Sep 24-Sep 26 Bonus Deer
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Sep 21, Sep 26-Oct 4, Oct 9-Oct 21, Oct 29-Nov 25 Sign-in
Buckshot Only Dog Deer Either Sex Dec 26-Dec 27 Sign-in Quota 1
Firearms Buck Only Oct 22-Oct 28 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 26-Dec 25, Dec 28-Jan 8 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 6-Oct 8 Bonus Deer
Youth Firearms Either Sex Sep 23-Sep 25 Bonus Deer
<b>Small Game</b>
No furbearer hunting or dog training in Archery Only Areas.
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Sapelo Island WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Reservations for transportation on state boat for Check-In hunts must be made through the Sapelo Island Visitors Center (912) 437-3224. No reservations will be accepted until you receive your selection notice. Visitor Center Hours: Tues.-Fri. 7:30 AM-5:30 PM, Sat. 8:00 AM-5:30 PM; closed Sunday & Monday. Stream anchorage may be required for hunters using their own boats. Hunter access is only allowed at Moses Hammock Dock at head of Duplin River. No motorized vehicles allowed on island. Hunters may check in starting at 9:00 AM EST one day prior to hunt. Camps must be removed by 12 noon on the day following each hunt. Departures and returns from deer hunting must be made from Moses Hammock campsite. Hunters are required to stay outside the boundaries of the safety zones. Hunting is restricted to the north end of Greater Sapelo Island and Little Sapelo Island unless otherwise indicated. Ferry Restrictions: There is limited space on the ferry, so please limit the amount and size of your gear; propane fuel only; guns must be unloaded and cased for transport on ferry; no folding chairs or tables, ladder stands, bicycles, or excessively large boxes; climbing stands are OK; coolers are limited to one 48 qt. per guest or one 96 qt. per two guests. For information on local charter options or transportation to the Moses Hammock hunt camp, please contact the Sapelo Island Visitors Center (912)437-3224. If you do not take the ferry to the island you may not return to the mainland via the ferry.
<b>Coyote</b>
Mar. 1-May 31. Feral hogs may also be taken. Feral hogs may be taken with dogs May 16-31 only. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
<b>Deer</b>
Maps of open hunting areas available at the Sapelo WMA sign-in kiosks, Brunswick DNR office, and <a href="http://georgiawildlife.com">georgiawildlife.com</a>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 3, Nov 22-Jan 9 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 4-Nov 6, Nov 18-Nov 20 Bonus Deer Quota 125
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 21-Oct 23 Bonus Deer Quota 125
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 8-Oct 10 Bonus Deer
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 2, Nov 21-Jan 8 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 3-Nov 5, Nov 17-Nov 19 Bonus Deer Quota 125
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 20-Oct 22 Bonus Deer Quota 125
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 7-Oct 9 Bonus Deer
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Savannah NWR</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No alligator hunting. All hunters 16 years of age or older must purchase a \$25 Savannah Coastal Refuges Complex Annual Hunt Permit at <a href="http://www.savannahcoastalpermits.com">www.savannahcoastalpermits.com</a> . Visit <a href="http://www.fws.gov/refuge/savannah">www.fws.gov/refuge/savannah</a> for seasons, dates and more information. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Scotland Road VPA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No furbearer hunting.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Sheffield WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATV's.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 1 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 1 Sign-in
<b>Furbearer Dog Training</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Small Game</b>

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-Apr 17, Apr 23-May 1 Sign-in Quota 10
May 2-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-Apr 16, Apr 22-Apr 30 Sign-in Quota 10
May 1-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Silver Lake WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 18 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Nov 13-Nov 26, Dec 25-Jan 9 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Dec 16-Dec 18 Bonus Deer Quota 160
Firearms Either Sex Oct 28-Oct 30 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 17 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Nov 12-Nov 25, Dec 24-Jan 8 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Dec 15-Dec 17 Bonus Deer Quota 160
Firearms Either Sex Oct 27-Oct 29 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 23 Sign-in
<b>Quail</b>
Quail hunting by quota only. Maximum 3 persons per party. Bag limit is 3 per person. Hunting party must check-in harvest at kiosk or online. Complete one check-in (survey) per party.
2021-22
Nov 29, Dec 20 Sign-in
Nov 6, Dec 4, Dec 11, Jan 15, Jan 22, Jan 29 Sign-in Quota 3
Youth Nov 6, Dec 4, Dec 11, Jan 15, Jan 22, Jan 29 Sign-in Quota 1
2022-23
Nov 28, Dec 19 Sign-in
Nov 5, Dec 3, Dec 10, Jan 14, Jan 21, Jan 28 Sign-in Quota 3
Youth Dec 10, Jan 14, Jan 21, Jan 28 Sign-in Quota 1
Youth Nov 5, Dec 3 Sign-in Quota 1
<b>Small Game</b>
No fox or bobcat hunting. No fox squirrel hunting.
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-Apr 13, Apr 28 Sign-in Quota 35
May 5-May 15 Sign-in
Youth Apr 21-Apr 25 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-Apr 12, Apr 27-May 1 Sign-in Quota 35
May 4-May 15 Sign-in

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Youth Apr 20-Apr 24 Sign-in
<b>Soap Creek WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No camping.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 16-Oct 29 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 30-Jan 1 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 22-Nov 4 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 5-Jan 1 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Sparks Cut Off VPA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9, Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8, Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Spirit Creek Forest WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Spirit Creek Forest is a multi-use forest; other users may be present during open hunting seasons. Gates may be opened/closed at the discretion of Georgia Forestry Commission. Please see WMA maps for safety zones. No camping. No ATVs. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
Archery only
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
Shotgun and archery only. No furbearer dog hunting.
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
Archery only
2021-22
Archery Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Spirewell Bluff WMA - East</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
The East Tract includes property east of the Flint River. No hunting in park day-use area. No camping.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
Shotguns and archery only. No furbearer hunting. No night hunting. Waterfowl hours end at 12 noon.
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Spirewell Bluff WMA - West</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Furbearer dog training allowed Aug. 15-March 15. The West Tract includes property west of the Flint River. Camping in designated areas only.
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>
Antlered bucks must have at least 4 points (1 inch or longer) on either side OR a 15 inch outside spread to be legal.
2021-22
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Nov 6-Nov 7, Nov 27-Nov 28, Dec 25-Dec 26 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck Only Oct 16-Nov 5, Nov 8-Nov 26, Nov 29-Dec 24, Dec 27-Jan 9 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 9-Oct 10 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Quality Buck Only Oct 11-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Nov 5-Nov 6, Nov 26-Nov 27, Dec 24-Dec 25 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck Only Oct 22-Nov 5, Nov 7-Nov 25, Nov 28-Dec 23, Dec 26-Jan 8 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 15-Oct 16 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Quality Buck Only Oct 17-Oct 21 Sign-in

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>	
<b>Small Game</b>	
2021-22	
Aug 15-Feb 28	
2022-23	
Aug 15-Feb 28	
<b>Turkey</b>	
2021-22	
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in	
2022-23	
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in	
<b>Waterfowl</b>	
Shooting hours end at 12 noon.	
<b>Standing Boy Creek Recreation Area</b>	
<b>Special Regulations</b>	
No camping. No ATVs. No May 16-31 coyote season.	
<b>Deer</b>	
2021-22	
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in	
2022-23	
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in	
<b>Small Game</b>	
2021-22	
Aug 15-Feb 28	
2022-23	
Aug 15-Feb 28	
<b>Turkey</b>	
2021-22	
Archery Apr 23-Apr 29 Sign-in Quota 10	
Youth Apr 9-Apr 15, Apr 16-Apr 22 Sign-in Quota 10	
2022-23	
Archery Apr 22-Apr 28 Sign-in Quota 10	
Youth Apr 8-Apr 14, Apr 15-Apr 21 Sign-in Quota 10	
<b>Waterfowl</b>	
Shooting hours end at 12 noon.	
<b>Swallow Creek WMA</b>	
<b>Coyote</b>	
May 16-31. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.	
<b>Deer/Bear</b>	
2021-22	
Archery Buck Only Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in	
Firearms Buck Only Dec 26-Jan 1 Sign-in	
Firearms Buck Only Nov 18-Nov 21, Dec 9-Dec 12 Bonus Deer	
2022-23	
Archery Buck Only Sep 10-Oct 7 Sign-in	
Firearms Buck Only Dec 26-Jan 1 Sign-in	
Firearms Buck Only Nov 17-Nov 20, Dec 8-Dec 11 Bonus Deer	
<b>Small Game</b>	
2021-22	
Aug 15-Feb 28	

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Tallapoosa River VPA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATV's. All deer harvested during the quota hunts must be checked-out at J.L. Lester VPA. Firearms restrictions apply to certain portions of the WMA (consult VPA map for specific limitations).
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Nov 29-Jan 1 Sign-in
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 2-Oct 3, Nov 27-Nov 28, Jan 8-Jan 9 Bonus Deer Quota 60
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Nov 28-Jan 1 Sign-in
Youth Firearms Either Sex Oct 8-Oct 9, Nov 26-Nov 27, Jan 7-Jan 8 Bonus Deer Quota 60
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Oct 1, Oct 4-Nov 26, Nov 29-Jan 7, Jan 10-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Oct 7, Oct 10-Nov 25, Nov 28-Jan 6, Jan 9-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Youth Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Youth Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Youth: Statewide season during small game dates.
<b>Tallulah Gorge WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Mandatory Daily Sign-In. No ATVs. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 23-Jan 1 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 16-Oct 22 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 22-Jan 1 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
No furbearer hunting at night on the north side of the gorge.
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Townsend WMA - Buck Island Tract</b>
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may be hunted with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 16-Oct 17 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 18-Jan 9 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 22-Oct 23 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 24-Jan 8 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 21 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Townsend WMA - North, South, and Pine Island Tracts</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Archery Only Area is archery equipment for all species. Dog deer hunters must check-in at Check station. Dog-deer hunting allowed in designated areas only. All dogs must be marked with the selected hunter's name and phone number. All vehicles used in the dog-deer hunt must display DNR issues permit on vehicle dash. Hunting area will be closed to all users during dog-deer hunt except to hunters with a valid quota permit.
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may be hunted with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 5 Sign-in
Buckshot Only Dog Deer Either Sex Dec 1-Dec 2, Dec 15-Dec 16, Dec 29-Dec 30 Bonus Deer Quota 3
Firearms Buck Only Oct 23-Oct 29 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 20-Nov 26, Dec 25-Dec 26 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 7-Oct 9, Nov 4-Nov 6 Bonus Deer
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 4 Sign-in
Buckshot Only Dog Deer Either Sex Nov 30-Dec 1, Dec 14-Dec 15, Dec 28-Dec 29 Bonus Deer Quota 3
Firearms Buck Only Oct 22-Oct 28 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 19-Nov 25, Dec 24-Dec 25 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 6-Oct 8, Nov 3-Nov 5 Bonus Deer
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28



<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15
<b>Treat Mountain VPA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATV's. All deer harvested during the quota hunts must be checked-out at J.L. Lester WMA
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Sep 30, Oct 4-Nov 25, Nov 29-Jan 6 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 1-Oct 3, Nov 26-Nov 28, Jan 7-Jan 9 Bonus Deer Quota 200
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 6, Oct 10-Nov 24, Nov 28-Jan 5 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 7-Oct 9, Nov 25-Nov 27, Jan 6-Jan 8 Bonus Deer Quota 200
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Sep 30, Oct 4-Nov 25, Nov 29-Jan 6, Jan 10-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Oct 6, Oct 10-Nov 24, Nov 28-Jan 5, Jan 9-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-Apr 17, Apr 23-May 1 Sign-in Quota 10
May 2-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-Apr 16, Apr 22-Apr 30 Sign-in Quota 10
May 1-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Tuckahoe WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
Camping in designated sites only.
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Feral hogs may also be hunted and taken with dogs. Dogs must be marked with the hunter's name and a valid telephone number; no night hunting; hogs must be killed immediately upon capture.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Sep 16, Sep 20-Sep 29, Oct 3-Nov 3 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 23-Nov 27 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 4-Nov 6 Bonus Deer
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Sep 30-Oct 2 Bonus Deer
Youth Firearms Either Sex Sep 17-Sep 19 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Sep 15, Sep 19-Sep 28, Oct 2-Nov 2 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 22-Nov 26 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Nov 3-Nov 5 Bonus Deer
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Sep 29-Oct 1 Bonus Deer
Youth Firearms Either Sex Sep 16-Sep 18 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Tugaloo State Park</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Hunters must attend pre-hunt meeting at 7:00 p.m. on the evening before the hunt. Hunt participants will be charged a \$30 nonrefundable, nontransferable hunt fee and a \$5 Park Pass will be required. Cabins and campsites may be reserved by calling the park office at (706) 356-4362. All other Park facilities will be closed to the general public during the hunt. No ATVs. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
No limit on antlerless deer, no more than 2 antlered bucks.
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Nov 30-Dec 1 Bonus Deer Quota 36
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Nov 29-Nov 30 Bonus Deer Quota 36
<b>Walton WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No unleashed dogs except for bird dog training and dove hunting purposes. Only shotguns are allowed for small game hunting.
<b>Coyote</b>
May 16-31. Archery and shotgun only.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 11, Sep 18, Sep 25, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
Youth Sep 4 Sign-in Quota 80
2022-23
Sep 10, Sep 17, Sep 24, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31
Youth Sep 3 Sign-in Quota 80
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Oct 1-Feb 28
2022-23
Oct 1-Feb 28
<b>Warren Farm Tract VPA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Warwoman WMA</b>
<b>Deer/Bear</b>

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
2021-22
Archery Buck Only Sep 11-Sep 24 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Nov 11-Nov 14, Dec 2-Dec 5 Bonus Deer
2022-23
Archery Buck Only Sep 10-Sep 23 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Nov 10-Nov 13, Dec 1-Dec 4 Bonus Deer
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Wassaw NWR</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No alligator hunting. All hunters 16 years of age or older must purchase a \$25 Savannah Coastal Refuges Complex Annual Hunt Permit at <a href="http://www.savannahcoastalpermits.com">www.savannahcoastalpermits.com</a> . Visit <a href="http://www.fws.gov/refuge/wassaw">www.fws.gov/refuge/wassaw</a> for seasons, dates and more information. No May 16-31 coyote season.
<b>West Point WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No gasoline engines allowed on waterfowl ponds. No fishing in managed waterfowl impoundments. No fishing from bridges.
<b>Deer</b>
Antlered bucks must have at least 4 points (1 inch or longer) on either side OR a 15 inch outside spread to be legal.
2021-22
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 11-Oct 6, Oct 18-Nov 12 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Last Day Oct 7-Oct 9, Dec 2-Dec 4 Bonus Deer
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Quality Buck and Antlerless Dec 11-Dec 12 Sign-in
Specialty Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 15-Oct 17 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 9-Oct 13, Oct 17-Nov 11 Sign-in
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 10-Oct 5 Sign-in
Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Last Day Oct 6-Oct 8, Dec 1-Dec 3 Bonus Deer
Primitive Weapons Quality Buck and Antlerless Dec 10-Dec 11 Sign-in
Specialty Firearms Quality Buck and Antlerless Oct 14-Oct 16 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 4, Sep 11, Sep 18, Sep 25-Sep 30, Oct 2-Oct 6, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
2022-23
Sep 3, Sep 10, Sep 17, Sep 24-Sep 30, Oct 1-Oct 5, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31
<b>Small Game</b>
Furbearer dog training is allowed Aug 15-Mar 19, except during deer hunts.
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Apr 16-May 15 Sign-in
Apr 9-Apr 15 Sign-in Quota 80
2022-23
Apr 16-May 15 Sign-in
Apr 9-Apr 15 Sign-in Quota 80
<b>Waterfowl</b>
Daniels Pond & Pond 1 open for Youth Waterfowl Days and Saturdays only during statewide waterfowl season.
<b>West Point WMA - Dixie Creek</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No camping.
<b>Deer</b>
Antlered bucks must have at least 4 points (1 inch or longer) on either side OR a 15 inch outside spread to be legal.
2021-22
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
Bird Dog Training: Aug 15-Mar 15
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 16-May 15 Sign-in
Youth Apr 9-Apr 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 15-May 15 Sign-in
Youth Apr 8-Apr 14 Sign-in
<b>West Point WMA - Glovers Creek</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No gasoline motors on waterfowl impoundment. No fishing on Glovers Creek Area.
<b>Deer</b>
Antlered bucks must have at least 4 points (1 inch or longer) on either side OR a 15 inch outside spread to be legal.
2021-22
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 11-Jan 9 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Quality Buck and Antlerless Sep 10-Jan 8 Sign-in
<b>Waterfowl</b>
2021-22
Jan 1, Jan 8, Jan 15, Jan 22, Jan 29
Nov 20, Nov 27, Dec 4, Dec 11, Dec 18, Dec 25 Quota 7
Youth Nov 13
2022-23
Jan 7, Jan 14, Jan 21, Jan 28
Nov 19, Nov 26, Dec 10, Dec 17, Dec 24, Dec 31 Quota 7
Youth Nov 12
<b>Wilson Shoals WMA</b>
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 29 Sign-in

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
Firearms Either Sex Last Day Oct 30-Nov 14 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Dec 18-Dec 26 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 28 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Last Day Oct 29-Nov 13 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Dec 17-Dec 25 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 11, Sep 18, Sep 25, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31
Youth Sep 4 Sign-in Quota 15
2022-23
Sep 10, Sep 17, Sep 24, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19 -Jan 31
Youth Sep 3 Sign-in Quota 15
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 16-May 15 Sign-in
Apr 9-Apr 15 Bonus Deer Quota 15
2022-23
Apr 15-May 15 Sign-in
Apr 8-Apr 14 Bonus Deer Quota 15
<b>Yuchi WMA</b>
<b>Deer</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Oct 8 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 24-Nov 25, Nov 29-Dec 5, Dec 26-Jan 1 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 14-Oct 16 Bonus Deer
Firearms Either Sex Oct 17-Oct 23, Nov 26-Nov 28 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 9-Oct 13 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Oct 14 Sign-in
Firearms Buck Only Oct 30-Nov 24, Nov 28-Dec 4, Dec 26-Jan 1 Sign-in
Firearms Either Sex Oct 20-Oct 22 Bonus Deer
Firearms Either Sex Oct 23-Oct 29, Nov 25-Nov 27 Sign-in
Primitive Weapons Either Sex Oct 15-Oct 19 Sign-in
<b>Dove</b>
2021-22
Sep 4-Oct 10, Nov 20-Nov 28, Dec 19-Jan 31 Sign-in
2022-23
Sep 3-Oct 9, Nov 19-Nov 27, Dec 19-Jan 31 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28 Sign-in
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28 Sign-in
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in

<b>Alapaha River WMA</b>
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in
<b>Zahnd WMA</b>
<b>Special Regulations</b>
No ATV's.
<b>Deer/Bear</b>
2021-22
Archery Either Sex Sep 11-Jan 1 Sign-in
2022-23
Archery Either Sex Sep 10-Jan 1 Sign-in
<b>Small Game</b>
2021-22
Aug 15-Feb 28
2022-23
Aug 15-Feb 28
<b>Turkey</b>
2021-22
Apr 9-May 15 Sign-in
2022-23
Apr 8-May 15 Sign-in

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-2-.70

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [27-1-4](#), [27-1-12](#).

**HISTORY:** Rules 391-4-2-.101 to 391-4-2-.178 relating to hunting on Wildlife Management Areas have been repealed and Original Rule 391-4-2-.70 entitled "State Wildlife Management Areas" adopted. F. July 15, 1988; eff. Aug. 4, 1988.

**Amended:** ER. 391-4-2-0.15-.70 adopted. F. Aug. 29, 1988; eff. Aug. 24, 1988, the date of adoption.

**Amended:** F. July 17, 1989; eff. Aug. 6, 1989.

**Amended:** F. July 24, 1990; eff. Aug. 13, 1990.

**Amended:** F. July 17, 1991; eff. Aug. 6, 1991.

**Amended:** F. June 5, 1992; eff. June 25, 1992.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Wildlife Management Areas and Other State Managed Lands" adopted. F. June 3, 1993; eff. June 23, 1993.

**Amended:** F. June 2, 1994; eff. June 22, 1994.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Wildlife Management Areas and Other State Lands" adopted. F. May 25, 1995; eff. June 14, 1995.

**Amended:** F. May 30, 1996; eff. June 19, 1996.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 2, 1997; eff. June 22, 1997.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 21, 1998; eff. June 10, 1998.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Apr. 30, 1999; eff. May 20, 1999.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 29, 2001; eff. June 18, 2001.

**Amended:** F. Oct. 1, 2001; eff. Oct. 21, 2001.

**Amended:** F. June 4, 2002; eff. June 24, 2002.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 30, 2003; eff. June 19, 2003.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 16, 2005; eff. July 6, 2005.

**Amended:** F. May 26, 2006; eff. June 15, 2006.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 24, 2007; eff. June 13, 2007.

**Amended:** F. May 29, 2008; eff. June 18, 2008.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 27, 2009; eff. June 16, 2009.

**Amended:** F. Sept. 8, 2009; eff. Sept. 28, 2009.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 1, 2011; eff. June 21, 2011.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 13, 2013; eff. July 3, 2013.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 30, 2014; eff. June 19, 2014.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 26, 2015; eff. June 15, 2015.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Dec. 17, 2015; eff. Jan. 6, 2016.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 26, 2016; eff. June 15, 2016.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Sep. 6, 2016; eff. Sep. 26, 2016.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Mar. 17, 2017; eff. Apr. 6, 2017.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 1, 2017; eff. June 21, 2017.

**Amended:** F. May 29, 2018; eff. June 18, 2018.

**Amended:** F. Sep. 4, 2018; eff. Sep. 24, 2018.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Jan. 28, 2019; eff. Feb. 17, 2019.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Wildlife Management Areas, Other State Lands, and Federal Areas" adopted. F. June 4, 2019; eff. June 24, 2019.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 27, 2020; eff. June 16, 2020.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 26, 2020; eff. July 16, 2020.

**Amended:** F. June 7, 2021; eff. June 27, 2021.

## **391-4-2-.72 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-2-.72

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [27-1-4](#), [27-3-15](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Special Deer Hunts for Physically Disadvantaged Deer Hunters" adopted. F. Sept. 6, 1996; eff. Sept. 26, 1996.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Wildlife Management Areas, Federal Wildlife Areas and Other State Lands Legend" adopted. F. Apr. 30, 1999; eff. May 20, 1999.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 29, 2001; eff. June 18, 2001.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 30, 2003; eff. June 19, 2003.

**Repealed:** F. June 1, 2017; eff. June 21, 2017.

**Adopted:** New Rule entitled "Provisional Regulations for Newly Added Wildlife Management Areas." F. Feb. 10, 2020; eff. Mar. 1, 2020.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

## **391-4-2-.73 Pursuit of Bears with Dogs on Wildlife Management Areas, Other State Lands and Federal Areas**

(1) The purpose of this rule is to establish regulations governing the use of dogs to pursue bears for training and hunting purposes on wildlife management areas, other state lands and federal areas.

(2) It is unlawful for any person to allow their dog(s) to pursue a bear(s) on any wildlife management area, other state land or federal land during any time other than the season(s) specified for such wildlife management area, other state land or federal land in rule [391-4-2-.70](#).

(3) On wildlife management areas, other state lands or federal lands that have a season(s) specified for pursuing bears for the purposes of training hunting dogs or hunting bears pursuant to rule [391-4-2-.70](#):

(a) It is unlawful for any person to participate or assist in a lawful open season for pursuing bears with dogs without first procuring a valid hunting license and big game license pursuant to O.C.G.A. Title 27; and

(b) Any person participating or assisting in a lawful open season for pursuing bears for the purpose of training hunting dogs shall comply with the provisions of O.C.G.A. Sec. [27-3-16](#); and

(c) It is unlawful for any person participating or assisting in a lawful open season for pursuing bears for the purpose of training hunting dogs to fail to check-in once per season at any one of the following WMA check stations: Rich Mountain, Swallow Creek or Warwoman; and

(d) It is unlawful for any person to fail to mark each dog used for pursuing bears with such person's first name, last name, address, and valid telephone number; and

(e) It is unlawful for any person to fail to remove their dog(s) from any such area upon departure; and

(f) It is unlawful for any person participating or assisting in a lawful open season for pursuing bears with dogs to allow their dog(s) to pursue any bear onto property for which permission has not been granted in accordance with



O.C.G.A. Sec. [27-3-1](#) or onto any wildlife management area, other state land or federal land at any time not specified in Rule [391-4-2-.70](#).

(4) In accordance with O.C.G.A. Sec. [27-2-25](#), the commissioner may revoke the hunting privileges, big game privileges, and/or wildlife management area privileges of any person who fails to comply with subsections (2) or (3)(a) through (3)(f) of this rule.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-2-.73

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [27-1-4](#), [27-3-15](#), [27-3-26](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Deer Hunts on Chickasawhatchee Wildlife Management Area" adopted. F. Sept. 24, 1998; eff. Oct. 14, 1998.

**Repealed:** F. Apr. 30, 1999; eff. May 20, 1999. New Rule entitled "Pursuit of Bears with Dogs on Wildlife Management Areas, Other State Lands and Federal Areas" adopted. F. Jun. 1, 2011 eff. Jun. 21, 2011.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. July 13, 2017; eff. Aug 2, 2017

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 4, 2019; eff. June 24, 2019.

**Amended:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-4-2-.201 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-2-.201

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [27-1-4](#), [27-2-18](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Regulation for the Killing of Deer Which Damage Crops" adopted. F. Oct. 26, 1976; eff. Nov. 15, 1976.

**Amended:** F. July 16, 1987; eff. Aug. 5, 1987.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Apr. 30, 1999; eff. May 20, 1999.

**Amended:** F. May 30, 2003; eff. June 19, 2003.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 1, 2017; eff. June 21, 2017.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. June 4, 2019; eff. June 24, 2019.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

# **Department 391. RULES OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

## **Chapter 391-4. WILDLIFE RESOURCES DIVISION**

### **Subject 391-4-3. FISHING REGULATIONS**

#### **391-4-3-.01 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-3-.01

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [27-1-4](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Effective Date" was filed on April 11, 1974; effective May 1, 1974.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of same title adopted. Filed April 15, 1975; effective May 5, 1975.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of same title adopted. Filed March 2, 1976; effective March 22, 1976.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of same title adopted. Filed April 6, 1977; effective April 26, 1977.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

#### **391-4-3-.04 Waters Open to Commercial Fishing**

Except as otherwise provided by law or rule and regulation, all waters are open to commercial fishing except:

- (a) The Coosa River, from the confluence of the Etowah and Oostanaula Rivers to the Georgia-Alabama Boundary line and all streams flowing into the Coosa River between those two points are closed to commercial fishing;
- (b) That portion of Lake Weiss located in Georgia is closed to commercial fishing;
- (c) The Oostanaula River from the State Highway 156 bridge to the confluence of the Oostanaula and Etowah Rivers and all streams flowing into the Oostanaula River between those two points are closed to commercial fishing; and
- (d) The Etowah River from the U.S. Highway 411 bridge downstream to the confluence of the Etowah and the Oostanaula Rivers and all streams flowing into the Etowah River between those two points are closed to commercial fishing.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-3-.04

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [27-4-70](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Possession Limits" was filed on April 11, 1974; effective May 1, 1974.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule of same title adopted. Filed April 15, 1975; effective May 5, 1975.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Sale of Game Fish from Private Ponds" adopted. Filed March 2, 1976; effective March 22, 1976.

**Amended:** Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Water Open to Commercial Fishing" adopted. Filed April 6, 1977; effective April 26, 1977.

**Amended:** F. Jun. 5, 1992; eff. Jun. 25, 1992.

**Amended:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-4-3-.05 Creel and Possession Limits**

In keeping with sound principles of wildlife research and management, creel and possession limits are:

(1) Ten (10) of any one or a combination of the following species, except only one (1) fish may be greater than twenty-two (22) inches from Lake Lindsay Grace:

- (a) Largemouth bass;
- (b) Smallmouth bass;
- (c) Shoal bass;
- (d) Suwannee bass;
- (e) Spotted bass or Kentucky bass;
- (f) Redeye or Coosa bass.

(2) Eight (8) of any one or a combination of mountain trout.

(3) Fifteen (15) of any one or a combination of the following species; provided, however, only two (2) fish may be twenty-two (22) inches or longer in length:

- (a) White bass;
- (b) Striped bass;
- (c) Striped-white bass hybrids.

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (3) to the contrary, from the North Newport River, the Medway River including Mount Hope Creek, the Little Ogeechee River, the Ogeechee River, the Oconee River downstream of Georgia Highway 22 in Milledgeville, the Ocmulgee River downstream of the Georgia Highway 96 bridge between Houston and Twiggs counties, the Altamaha River, and the Satilla River; from the tributaries to such described sections; and from salt water as defined in O.C.G.A. [27-4-1](#) two (2) of any one or a combination of the following species each of which must be twenty-two (22) inches or longer:

- (a) White bass;
- (b) Striped-white bass hybrids;
- (c) Striped bass.

(5) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (3) to the contrary, from the Savannah River and its tributaries downstream of J. Strom Thurmond Dam two (2) of any one or a combination of the following species each of which must be twenty-seven (27) inches or longer:

- (a) White bass;

- (b) Striped-white bass hybrids;
- (c) Striped bass.
- (6) Fifty (50) of any one or a combination of the game species, as defined by O.C.G.A. [27-1-2](#) of bream or sunfish;
- (7) Eight (8) walleye (walleyed pike);
- (8) Eight (8) sauger;
- (9) Fifteen (15) of any one or a combination of the following species of pickerel:
  - (a) Chain;
  - (b) Grass;
  - (c) Redfin.
- (10) Thirty (30) of any one or a combination of the following species:
  - (a) Black crappie;
  - (b) White crappie.
- (11) Eight (8) of any one or a combination of the following species:
  - (a) American shad;
  - (b) Hickory shad.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-3-.05

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [27-1-3](#), [27-1-4](#), [27-4-10](#), [27-4-12](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Size Limits" adopted. F. Apr. 11, 1974; eff. May 1, 1974.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Apr. 15, 1975; eff. May 5, 1975.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Catch-Out Ponds" adopted. F. Mar. 2, 1976; eff. Mar. 22, 1976.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Possession Limits" adopted. F. Apr. 6, 1977; eff. Apr. 26, 1977.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Jan. 28, 1980; eff. Feb. 17, 1980.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Creel and Possession Limits" adopted. F. Sept. 11, 1996; eff. Oct. 1, 1996.

**Amended:** F. Sept. 3, 1998; eff. Sept. 23, 1998.

**Amended:** F. Aug. 25, 2005; eff. Sept. 14, 2005.

**Amended:** F. Aug. 28, 2013; eff. Sep. 17, 2013.

**Amended:** F. Sep. 1, 2016; eff. Sep. 21, 2016.

**Amended:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-4-3-.08 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-3-.08

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [27-1-3](#), [27-2-23](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Outside Trout Streams" adopted. F. Apr. 11, 1974; eff. May 1, 1974.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Apr. 15, 1975; eff. May 5, 1975.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Prohibited Methods of Taking Fish" adopted. F. Mar. 2, 1976; eff. Mar. 22, 1976.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Management Area Trout Streams" adopted. F. Apr. 6, 1977; eff. Apr. 26, 1977.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Feb. 2, 1989; eff. Feb. 22, 1989.

**Amended:** F. Jan. 29, 1997; eff. Feb. 18, 1997.

**Amended:** F. Apr. 1, 2015; eff. Apr. 21, 2015.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. July 13, 2017; eff. Aug 2, 2017.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-4-3-.09 Public Fishing Areas**

(1) Drivers of vehicles parking at the Rocky Mountain public fishing area must obtain a daily or annual Rocky Mountain public fishing area parking permit (which is not a Parks, Recreation and Historic Sites Division Parking Pass).

(2) On ponds or portions of ponds where fisheries resources are limited, area managers may limit fishing to persons under 16 years of age by posting a sign at the pond which indicates said limitations.

(3) Except as provided by O.C.G.A. Sec. [27-4-11.1](#), the creel and possession limits for fish caught from public fishing areas are:

(a) Fifteen (15) of any one or a combination of the game species of bream or sunfish;

(b) Five (5) largemouth bass;

(c) Five (5) channel catfish;

(d) All grass carp must be immediately returned to the waters from which they were caught unless otherwise posted; and

(e) All fish or designated fish species taken from ponds and lakes posted as open only to catch and release fishing must be immediately returned to the waters from which they were taken. Possession of fish or designated fish species in ponds and lakes open only to catch and release fishing is not allowed.

(4) Camping shall not be allowed on public fishing areas except under the following circumstances:

(a) Any activity that disturbs other campers between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. is prohibited;

- (b) No musical instrument, radio, television or other noise making device may be used after 10:00 p.m. or before 7:00 a.m. in such a manner that it may be heard by other campers;
  - (c) Occupancy of campsites is limited to fourteen consecutive days. Any camper who has used a campsite for 14 consecutive days must vacate the camping area for a period of not less than 7 days before again occupying a campsite;
  - (d) Any tents, trailers, automobiles, other vehicles or other personal property left unattended at the campsite overnight or beyond the designated time limit shall be removed and any expenses, including towing charges, incurred by such removal shall be paid by the person under whose name the campsite is registered;
  - (e) Dishwashing is prohibited at drinking faucets and at comfort stations;
  - (f) Picnic supplies and other personal property shall not be left unattended in the picnic shelters;
  - (g) Campers may cut only dead and fallen trees for firewood to be used on the area;
  - (h) Persons who wish to camp on areas where gates are usually locked at night must contact area managers in advance to make arrangements for camping; and
  - (i) Rules for camping on wildlife management areas shall apply on areas which are both public fishing areas and wildlife management areas; and
  - (j) Camping on the Rocky Mountain public fishing area is prohibited except from April 1 until October 31, and except at other times as designated by the public fishing area manager for special purposes.
- (5) Persons may not fish with any gear other than pole and line, as the term is defined in O.C.G.A. Sec. [27-1-2\(51\)](#), and no person shall fish with more than two poles and lines at any public fishing area:
- (6) Persons may not use or possess live fish for bait at any public fishing area except in lakes or ponds posted as being open to the use of live fish for bait.
- (7) Except as provided herein, persons may not operate any vessel as defined in O.C.G.A. Sec. [52-7-3](#) on any public fishing area owned or operated by the department; provided, however, that fishing boats propelled by paddles, oars, or electric motors may be used on ponds or lakes unless they are posted as being closed to the use of such fishing boats, and provided further, that:
- (a) Persons may operate any fishing boat being propelled by a motor at idle speed on any public fishing area lake designated open to the use of fishing boats with motors; and
  - (b) Personal watercraft (jet skis), sailboats and sailboards are not permitted on any public fishing area lake; and
- (8) Persons may not utilize the waters of any public fishing area for recreational swimming; provided, however, this subsection shall not apply to the designated beach area at Rocky Mountain Public Fishing Area between Memorial Day and Labor Day during the hours designated by the public fishing area manager.
- (9) No person may consume or use alcoholic beverages on any public fishing area except in designated facilities or at campsites on these areas; provided, however, no alcoholic beverages are allowed on the Rocky Mountain Public Fishing Area.
- (10) No horses are allowed on public fishing areas except in those areas designated as open to equestrian use.
- (11) Persons may not rappel, rock climb or hang glide on the Rocky Mountain public fishing area.
- (12) No person shall disobey any lawful order of a law enforcement officer or the area manager.

(13) If hunting is authorized, hunters may access specified portions of the public fishing area during legal hunting hours for the purpose of hunting.

(14) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Rule 391-4-3-.09 to the contrary, Department sponsored special events are authorized on public fishing areas twenty-four hours a day, subject to any special conditions for the event established by the Department.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-3-.09

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [12-3-9](#), [27-1-3](#), [27-1-33](#), [27-2-23](#), [27-4-11.1](#), [27-4-12](#), [27-4-51](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Artificial Bait Streams" adopted. F. Apr. 11, 1974; eff. May 1, 1974.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Apr. 15, 1975; eff. May 5, 1975.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Use of Seines" adopted. F. Mar. 2, 1976; eff. Mar. 22, 1976.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Public Fishing Areas" adopted. F. Apr. 6, 1977; eff. Apr. 26, 1977.

**Amended:** F. Jan. 28, 1980; eff. Feb. 17, 1980.

**Amended:** Rule repealed. F. Oct. 19, 1983; eff. Nov. 8, 1983.

**Amended:** New Rule entitled "Public Fishing Areas" adopted. F. Feb. 2, 1989; eff. Feb. 22, 1989.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Jun. 5, 1992; eff. Jun. 25, 1992.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Sept. 11, 1996; eff. Oct. 1, 1996.

**Amended:** F. Apr. 23, 1997; eff. May 13, 1997.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Sept. 3, 1998; eff. Sept. 23, 1998.

**Amended:** F. Sept. 17, 1999; eff. Oct. 7, 1999.

**Amended:** F. May 27, 2009; eff. June 16, 2009.

**Amended:** F. Sept. 8, 2009; eff. Sept. 28, 2009.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. July 13, 2017; eff. Aug 2, 2017.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 22, 2019; eff. June 11, 2019.

**Amended:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-4-3-.13 Fishing Methods**

(1) The following streams are declared to be artificial-lure streams:

(a) That portion of the Chattahoochee River from Georgia Highway 20 downstream to the boat ramp at the National Park Service Medlock Bridge Park immediately upstream of Georgia Highway 141;

(b) Noontootla Creek and its tributaries on the Blue Ridge Management Area;

(c) Coleman River and its tributaries from the junction with Tallulah River upstream to Forest Service Bridge No. 54;

- (d) Jones Creek and its tributaries on U.S. Forest Service property upstream from the junction with the Etowah River
  - (e) Mountaintown Creek and its tributaries above Mountaintown Creek Watershed Structure No. 2;
  - (f) Stanley Creek and its tributaries on the Rich Mountain Management Area;
  - (g) Hoods Creek and its tributaries on the Warwoman Management Area;
  - (h) Walnut Fork and its tributaries on the Warwoman Management Area;
  - (i) Conasauga River upstream of the Georgia-Tennessee state line and its tributaries to that portion of the river; provided, however, Conasauga River and its tributaries shall not be artificial-lure streams from the last Saturday in March through October 31 of each year; and
- (2) It is lawful to fish with or possess only artificial lures with barbless hooks in that portion of Dukes Creek and its tributaries in White County on the Smithgall Woods-Dukes Creek Conservation Area, including the Georgia Highway 75 Alternate right-of-way.
- (3) It shall only be lawful to fish with artificial lures with single hooks and only lawful to possess artificial lures with single hooks on the following waters; provided, however, this restriction shall not apply to said waters from May 15 through October 31 of each year:
- (a) Amicalola Creek from County Road 192 (Steele Bridge Road) downstream to Georgia Highway 53;
  - (b) Chattahoochee River from Sope Creek (off Columns Drive) downstream to US Highway 41 (Cobb Parkway);
  - (c) Chattooga River (in Rabun County) from Georgia Highway 28 upstream to the mouth of Reed Creek (Georgia);
  - (d) Smith Creek on Unicoi State Park from Unicoi Dam downstream to the Unicoi State Park property boundary; and
  - (e) Toccoa River on U.S. Forest Service land from 0.4 miles above the Shallowford Bridge upstream to a point 450 feet upstream of the Sandy Bottom Canoe Access.
- (4) Use of live blueback herring for bait and possession of live blueback herring is prohibited in all freshwaters of the state; provided, however, this provision shall not apply to the following waters:
- (a) Lake Bartlett's Ferry;
  - (b) Lake Blue Ridge
  - (c) Lake Chatuge;
  - (d) Lake Goat Rock;
  - (e) Lake Juliette;
  - (f) Lake Lanier;
  - (g) Lake Nottely;
  - (h) Lake Oliver;
  - (i) Lake West Point



(j) Altamaha River watershed downstream of the following dams:

1. Juliette on the Ocmulgee River;
2. Lake Juliette on Rum Creek;
3. Lake Tobesofkee on Tobesofkee Creek; and
4. Lake Sinclair on the Oconee River; nor to

(k) watersheds of all other streams that flow directly into the Atlantic Ocean. The penalties of this paragraph are enforceable by all penalties applicable, including civil penalties.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-3-.13

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [27-1-4](#), [27-2-14](#), [27-4-12](#), [27-4-36](#), [27-4-51](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Sale of Game Fish from Private Ponds" adopted. F. Apr. 11, 1974; eff. May 1, 1974.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Apr. 15, 1975; eff. May 5, 1975.

**Repealed:** F. Mar. 2, 1976; eff. Mar. 22, 1976.

**Amended:** New Rule entitled "Fishing Methods" adopted. F. Sept. 11, 1996; eff. Oct. 1, 1996.

**Amended:** F. Sept. 3, 1998; eff. Sept. 23, 1998.

**Amended:** F. Sept. 17, 1999; eff. Oct. 7, 1999.

**Amended:** F. Aug. 19, 2002; eff. Sept. 8, 2002.

**Amended:** F. Aug. 24, 2006; eff. Sept. 13, 2006.

**Amended:** F. Sept. 1, 2010; eff. Sept. 21, 2010.

**Amended:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-4-3-.15 Hour**

(1) It is lawful to fish in trout waters designated in Rule [391-4-3-.03\(3\)](#) 24 hours a day; provided, however, that the Conasauga River watershed upstream of the Georgia-Tennessee state line, that portion of Smith Creek on Unicoi State Park and the Chattahoochee River downstream of Lake Lanier are open to fishing only between 30 minutes before sunrise and 30 minutes after sunset during daylight hours.

(2) It is lawful to fish in Dockery Lake and Rock Creek Lake only between 30 minutes before sunrise and 30 minutes after sunset during daylight hours. Except as otherwise provided by law, rule or regulation, fishing in all other impoundments is permitted 24 hours a day.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-3-.15

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [27-1-4](#), [27-1-12](#), [27-4-51](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Saltwater Commercial Catfishing" adopted. F. Apr. 11, 1974; eff. May 1, 1974.

**Repealed:** New Rule of the same title adopted. F. Apr. 15, 1975; eff. May 5, 1975.

**Repealed:** F. Mar. 2, 1976; eff. Mar. 22, 1976.

**Amended:** New Rule entitled "Hours" adopted. F. Sept. 3, 1998; eff. Sept. 23, 1998.

**Amended:** New title "Hours. Amended." F. Apr. 1, 2015; eff. Apr. 21, 2015.

**Amended:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

# **Department 391. RULES OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

## **Chapter 391-4. WILDLIFE RESOURCES DIVISION**

### **Subject 391-4-10. PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED, THREATENED, RARE, OR UNUSUAL SPECIES**

#### **391-4-10-.06 Prohibited Acts**

(1) The following acts regarding protected species of animals are prohibited:

(a) Any activities intended to harass, capture, kill, or otherwise directly cause death of any protected animal species, except as specifically authorized by law or by regulation as adopted by the Board of Natural Resources.

(b) The sale or purchase of any protected animal species or parts thereof and the possession of any such species or parts thereof unless the possession is authorized by a scientific collecting, wildlife exhibition, or other permit or license issued by the department.

(c) The destruction of the habitat of any protected animal species on public lands.

(2) The authorization to take certain nongame animal species set forth in O.C.G.A. Section [27-1-28](#) does not apply to any protected species whether on public or private land.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-10-.06

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [12-6-172](#), [27-3-132](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Prohibited Acts" adopted. F. Dec. 22, 1980; eff. Jan. 11, 1981.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 4, 1992; eff. Nov. 24, 1992.

**Amended:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

#### **391-4-10-.07 Exceptions**

(1) **Permits.** The Department may issue permits for the collection, transportation, and/or possession of protected plant and animal species. Such permits do not alleviate the responsibility to acquire specific federal permits, if required.

(2) **Protected Crayfish Species.** The collection of state protected crayfish species (those species included in [391-4-10-.09](#)) while collecting fishing bait is authorized without permit under the following conditions:

(a) State protected crayfish species may not be collected from crayfish burrows (i.e., "crayfish chimneys") in any manner, including burrow excavation or setting traps or other devices within, on or near the entrance to the burrow.

(b) State protected crayfish species may not be exported from the state of Georgia.

(3) **Peregrine Falcon Take for Falconry Purposes.** The Department may issue up to five (5) annual permits for the trapping and possession of wild peregrine falcons for falconry purposes in accordance with the framework established by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and as may be appropriate based on sound wildlife management principles. Trapping is allowed only during September 20 through October 20 and only within

Chatham, Bryan, Liberty, McIntosh, Glynn, and Camden counties. Only wild peregrines trapped during their first year (passage birds) may be kept. Permits are issued based upon a random drawing of qualified applicants. Preference is given to Georgia residents such that most permits are issued to qualified resident applicants.

(a) To qualify, an applicant shall be a licensed Master Falconer, or a licensed General Falconer with at least 5 years of licensed falconry experience.

(b) When trapping or attempting to trap a peregrine falcon, a person shall have on their person a current peregrine falcon take permit from the Department, a valid Georgia hunting license, and a valid falconry license.

(c) A peregrine falcon take permit does not authorize any person possessing said permit to commit any act inconsistent with O.C.G.A. [27-2-17](#).

(d) Said permit may be revoked in accordance with the provisions of the Game and Fish Code.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-10-.07

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [12-6-172](#), [27-3-132](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Exceptions" adopted. F. Dec. 22, 1980; eff. Jan. 11, 1981.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Oct. 26, 2006; eff. Nov. 15, 2006.

**Amended:** F. Oct. 22, 2009; eff. Nov. 11, 2009.

**Amended:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

**Department 391. RULES OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Chapter 391-4. WILDLIFE RESOURCES DIVISION**

**Subject 391-4-15. WILDLIFE VIOLATOR COMPACT**

**391-4-15-.01 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-15-.01

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. [27-2-41](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Effective Date" adopted. F. May 30, 2003; eff. June 19, 2003.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

**Department 391. RULES OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Chapter 391-4. WILDLIFE RESOURCES DIVISION**

**Subject 391-4-17. BOATING VIOLATOR COMPACT**

**391-4-17-.01 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-4-17-.01

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. [52-7-31](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Effective Date" adopted. F. Apr. 3, 2015; eff. Apr. 23, 2015.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

# **Department 391. RULES OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

## **Chapter 391-5. HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

### **Subject 391-5-1. STATE PARKS AND HISTORIC SITES SYSTEM**

#### **391-5-1-.05 Safety and General Conditions of Use**

##### **(1) Vehicles.**

(a) Traffic Control. Site managers and associates are authorized to direct traffic in sites. All persons shall comply with lawful orders, signals, and direction of such site managers and associates. All persons shall observe and comply with posted traffic control devices and signs.

(b) Motor Vehicles. Motor vehicles are restricted to site roads, through roads, and parking areas. The operation of motor vehicles within a site after normal operating hours is limited to division associates and registered overnight guests, except in an emergency.

##### **(c) Bicycles.**

1. Bicycles shall be ridden on designated bicycle trails or roads only. They may be pushed by hand over open spaces, such as lawns or beaches, or paved areas reserved for pedestrian use. Bicycles shall be neither ridden or pushed along designated nature trails or footpaths.

2. Where provided, bicycle racks must be used for parking bicycles. Bicycles shall not be chained and locked to trees or site structures or placed so as to obstruct pedestrian or vehicular movement.

(d) Obstructing Traffic. No person shall cause or permit any vehicle to obstruct traffic by unnecessary stopping. In the event of mechanical difficulties, the driver shall report the occurrence at once to site associates and make arrangements for the expeditious removal of the vehicle. No vehicle shall be left standing or parked on any site road at night without lights visible for at least two hundred feet (200') from both front and rear of the vehicle.

(e) Trucks. No trucks or other vehicles commonly used for carrying freight, merchandise or goods for sale, unless traversing the site on a through highway, shall operate on site roads without obtaining written permission from the site manager, except when such vehicles are used in connection with delivery of supplies, site work, activities, or concessions, or are used for transporting persons to a site for recreational purposes and not for compensation.

(f) Towing Other Vehicles. No person shall operate or park within any site, a vehicle in tow of another vehicle, except boat, camping or travel trailers or recreational vehicles towing auxiliary automobiles.

##### **(g) Parking.**

1. Parking vehicles at any place with in a site, including upon the right of way of any county, state, or federal highway which traverses the site, is prohibited except in designated parking areas in accordance with markings and signs and any instructions given by site associates. Double parking or obstructing traffic is prohibited.

2. No person shall park a motor vehicle in any site without a parking pass except as set forth in Rule [391-5-1-.03\(3\)](#).

(h) Exemptions. This subparagraph shall not be applicable to vehicles engaged in official business of the department or law enforcement agencies or used in emergency rescue in accordance with the directions of the site manager.

##### **(2) Aircraft.**

(a) No person operating or responsible for any aircraft shall cause such aircraft to land in or take off from any site or deliver by air any person, material or equipment by parachute or other means, except in emergencies threatening human life or when authorized in writing by the director.

(b) This paragraph shall not be applicable to aircraft engaged in official business of federal, state or local governments or law enforcement agencies, aircraft used in emergency rescue in accordance with the directions of the site manager, or aircraft forced to land due to circumstances beyond the control of the operator.

(3) **Skating, Skateboards, and Similar Devices.** Using roller skates, roller blades, skateboards, roller skis, coasting vehicles, or similar devices is prohibited, except in designated areas.

(4) **Weapons.** The use and possession of weapons are prohibited in all sites except:

(a) When used, or possessed by authorized federal, state and local law enforcement officers in the performance of their official duties;

(b) When unloaded and packed, cased or stored in a manner that will prevent their ready use; or

(c) When such use or possession has been authorized in restricted areas and under terms and conditions specified in writing by the director.

(d) When a person possesses a valid weapons-carry license. A person possessing a valid weapons-carry license issued pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section [16-11-129](#) may carry a handgun in all parks, historic sites and recreational areas, except in places where carrying such handgun is prohibited by federal law.

(5) **Noise.** It is prohibited to operate televisions, radios, tape or compact disk players, public address systems, musical instruments, vehicles, or other noise-making devices or machines at volume levels which are unreasonable, considering the nature and purpose of the actor's conduct, location, time of day or night, purpose for which the area is operated, impact on site users, and other factors that would govern the conduct of a reasonably prudent person under the circumstances.

(6) **Interfering with Agency Functions.** The following are prohibited:

(a) Threatening, resisting, intimidating, or intentionally interfering with a government employee or agent engaged in an official duty or on account of the performance of an official duty.

(b) Disobeying any lawful order of a law enforcement official, site manager, or authorized associates.

(c) Knowingly giving a false or fictitious report or other false information:

1. To a government employee or agent in the conduct of official duties; or

2. On an application, registration form, or other document required by law or regulation.

(7) **First Amendment Activities.**

(a) Public assemblies, meetings, gatherings, demonstrations, religious activities and other public expressions of views under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, including the distribution of non-commercial printed matter, are allowed within sites, provided a permit therefore has been issued by the director or site manager.

(b) An application for such a permit shall set forth the name of the applicant; the name of the organization (if any); the date, time, duration, nature and place of the proposed event or activity; the estimated number of persons expected to participate; the equipment and facilities to be used; and any other information required by the permit application form.



(c) Where the number of persons expected to attend, or participate is ten or fewer, a permit may be issued by the site manager. If more than ten persons are expected to attend or participate, approval of the director is required. Permit applications requiring the director's approval will be approved or denied within five business days. Permit applications submitted to the site manager will be approved or denied within 48 hours.

(d) The site manager or director shall, within the prescribed time, issue a permit on proper application unless:

1. A prior application for a permit for the same time and place has been made that has been or will be granted and the activities authorized by that permit do not reasonably allow multiple occupancy of that particular area; or
2. It reasonably appears that the event or activity will threaten the health, safety, and welfare of persons using the site; or
3. The event or activity is of such nature or duration that it cannot reasonably be accommodated in the particular location applied for, considering such things as damaged to site resources or facilities, impairment of the atmosphere of peace and tranquility in natural or historic areas, interference with interpretive, visitor service, program, or administrative activities, or impairment of public use facilities or services of concessionaires or contractors; or
4. The event or activity would constitute a violation of an applicable law or regulation.

(e) The permit may contain such conditions as are reasonably consistent with protection and use of the site for the purposes for which it is operated including limitations on the time, location, number of participants, use and facilities, and number and types of equipment used, but not on the content or the message. Locations which are not appropriate for first amendment activities include but are not limited to: museums; archaeological and interpretive areas, historic structures; ruins; trails; sensitive or fragile natural areas; and the habitats of threatened or endangered species.

(f) No permit shall be issued for a period in excess of 14 consecutive days, provided that permits may be extended for like periods, upon a new application, unless another applicant has requested use of that same location and multiple occupancy of that location is not reasonably possible.

(g) If a permit is denied, the applicant shall be so informed in writing, with the reason(s) for the denial set forth.

(h) It is prohibited for persons engaged in activities covered under this section to obstruct or impede pedestrians or vehicles, or harass site visitors with physical contact or persistent demands.

(i) Participants in events and activities covered under this section are subject to usual fees for site parking, admission, or use.

(j) Violation of the terms and conditions of a permit issued in accordance with this section may result in the suspension or revocation of the permit.

**(8) Special Events.**

(a) Special events, attractions, and entertainments are allowed, provided there is a meaningful association between the site and the events, or the observance contributes to visitor understanding of the significance of the site, and a permit therefore has been issued by the director. A permit shall be denied if such activities would:

1. have an undesirable impact on site resources; or
2. threaten the health, safety, and welfare of persons using the site; or
3. be contrary to the purposes for which the site is operated or compromise the atmosphere of peace and tranquility maintained in natural or historic areas; or
4. interfere with normal site usage or operations.

(b) An application for such a permit shall set forth the name of the applicant, the name of the organization (if any) the date, time, duration, nature and place of the proposed event, an estimate of the number of persons expected to attend, a statement of equipment and facilities to be used, and any other information required by the permit application form. The application shall be submitted so as to reach the director at least thirty days in advance of the proposed event.

(c) As a condition of permit issuance, the director may require:

1. The filing of a bond payable to the department in an amount adequate to cover costs such as restoration, rehabilitation, and cleanup of the area used, and other costs resulting from the special event. In lieu of a bond, a permittee may elect to deposit cash equal to the amount of the required bond. No interest shall be paid by the department on cash deposits.
2. Compliance with other statutory requirements, including but not limited to bonds for fireworks displays.
3. The acquisition of liability insurance in which the State of Georgia is named as co-insured in an amount sufficient to protect the State of Georgia.

(d) Permits may contain such conditions as are reasonably consistent with protection and use of the site for the purposes for which it is operated. It may also contain reasonable limitations on the equipment used and the time and area within which the event is allowed.

(e) Concession agreements.

1. Persons sponsoring or conducting special events at which money will be collected must be covered under a concession agreement signed by the director.
2. The director may waive the required fees when he deems such waiver to be in the best interest of the division.

(f) Violation of the terms and conditions of a permit or concession agreement issued in accordance with this section is prohibited and may result in the suspension or revocation of the permit or concession agreement.

(9) **Solicitation.** No person shall solicit contributions in any site in the form of money, goods, services, or otherwise for any purpose. This paragraph shall not apply to contributions made by members of the public to the department for the benefit of state parks and historic sites.

**(10) Vending, Advertising, Signs, and Broadcasts.**

(a) Vending. No person, other than a licensed concessionaire, citizen support group, or authorized site associates, shall offer for sale, lease, rent or hire any goods, perishable or non-perishable, services, property, or merchandise, or engage in any business or erect any building, booth, tent, stall or any other structure whether temporary or permanent in nature for purposes of offering for sale, lease, rent, or hire any goods, services, property or merchandise.

(b) Advertising.

1. No person shall display, distribute, post or fix any handbill, pamphlet, literature, circular, poster or other printed matter containing advertising within any site; provided, however, authorization may be obtained from the site manager to post, at specified locations, announcements of site-sponsored or authorized events and gatherings.
2. This section shall not apply to signs placed or authorized by the site manager advertising goods or services available at the site or to informational brochures published by governmental or non-profit organizations describing natural or historic attractions in Georgia to which admission may be charged.

3. No person shall operate, park, moor or station in a site any vehicle or vessel displaying a sign advertising goods or services for sale or exchange. This paragraph shall not apply to commercial vehicles making deliveries or providing services to the site.

(c) **Signs.** No signs or notices of any kind shall be posted in any site without permission of the site manager.

(d) **Broadcasts.** No musical instrument, radio, tape recording, television or sound tract shall be operated or any noise made which demonstrates, advertises or calls attention to any article or service for sale, rent or hire, except as provided for in a written concession agreement approved by the director.

(e) **Still and Motion Pictures.** No person shall take still or motion pictures, either commercial or private, involving the use of special settings or structures or the performance of a cast of persons, either amateur or professional, without first obtaining written permission from the director.

(11) **Authorization of Special Uses.** Authorization of special uses of government-owned property administered by the division shall be in writing on forms prescribed by the division and must be approved by the director.

(12) **Property.**

(a) **Unattended and Abandoned Property.** No personal property of any kind shall be abandoned or left unattended on site lands or waters. Unattended personal property shall be presumed to be abandoned after a period of 24 hours, or at any time after a posted closure hour, except in locations where longer time periods have been designated or in accordance with conditions established by the site manager.

(13) **Reporting Accidents.** Accidents involving bodily injury, death, or damage to property shall be reported to site associates as expeditiously as possible.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-5-1-.05

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Safety and General Conditions of Use" adopted. F. Jun. 30, 1994; eff. Jul. 20, 1994.

**Amended:** F. Aug. 9, 2005; eff. Aug. 29, 2005.

**Amended:** F. June 1, 2017; eff. June 21, 2017.

**Amended:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-5-1-.06 Facilities and Activities**

(1) **General.** State parks and historic sites will provide facilities that allow visitors a day use or overnight experience in a natural or historic environment consistent with the management and protection of the resource and the health, safety, and welfare of all persons using the site. The director shall determine which activities are appropriate to each site and establish terms and conditions for the use of site facilities by visitors. Such terms and conditions shall be made known to users of site facilities by signs, printed materials or other means designed to provide reasonable notice.

(2) **Fees.** The director is authorized to establish and implement a schedule of reasonable fees for activities and the use and enjoyment of facilities at state parks and historic sites. Rates are established, and from time to time revised, by the director and made available at all sites, upon request. In establishing rates, the division shall consider the discount for certified disabled veterans provided for in the Official Code of Georgia Annotated Section [12-3-9.1](#). The director shall have the authority to waive the imposition of a fee in cases where he deems such waiver to be in the best interest of the division.

(3) **Reservations and Refunds.** The director is authorized to establish terms and conditions for accepting reservations, collecting deposits and fees, setting check-in and check-out times and procedures, and making refunds for activities and facilities at state parks and historic sites. Such terms and conditions may vary from site to site and shall be made available at all sites, upon request.

(4) **Boating and Water Use Activities.**

(a) Boating.

1. The authority of the director to establish conditions for the use of site waters shall include, but is not limited to, limiting the type of vessels permitted, prohibiting the use of privately owned vessels, prohibiting the use of motors, or stipulating the type and power of motors permitted and the hours of their use. Conditions established by the director shall not be in conflict with the restrictions specified in the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, Section 12-3-10(e) through (h).

2. All vessels using site waters shall be launched and removed at designated water access areas only. No privately-owned vessel shall be left unattended in site waters for longer than 24 hours without authorization from the site manager.

3. No person, other than a licensed concessionaire or site associates shall rent, hire or operate for charge any vessel in any site. Nor shall any watercraft operating for hire or carrying passengers for a fee land, receive or discharge passengers at any dock, wharf or anchorage within the jurisdiction of the division, except by permit or concession agreement.

4. No person shall operate any vessel in such a manner as to annoy, frighten or endanger other site visitors or users.

5. No person, other than authorized site associates, law enforcement officers, or emergency rescue personnel, shall operate any vessel other than a float or inner tube in a site swimming area.

6. The operation of vessels in waters administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service shall be in conformity with applicable federal laws and regulations.

(b) Water Skiing.

1. The towing of persons by vessels is prohibited, except in designated waters.

2. Towing or being towed in channels or within 500 feet of areas designated as marinas, swimming beaches, or mooring areas, or within 100 feet of a person fishing or a diver's marker is prohibited.

(c) Swimming.

1. No person shall swim, dive, snorkel, or wade in the waters of any site except in designated areas.

2. All individuals in swimming areas shall comply with posted hours, conditions of use, and instructions given by authorized site associates.

(d) SCUBA Diving.

1. No person shall SCUBA dive in the waters of any site except in designated areas, which shall not include areas reserved for swimming, docking, or mooring.

2. All SCUBA divers must be in possession of a certification card and display a standard diver flag when diving.

(e) Fishing.

1. No person shall fish within areas designated for swimming only.

2. Site managers may prohibit fishing from boat docks or other areas to ensure the safety of those using site facilities.

**(5) Horseback Riding.**

(a) Horseback riding is prohibited except in specially designated sites and areas. In sites where riding is prohibited, horses must be confined to a trailer at all times.

(b) Where permitted, horses shall be thoroughly broken, properly restrained and ridden with due care, and shall not be allowed to graze or go unattended, nor shall they be hitched to any rock, tree or plant.

(6) **Golf.** No person shall play golf or drive, pitch, putt or otherwise strike a golf ball in any site except in designated areas and under conditions specified by the director.

**(7) Picnicking.**

(a) Picnicking is allowed, except in areas closed under Rule [391-5-1.03\(2\)](#). The director may establish conditions for picnicking in areas where picnicking is allowed. Picnicking in violation of established conditions is prohibited.

(b) Picnic areas shall not be used for purposes other than picnicking without authorization from the site manager.

(c) Use of picnic area facilities including picnic shelters, grills, tables and benches is on a "first come, first served" basis. However, this practice shall not preclude the division from assigning or reserving these facilities for the use of particular persons or groups. No person or group shall use any picnic area, shelter, or facilities to the exclusion of other persons for an unreasonable time if facilities are crowded. The determination of what is unreasonable will be made by site associates based on the number of visitors waiting to use the picnic facilities.

(8) **Camping.** No person shall erect any temporary shelter, such as a tent, of natural or synthetic material, or prepare a sleeping bag or other bedding material for the purpose of overnight occupancy in any site or bring into any site any movable structure or special vehicle to use for overnight occupancy without registering with site associates, paying the required camping fees, and complying with conditions of use as posted or provided by the site.

(9) **Games and Athletic Contests.** No games or athletic contests are allowed in any site except in areas designated for such activities or under terms and conditions specified by the site manager. No games or athletic contests shall be engaged in or practiced for either material or financial gain, either directly or indirectly, and there shall be no commercialization or advertising by the participants.

(10) Other recreational activities may be permitted when the director has determined that they do not:

(a) have an undesirable impact on site resources;

(b) threaten the health, safety, and welfare of persons using the site;

(c) interfere with normal site usage or operations;

(d) compromise the historic or natural character of the site;

(e) cause unwarranted risk to participants due to the nature or the activity, inadequate equipment, lack of qualifications, or weather;

(f) constitute a consumptive form of use;

(g) take the form of special events; or

(h) are not provided primarily for the benefit of spectators.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-5-1-.06

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-3-9](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Facilities and Activities" adopted. F. Jun. 30, 1994; eff. Jul. 20, 1994.

**Amended:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-5-1-.07 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-5-1-.07

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-3-9](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Enforcement" adopted. F. Jun. 30, 1994; eff. Jul. 20, 1994.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

### **391-5-1-.08 Citizen Support Organizations**

(1) The department is authorized to enter into agreements with citizen support organizations to promote, through financial and other means, the purposes of the State Parks and Historic Sites System.

(2) The director may terminate any operating agreement with a citizen support organization by written notice after a determination that the organization is in violation of federal, state, or local laws or regulations or the terms of its operating agreement, or the organization has ceased to promote the purposes of the division or the best interests of the state. After such termination or suspension by the director, the organization shall cease to hold itself out as a citizen support organization for the department.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-5-1-.08

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-3-9](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Citizen Support Organizations" adopted. F. Jun. 30, 1994; eff. Jul. 20, 1994.

**Amended:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

**Department 391. RULES OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Chapter 391-5. HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

**Subject 391-5-7. [Repealed]**

**391-5-7-.01 [Repealed]**

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 391-5-7-.01

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [12-2-24](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule, entitled "Transfer of Ty Cobb Baseball Memorial Commission," was filed on September 30, 1977; effective October 20, 1977.

**Repealed:** F. June 8, 2021; eff. June 28, 2021.

# **Department 475. RULES OF STATE BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES**

## **Chapter 475-3. RULES**

### **475-3-.05 Parole Consideration**

(1) Consideration is automatic for all offenders serving sentences imposed by a court of this State and who are in the custody of the Department of Corrections, except that no parole consideration shall ever be given to offenders serving sentences for which parole is not authorized by law. Generally, no application is required. However, persons ordered to serve consecutive county misdemeanor confinement sentences exceeding 12 months and persons sentenced pursuant to subsection (c), (d), (e), and/or (l) of O.C.G.A. § [16-13-30](#) and who are recidivists pursuant to O.C.G.A. § [17-10-7\(c\)](#) who have met eligibility requirements for consideration as established in subsection (b)(3) and/or (b)(4) of O.C.G.A. § [42-9-45](#) must request consideration. The request may be in any written form and must contain the name under which the offender was convicted, where the offender is incarcerated, the offense(s), the date and court of conviction, and the length of sentence(s). The request should be submitted as close to the time of eligibility as possible to allow enough time for necessary investigations.

(2) Reconsideration of those inmates serving life sentences who have been denied parole shall take place at least every eight years. The Board will inform inmates denied parole of the reasons for such denial without disclosing confidential sources of information or possible discouraging diagnostic opinions.

(3) Inmates who have escaped will not be considered for parole until their return to custody of penal authorities of this State. If initial parole consideration was given prior to the escape of a life sentence inmate, the next consideration will be scheduled for one to eight years after recapture.

(4) A person who is returned to prison because of a violation of the conditions of parole or other conditional release will be scheduled for parole consideration six months to one year after revocation unless the Board directs otherwise in its order of revocation, votes to consider the case earlier, or unless a new sentence supersedes the revoked sentence for the purpose of computing parole eligibility.

(5) In considering parole for persons who will become statutorily eligible for parole consideration and who are serving less than a life sentence, the Board shall review a recommendation as to months to serve. This recommendation will be obtained from the Parole Decision Guidelines system which accounts for the severity of the crime and the inmate's risk to re-offend. The inmate's risk to re-offend is measured by weighted factors concerning the inmate's criminal and social history which the Board has found to have value in predicting the probability of further criminal behavior. The Parole Decision Guidelines System is an aid to the Board in making more consistent, soundly based and explainable parole decisions and does not create a liberty interest. The Board specifically reserves the right to exercise its discretion under Georgia Law to disagree with the recommendation resulting from application of the Parole Decision Guidelines and may make an independent decision to deny parole or establish a Tentative Parole Month at any time prior to sentence expiration. After the Board notifies the inmate of their decision, the inmate may contest either the Crime Severity Level or Risk to Re-Offend scores by writing within 30 days the Parole Guidelines Subject Matter Expert in the Board's Central Office. Prior to an inmate being paroled, the inmate's institutional conduct will be reviewed and institutional misconduct may result in a delay in parole release or a decision to deny parole. Any decision rendered under the Parole Decision Guidelines may be changed at the discretion of the Board at any time. The Board may modify any part of the Parole Decision Guidelines system at any time.

(6) Inmates considered under the Parole Decision Guidelines system, who are not paroled or discharged from prison earlier, will be reconsidered at least every five years after the date they become statutorily eligible for parole.

(7) The minimum mid-point Parole Decision Guidelines recommendation for each Crime Severity Level represents one-third, or more, of the Statewide-average prison sentence for all crimes assigned said Crime Severity Level.



(8) (a) The Parole Board will use the following factors to compute a Risk to Re-Offend Score for each male inmate it considers for parole using its Parole Guidelines System.

(b) Current Prison Conviction Primary Offense: Property (weight: 0.334): (no = 0), (yes = 1)

(c) Current Prison Admission Type: Parole/Probation Revocation (weight: 0.284): (no = 0), (yes = 1)

(d) Number Felony Arrest Events before Current Prison Episode (weight: 0.105): (# of prior arrests times weight = score)

(e) Number Misdemeanor Arrest Events before Current Prison Episode (weight: 0.062): (# of prior arrests times weight = score)

(f) GDC Validated Gang Member (weight: 0.308): (no = 0), (yes = 1)

(g) Age at Current Prison Admission (weight: -0.060): (age in years times weight = score)

(h) GDC Violent DR Charge During any Incarceration Period (weight: 0.369): (no = 0), (yes = 1)

(9) (a) The Parole Board will use the following factors to compute a Risk to Re-Offend Score for each female inmate it considers for parole using its Parole Guidelines System.

(b) Current Prison Conviction Primary Offense: Property (weight: 0.443): (no = 0), (yes = 1)

(c) Current Prison Admission Type: Parole/Probation Revocation (weight: 0.535): (no = 0), (yes = 1)

(d) Number Felony Arrest Events before Current Prison Episode (weight: 0.067): (# of prior arrests times weight = score)

(e) Number Misdemeanor Arrest Events before Current Prison Episode (weight: 0.085): (# of prior arrests times weight = score)

(f) Age at Current Prison Admission (weight: -0.042): (age in years times weight = score)

(g) GDC Violent DR Charge During any Incarceration Period (weight: 0.471): (no = 0), (yes = 1)

(10) (a) Offenders considered for parole using the Parole Decision Guidelines System who have been convicted of the following crimes shall be assigned a Crime Severity Level of VIII: attempted murder, murder in the second degree, voluntary manslaughter, involuntary manslaughter, statutory rape, attempted rape, homicide by vehicle while under the influence of alcohol/drugs or as a habitual traffic violator, feticide by vehicle, aggravated battery, aggravated battery on a police officer, aggravated assault, aggravated assault on a police officer, attempted aggravated child molestation, child molestation, attempted armed robbery, robbery, attempted kidnapping, attempted aggravated sexual battery, attempted aggravated sodomy, hijacking a motor vehicle, bus hijacking, enticing a child for an indecent purpose, cruelty to children, incest, aggravated stalking, burglary of an occupied dwelling, first and second degree home invasion, trafficking in sexual/labor servitude of a victim under age 18 (coerced or deceived), trafficking in sexual/labor servitude of a developmentally disabled victim (any age), VGCSA - Cocaine or Methamphetamine - 400 or more grams, VGCSA - Marijuana - 10,000 or more pounds, or VGCSA - Opiates- 28 or more grams.

(b) Crime Severity Level VIII offenders with a Risk to Re-Offend Score of 0.659934 to 1.00 for men, 0.559960 to 1.00 for women, shall receive a Parole Guidelines recommendation of 90% of the prison sentence.

(c) Crime Severity Level VIII offenders with a Risk to Re-Offend Score of 0.478295 to 0.659933 for men, 0.391979 to 0.559959 for women, shall receive a Parole Guidelines recommendation of 75% of the prison sentence.

(d) Crime Severity Level VIII offenders with a Risk to Re-Offend Score of 0.00 to 0.478294 for men, 0.00 to 0.391978 for women, shall receive a Parole Guidelines recommendation of 65% of the prison sentence.

(11) (a) Offenders considered for parole using the Parole Decision Guidelines System who are incarcerated for the following offenses shall be assigned a Crime Severity Level of VII: pimping or pandering a child under the age of 16, RICO, probation revocation based on a Serious Violent Felony, or trafficking in sexual/labor servitude (victim of any age and no coercion/deception).

(b) Crime Severity Level VII offenders with a Risk to Re-Offend Score of 0.659934 to 1.00 for men, 0.559960 to 1.00 for women, shall receive a Parole Guidelines recommendation of 52 to 96 months.

(c) Crime Severity Level VII offenders with a Risk to Re-Offend Score of 0.478295 to 0.659933 for men, 0.391979 to 0.559959 for women, shall receive a Parole Guidelines recommendation of 40 to 78 months.

(d) Crime Severity Level VII offenders with a Risk to Re-Offend Score of 0.00 to 0.478294 for men, 0.00 to 0.391978 for women, shall receive a Parole Guidelines recommendation of 38 to 54 months.

(12) (a) Offenders considered for parole using the Parole Decision Guidelines System who are incarcerated for the following offenses shall be assigned a Crime Severity Level of VI: VGCSA - Cocaine or Methamphetamine - 200 to 399 grams, VGCSA - Marijuana - 2,000 to 9,999 pounds, or VGCSA - Opiates - 0 to 27 grams, violations of probation or parole based on an arrest or commission of a Level VIII offense with no conviction, burglary of an unoccupied or vacant dwelling, pimping or pandering a child age 16 or 17, or homicide by vehicle (not DUI/habitual violator).

(b) Crime Severity Level VI offenders with a Risk to Re-Offend Score of 0.659934 to 1.00 for men, 0.559960 to 1.00 for women, shall receive a Parole Guidelines recommendation of 48 to 78 months.

(c) Crime Severity Level VI offenders with a Risk to Re-Offend Score of 0.478295 to 0.659933 for men, 0.391979 to 0.559959 for women, shall receive a Parole Guidelines recommendation of 36 to 60 months.

(d) Crime Severity Level VI offenders with a Risk to Re-Offend Score of 0.00 to 0.478294 for men, 0.00 to 0.391978 for women, shall receive a Parole Guidelines recommendation of 34 to 48 months.

(13) (a) Offenders considered for parole using the Parole Decision Guidelines System who are incarcerated for the following offenses shall be assigned a Crime Severity Level of V: arson I, possession of illegal weapon or explosives, criminal street gang activity, VGCSA - Cocaine or Methamphetamine - 28 to 199 grams, VGCSA - Marijuana - 10 to 1,999 pounds, manufacturing Methamphetamine - 2nd offense or child injured, VGCSA - Opiates - four grams or less, or VGCSA - Methamphetamine Trafficking - less than 200 grams.

(b) Crime Severity Level V offenders with a Risk to Re-Offend Score of 0.659934 to 1.00 for men, 0.559960 to 1.00 for women, shall receive a Parole Guidelines recommendation of 36 to 60 months.

(c) Crime Severity Level V offenders with a Risk to Re-Offend Score of 0.478295 to 0.659933 for men, 0.391979 to 0.559959 for women, shall receive a Parole Guidelines recommendation of 34 to 48 months.

(d) Crime Severity Level V offenders with a Risk to Re-Offend Score of 0.00 to 0.478294 for men, 0.00 to 0.391978 for women, shall receive a Parole Guidelines recommendation of 32 to 40 months.

(14) (a) Offenders considered for parole using the Parole Decision Guidelines System who are incarcerated for the following offenses shall be assigned a Crime Severity Level of IV: arson II - \$2,000, burglary - non-dwelling, over \$5,000 or six or more counts, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon (under active supervision), identity fraud, manufacturing Methamphetamine - near a child, serious injury by vehicle, theft of vehicle - four or more counts or 4th or more offense, or VGCSA - sale/distribution/intent to sell Schedule I or II drugs - 3<sup>rd</sup> offense or greater.

(b) Crime Severity Level IV offenders with a Risk to Re-Offend Score of 0.659934 to 1.00 for men, 0.559960 to 1.00 for women, shall receive a Parole Guidelines recommendation of 28 to 38 months.

(c) Crime Severity Level IV offenders with a Risk to Re-Offend Score of 0.478295 to 0.659933 for men, 0.391979 to 0.559959 for women, shall receive a Parole Guidelines recommendation of 24 to 34 months.

(d) Crime Severity Level IV offenders with a Risk to Re-Offend Score of 0.00 to 0.478294 for men, 0.00 to 0.391978 for women, shall receive a Parole Guidelines recommendation of 22 to 26 months.

(15) (a) Offenders considered for parole using the Parole Decision Guidelines System who are incarcerated for the following offenses shall be assigned a Crime Severity Level of III: burglary - non-dwelling - two to five counts - \$2,001 to \$5,000, credit card fraud- more than 10 counts or \$1,000, criminal damage - life in danger or over \$2,000, destroying or injuring police dog or horse, forgery I - over 10 counts or \$1,000, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, manufacturing Methamphetamine - 1st offense, obstruction of officer, possession/theft of material to manufacture illegal drugs - 2nd offense, terroristic threat, theft - \$25,000 or more, theft of vehicle - for profit or 2nd and 3rd counts not for profit or 3rd offense, or VGCSA - 2<sup>nd</sup> sale or 3<sup>rd</sup> or greater possession, conspiracy to commit identity fraud, computer theft, computer trespass, computer invasion of privacy, computer forgery.

(b) Crime Severity Level III offenders with a Risk to Re-Offend Score of 0.659934 to 1.00 for men, 0.559960 to 1.00 for women, shall receive a Parole Guidelines recommendation of 26 to 32 months.

(c) Crime Severity Level III offenders with a Risk to Re-Offend Score of 0.478295 to 0.659933 for men, 0.391979 to 0.559959 for women, shall receive a Parole Guidelines recommendation of 22 to 28 months.

(d) Crime Severity Level III offenders with a risk to Re-Offend Score of 0.00 to 0.478294 for men, 0.00 to 0.391978 for women, shall receive a Parole Guidelines recommendation of 20 to 24 months.

(16) (a) Offenders considered for parole using the Parole Decision Guidelines System who are incarcerated for the following offenses shall be assigned a Crime Severity Level of II: bad checks - \$2,000 or more, burglary - non-dwelling - \$300 to \$2,000 - one count, credit card fraud - 10 or fewer counts or less than \$1,000, criminal damage II - \$300 to \$2,000, forgery I - 10 or fewer counts or fewer than \$1,000, possession of a firearm during the commission of a crime, possession/theft of materials to manufacture illegal drugs - 1st offense, reckless conduct by HIV-infected person, theft - \$5,000 to \$24,999, theft of vehicle - not for profit - 2nd offense, VGCSA - possession - 2nd offense, or VGCSA - sale/intent to sell/distribution - 1st offense.

(b) Crime Severity Level II offenders with a Risk to Re-Offend Score of 0.659934 to 1.00 for men, 0.559960 to 1.00 for women, shall receive a Parole Guidelines recommendation of 24 to 28 months.

(c) Crime Severity Level II offenders with a Risk to Re-Offend Score of 0.478295 to 0.659933 for men, 0.391979 to 0.559959 for women, shall receive a Parole Guidelines recommendation of 20 to 24 months.

(d) Crime Severity Level II offenders with a Risk to Re-Offend Score of 0.00 to 0.478294 for men, 0.00 to 0.391978 for women, shall receive a Parole Guidelines recommendation of 18 to 22 months.

(17) (a) Offenders considered for parole using the Parole Decision Guidelines System who are incarcerated for the following offenses shall be assigned a Crime Severity Level of I: bad checks - under \$2,000, burglary - non-dwelling, less than \$300 - one count, credit card theft, criminal interference with government property, escape - no weapon, aiding escape - no weapon, forgery II - 10 or fewer counts or less than \$1,000, habitual violator, possession/passing forged prescriptions - 1<sup>st</sup> offense, possession of tools to commit a crime, theft - \$4,999 or less, theft of vehicle - not for profit - one count - 1<sup>st</sup> offense, or VGCSA - possession - 1<sup>st</sup> offense, violation of the Georgia Securities Act.

(b) Crime Severity Level I offenders with a Risk to Re-Offend Score of 0.659934 to 1.00 for men, 0.559960 to 1.00 for women, shall receive a Parole Guidelines recommendation of 20 to 26 months.

(c) Crime Severity Level I offenders with a Risk to Re-Offend Score of 0.478295 to 0.659933 for men, 0.391979 to 0.559959 for women, shall receive a Parole Guidelines recommendation of 17 to 22 months.

(d) Crime Severity Level I offenders with a Risk to Re-Offend Score of 0.00 to 0.478294 for men, 0.00 to 0.391978 for women, shall receive a Parole Guidelines recommendation of 15 to 19 months.

(18) Offenders considered for parole using the Parole Decision Guidelines System who are incarcerated for an offense or offenses not otherwise specified in this rule will be assigned the Crime Severity Level of the specified offense most similar to their most serious offense. Attempted Level II through Level VII offenses will be assigned the Crime Severity Level one level below that of the consummated offense.

(19) Inmates serving prison sentences for sex crimes and crimes against minors will receive a risk assessment evaluation prior to a final decision to grant parole to determine the likelihood that he or she will engage in another sex crime or a crime against a minor.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 475-3-.05

**AUTHORITY:** Ga. Const. 1983, Art. 4, § 2, ¶ 2; O.C.G.A. §§ [42-9-1](#), [42-9-40](#), [42-9-45](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Parole Consideration" adopted. F. and eff. Jan. 7, 1970.

**Amended:** F. Oct. 8, 1971; eff. Oct. 28, 1971.

**Amended:** F. Jan. 20, 1972; eff. Feb. 9, 1972.

**Amended:** F. Jan. 8, 1974; eff. Jan. 28, 1974.

**Amended:** F. June 30, 1976; eff. July 20, 1976.

**Amended:** F. Mar. 15, 1979; eff. Apr. 4, 1979.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 8, 1979; eff. Dec. 1, 1979, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule, same title adopted. F. Nov. 21, 1983; eff. Dec. 11, 1983.

**Amended:** F. Jan. 7, 1985; eff. Feb. 1, 1985; as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. Apr. 29, 1985; eff. May 19, 1985.

**Amended:** F. Aug. 23, 1993; eff. Sept. 12, 1993.

**Repealed:** New Rule, same title adopted. F. July 9, 2001; eff. July 29, 2001.

**Amended:** F. Dec. 9, 2005; eff. Jan. 1, 2006, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. Jan. 4, 2007; eff. Jan. 24, 2007.

**Amended:** F. Dec. 10, 2007; eff. Jan. 1, 2008, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. Apr. 1, 2008; eff. Apr. 28, 2008, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. December 10, 2012; eff. January 1, 2013, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. Oct. 1, 2013; eff. Oct. 21, 2013.

**Amended:** F. Aug. 5, 2014; eff. Aug. 25, 2014.

**Amended:** F. Oct. 6, 2015; eff. Oct. 26, 2015.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 8, 2016; eff. Nov. 28, 2016.

**Amended:** F. June 11, 2017; eff. July 1, 2017.

**Amended:** F. Aug. 9, 2018; eff. Aug. 29, 2018.

**Amended:** F. June 11, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021.

## **475-3-.10 Other Clemency. Amended**

### **(1) Reprieves:**

(a) The Board may at its discretion grant reprieves to inmates usually for a limited number of days for compassionate reasons or medical reasons. Since the Department of Corrections has a policy of granting special leaves to inmates for compassionate and medical reasons with certain restrictions, the inmate should first seek leave with the Department of Corrections. Written requests for reprieves should be submitted to the Board and supported by written evidence on which the reprieve is sought.

(b) Requests for emergency reprieves for medical and compassionate reasons may be made by telephone to a representative of the Board or a Board member on weekends and official holidays.

(c) The Board may grant supervised reprieves to inmates of more extensive periods of time for compassionate, medical and other reasons. Applications for supervised reprieve may be in any written form supported by written evidence on which the reprieve is sought.

(d) Time on reprieve will be credited toward service of sentence provided the inmate complies with the conditions of the reprieve unless stated otherwise in the Board's order. However, should the reprieve be cancelled or rescinded due to noncompliance with the conditions thereof, no time served on reprieve will be credited as earned.

(e) All reprieve requests will be considered on the written record and no hearing will be held by the Board for such consideration.

### **(2) Commutation:**

(a) The Board will consider the request of any offender, sentenced in a court of this State prior to July 1, 1970, that full credit toward service of sentence(s) be given for each day spent in confinement awaiting trial and for each day spent in confinement in connection with and resulting from an order entered in the criminal proceedings for which sentence was imposed, in any institution or facility for treatment or examination of a physical or mental disability. Credit for such time in confinement is automatically credited to offenders who were sentenced after June 30, 1970.

(b) Application for commutation of a death sentence may be in any written form and must contain grounds on which the request for commutation is based. After receiving an application, the Board will decide whether or not to consider commutation. This decision will be made after it appears that all appeals through the courts have ceased or been exhausted or anytime within 72 hours of the earliest time the execution could take place even if court action is still pending. Prior to the end of the court appeals, the Board will obtain complete information concerning the circumstances of the offense and criminal history. If the Board's decision is to consider commutation and sufficient time does not remain for the Board to conduct a complete and fair review of the case, the execution of the death sentence will be suspended for a period of time not to exceed ninety days in order to allow time for such a review. The review may or may not include a hearing.

(c) The Board will consider a commutation of a sentence imposed in other than death cases only when substantial evidence is submitted to the Board in writing that the sentence is either excessive, illegal, unconstitutional or void, that the ends of justice would be best served thereby, and that such action would be in the best interests of society and the inmate. Evidence submitted under this requirement must be direct evidence and affirmatively stated in a petition not exceeding five (5) typed or handwritten, double-spaced pages, exclusive of exhibits. Writing shall be on only one side of each sheet with a margin of not less than two inches at the top and a margin of at least one inch on

the sides and bottom of each page. The review of such commutation requests will be based on the written record and will not include a hearing.

(3) A pardon is a declaration of record that a person is relieved from the legal consequences of a particular conviction. It restores civil and political rights and removes all legal disabilities resulting from the conviction. A pardon may be granted in two instances:

(a) A pardon may be granted to a person who proves his innocence of the crime for which he was convicted under Georgia law. Newly available evidence proving the person's complete justification or non-guilt may be the basis for granting a pardon. Application may be submitted in any written form any time after conviction and must not exceed five (5) typed or handwritten, double-spaced pages, exclusive of any exhibits. Writing shall be on only one side of each sheet with a margin of not less than two inches at the top and a margin of at least one inch on the sides and bottom of each page. The Board will provide notice to registered victim(s) of the crime(s) and the district attorney(s) of the judicial circuits out of which all known convictions have occurred when considering granting a pardon of innocence to an applicant who was convicted of a serious offense as defined in O.C.G.A. § [42-9-42\(b\)\(1\)](#); the victim(s) and district attorney(s) will have 30 days from the date of the notice to submit any information he/she wishes the Board to consider before making its decision on this matter. The review of such application and any victim or district attorney response will be based on the written record and will not include a hearing.

(b) A pardon which does not imply innocence may be granted to an applicant convicted under Georgia law who has completed his/her full sentence obligation, including serving any probated sentence and paying any fine, and also been free of supervision (custodial or non-custodial) and/or criminal involvement for at least five consecutive years thereafter as well as five consecutive years immediately prior to applying for a pardon, unless the applicant was convicted of a sex offense and is still required to register on the sex offender registry, in which instance he/she must be free of supervision (custodial or non-custodial) and/or criminal involvement for at least ten consecutive years thereafter as well as ten consecutive years immediately prior to applying. The applicable waiting period may be waived if the waiting period is shown to be detrimental to the applicant's livelihood by delaying his/her qualifying for employment in his/her chosen profession. Application must be made by the ex-offender on a form available from the Board on request. The Board will provide notice to the registered victim(s) of the crime(s) and the district attorney(s) of the judicial circuits out of which all known convictions have occurred when considering granting a pardon that does not imply innocence to an applicant who was convicted of a serious offense as defined in O.C.G.A. § [42-9-42\(b\)\(1\)](#); the victim(s) and district attorney(s) will have 30 days from the date of the notice to submit any information he/she wishes the Board to consider before making its decision on this matter. The review of such application and any victim or district attorney response will be based on the written record and will not include a hearing.

(4) Firearm Rights: The Board will consider restoring firearm rights to former offenders requesting a Pardon or Restoration of Civil and Political Rights or to whom the Board previously granted a Pardon or Restoration of Civil and Political Rights *without* firearm rights if the applicant has completed his/her full sentence obligation, including serving any probated sentence and paying any fine, and also been free of supervision (custodial or non-custodial) and/or criminal involvement for at least five consecutive years thereafter as well as five consecutive years immediately prior to applying for restoration of such rights, unless the applicant was convicted of a sex offense and is still required to register on the sex offender registry, in which instance he/she must be free of supervision (custodial or non-custodial) and/or criminal involvement for at least ten consecutive years thereafter as well as ten consecutive years immediately prior to applying.

However, the Board will not consider restoring firearm rights to any former offender convicted of a federal offense or dishonorably discharged from the Armed Forces. The Board will provide notice to the registered victim(s) of the crime(s) and the district attorney(s) of the judicial circuits out of which all known convictions have occurred when considering restoring firearm rights to former offenders; the victim(s) and district attorney(s) will have ten days from the date of the notice to submit any information he/she wishes the Board to consider before making its decision on this matter. The review of such application and any victim or district attorney response will be based on the written record and will not include a hearing.

(5) Conditional Transfer. Although the presence of a detainer does not necessarily preclude parole, the Board may parole "to the detainer" which is an Order of Conditional Transfer.

(6) Removal of Disabilities. Under Georgia Law a person convicted of a felony involving moral turpitude loses his/her civil and political rights, including the right to vote, the right to hold public office, and the right to serve on a jury. The right to vote is restored automatically by operation of law upon completion of the sentence, including probation. Using an application form available on request, a person who was convicted under Georgia Law may apply for a Restoration of Civil and Political Rights. If the person was convicted under another state's law or under Federal law but is residing in Georgia and wishes to exercise civil and political rights in this State, he or she also may apply. A Restoration of Civil and Political Rights carries no implication of innocence and may be granted only to a person who has completed his or her full sentence obligation, including serving any probated sentence and paying any fine, and also been free of supervision (custodial or non-custodial) and/or criminal involvement for at least two consecutive years thereafter as well as two consecutive years immediately prior to applying for restoration of such rights. The two-year waiting period may be waived if the waiting period is shown to be detrimental to the applicant's livelihood by delaying his or her qualifying for employment in his or her chosen profession.

(7) Early Terminations and Discharges:

(a) The Board will consider an early termination of parole in the following circumstances:

1. The offender, serving a sentence for a non-violent offense, has served on parole two years with satisfactory adjustment in society.
2. The offender, serving a sentence for the offenses of First Degree Arson, Firearms Offenses, or Trafficking, has served on parole three years with a satisfactory adjustment in society.
3. The offender, serving a sentence for a violent offense, has served on parole five years with a satisfactory adjustment in society.

(b) Application for any early termination or discharge from parole may be made in any written form stating the basis on which the discharge is sought.

(8) Remission of a sentence is a lessening of the duration of confinement but does not reduce the length of term of the sentence. Any inmate whose confinement has been remitted to probated status may have the probation revoked by the Board thereafter for failure to carry out the terms and conditions thereof.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 475-3-.10

**AUTHORITY:** Ga. Const. 1983, Art. 4, § 2, ¶ 2; O.C.G.A. §§ [42-9-1](#), [42-9-42](#), [42-9-45](#), [42-9-52](#), [42-9-54](#), [42-9-56](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Other Clemency" adopted. F. and eff. Jan. 7, 1970.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Jan. 8, 1974; eff. Jan. 28, 1974.

**Amended:** F. June 30, 1976; eff. July 20, 1976.

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**Amended:** F. Oct. 14, 1983; eff. Nov. 3, 1983.

**Amended:** F. Apr. 29, 1985; eff. May 19, 1985.

**Amended:** F. Jan. 4, 2007; eff. Jan. 24, 2007.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 8, 2007; eff. Nov. 28, 2007.

**Amended:** F: Aug. 4, 2009; eff. Aug. 24, 2009.

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**Amended:** F: June 11, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021.



# Department 505. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

## Chapter 505-2. CERTIFICATION

### 505-2-.21 Certification by Interstate Reciprocity

(1) **Summary:** Reciprocity is a term commonly used when individuals certified in one state or jurisdiction seek certification in another. Unfortunately, many individuals assume the term guarantees that they will automatically receive a professional certificate in the new state without having to satisfy any additional requirements. This is not always the case, since each receiving state may impose special state requirements, which must be met within a specified period of time.

(2) **NASDTEC Interstate Agreement.** The National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification ([NASDTEC](http://www.nasdtc.org)) offers member states the opportunity to participate in the Interstate Agreement, which governs the details of interstate reciprocity. This agreement enables a state to review the preparation and certification standards of all other states and jurisdictions for specific certificate types (teacher, administrator, support and CTAE). Each state may then sign the agreement with other state certificate types that meet its own minimum standards for preparation and certification. Some states may choose not to sign with another state because of significant differences in standards. Others may sign with another state to accept their teaching certificates, but to not accept their leadership or support certificates. Specific information on the NASDTEC Interstate Agreement, including which states have signed with other states and in what certificate areas, may be found on the NASDTEC website at [www.nasdtc.org](http://www.nasdtc.org).

(3) **Requirements.** An out-of-state educator meeting the requirements outlined below may qualify for a Georgia educator certificate. An out-of-state educator is defined as an individual who holds or has held a professional certificate issued by another state, country or jurisdiction that has signed the NASDTEC Interstate Agreement. An out-of-state educator is not an individual who has completed clinical practice in a Georgia school as part of a state-approved educator preparation program or used experience on a Georgia non-professional certificate to obtain professional certification in another state. An out-of-state professional certificate is defined as an educator certificate for which the individual has met all requirements in the state or jurisdiction of issuance. If employment or experience is required for issuance of an out-of-state professional certificate, a letter of eligibility for a professional certificate will be accepted as long as the only outstanding requirements are employment and/or experience.

(a) An out-of-state educator who meets the following conditions will be eligible for a Georgia professional certificate:

1. Hold a valid or expired professional certificate issued based on completion of a state-approved educator preparation program to include pedagogy and clinical practice in the base field of certification.
2. Hold a bachelor's degree or higher from a GaPSC-accepted accredited institution, unless Georgia requires a differed degree level for the comparable certificate type.
3. Have a minimum of three (3) years of successful full-time out-of-state experience (See GaPSC Rule [505-2-.25 EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS](#)).
4. Meet or exempt all applicable Special Georgia Requirements, as outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.24 SPECIAL GEORGIA REQUIREMENTS](#):

(i) An out-of-state educator who does not meet the Special Education requirement may still qualify for an initial Georgia Professional certificate. This requirement must be completed as part of professional learning requirements before the educator may renew the initial Georgia certificate.

(ii) An out-of-state educator who does not meet the content assessment may still qualify for an initial Georgia one (1)-year Non-Renewable certificate. This requirement must be completed during the validity of the certificate before the educator may extend the Non-Renewable certificate for an additional four (4) years.

5. Apply for the certificate following procedures outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.27](#) CERTIFICATION AND APPLICATION PROCEDURES.

(b) An out-of-state educator who meets the following conditions will be eligible for a Georgia Induction certificate:

1. Hold a valid or expired professional certificate issued based on completion of a state-approved educator preparation program to include pedagogy and clinical practice in the base field of certification.

2. Hold a bachelor's degree or higher from a GaPSC-accepted accredited institution, unless Georgia requires a different degree level for the comparable certificate type.

3. Meet or exempt all applicable Special Georgia Requirements, as outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.24](#) SPECIAL GEORGIA REQUIREMENTS.

(i) An out-of-state educator who does not meet the Special Education requirement may still qualify for an initial Georgia five (5)-year Induction certificate. This requirement must be completed as part of professional learning requirements before the educator may convert the certificate.

(ii) An out-of-state educator who does not meet the content assessment may still qualify for an initial Georgia one (1)-year Induction certificate. This requirement must be completed during the validity of the certificate before the educator may extend the Induction certificate for an additional four (4) years.

4. Apply for the certificate following procedures outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.27](#) CERTIFICATION AND APPLICATION PROCEDURES.

(4) **Comparability.** The Georgia certificate to be issued must be comparable to the certificate held in the other state or jurisdiction.

(a) Individuals holding certification in fields not recognized as comparable for certification in Georgia must meet minimum standards for a recognized Georgia field. For example, while some states certify individuals in "Journalism", Georgia has no comparable educator certificate. Out-of-state journalism teachers may apply for a Georgia Non-Renewable Professional certificate in English and must satisfy all requirements for that field. During that time period, they are in-field to teach Journalism as well as English.

(b) Individuals holding out-of-state certification in areas recognized as endorsements in Georgia will be issued an endorsement if all requirements are met.

(5) **Certification Level.** The level assigned to a certificate indicates the highest degree level recognized by the GaPSC that has been awarded to the certificate holder. Georgia does not issue a certificate level based on college hours beyond a degree. Example: A Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study or Masters + does not lead to a higher certificate level. Certificate levels seldom mean the same among different states; therefore, the level is not considered part of the Interstate Agreement. Information on initial Georgia certificate levels is found in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.02](#) CLASSIFICATION.

(6) **Educational Leadership.** Georgia has modified portions of the Interstate Agreement (Reciprocity) procedures for the field of Educational Leadership. Please see GaPSC Rule [505-2-.153](#) EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP. Educators working in Georgia schools who choose to attend non-GaPSC-approved leadership programs will not be processed under full reciprocity procedures. Georgia educators who attend non-GaPSC-approved leadership programs will not be eligible for Professional Educational Leadership certificates.

(7) **Restrictions.**

(a) Educators applying by reciprocity do not qualify for Provisional certification in their field of certification or in a new field of certification.

(b) Educators who complete clinical practice in a Georgia school as part of a state-approved educator preparation program without satisfying all special Georgia requirements may not apply for Georgia certification based on reciprocity unless three or more years of successful experience is earned out of state while holding a Professional certificate in the state.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-2-.21

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

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**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Evaluation of Credit Earned Outside of the United States" adopted. F. Dec. 16, 1992; eff. Jul. 1, 1993, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Evaluation of Credit Earned Outside of the U.S." adopted. F. Feb. 20, 2004; eff. Mar. 15, 2004, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. Aug. 20, 2004; eff. Sept. 15, 2004, as specified by the Agency.

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**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Dec. 13, 2019; eff. Jan. 1, 2020, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

## **505-2-.27 Certification Application, MyPSC and Test Eligibility Procedures**

(1) **Summary:** This rule outlines the requirements and procedures to apply for Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC) certification/licensure, registering for a MyPSC account, and securing eligibility to register for GACE assessments.

(2) MyPSC Account.

(a) Registration

1. Application submission for individuals applying for certification begins by registering for a MyPSC account at <https://mypsc.gapsc.org/Register.aspx>.

2. A Certification ID is assigned to all newly registered individuals and is used for certification identification purposes. Educators holding a valid or expired GA certificate / license will have an assigned number prior to registering for a MyPSC account. The number may be obtained by registering for a MyPSC Account or visiting <https://www.gapsc.com/Certification/Lookup.aspx>.

(b) Application

1. The application is available after logging into MyPSC and selecting the *Applications/Documentation/Status* tab. Once in the *Applications/Documentation/Status* tab, click on the *Start* button to complete the online application. Multiple certification transactions may be requested with the submission of one application.
2. MyPSC Personal Affirmation Questions (PAQs) are required as part of a complete application. Current PAQs must be on file for applications submitted during the fiscal year beginning July 1 and ending June 30. There are certain transactions that only require PAQs rather than a complete online application. These transactions are outlined in Section (8)(a) 3 below on gapsc.com.
3. Online applications that are complete are essential for timely processing. It is the responsibility of the individual to ensure that a complete application is submitted. The application is considered complete when all requirements for certification or licensure have been completed, the online application has been submitted, and all required documentation and fees have been received.
4. Incomplete applications will be placed on hold for a period of up to forty-five (45) days, awaiting receipt of the remaining documents. A letter outlining missing documentation will be posted to the *Correspondence/Notifications* tab of MyPSC and an email reminder sent to the email on file. If all documentation is not received by the Certification Division during this time period, the application will close.
5. Once a case closes, an individual must submit a new online application, as well as any missing or updated documents. Documents previously submitted to the GaPSC will remain on file even if a case is closed.

(c) Supporting Documentation

1. Supporting documentation will vary according to the type of transaction and certificate or license being requested. Individuals are responsible for submitting appropriate materials and following the instructions made available in this rule and with the online application process. Supporting documentation received without an application will be placed in the individual's file, but will not open a case for processing.
2. Documentation may be submitted electronically to the GaPSC by the individual, or by a local unit of administration (LUA) or Educator Preparation Provider (EPP) as outlined in Section (3) below.
3. All documentation submitted to the GaPSC must include the Certification Identification Number. If the number is not included and the document does not reflect ample information to identify the individual, posting documentation to the file will be delayed. The number may be obtained by logging into MyPSC or visiting <https://www.gapsc.com/Certification/Lookup.aspx>.
4. All supporting documents must be complete and official. The GaPSC will accept official documentation submitted by applicants, LUAs, EPPs, college registrars' offices, Regional Educational Service Agencies (RESAs) or other official sources in the manner prescribed in Sections (7), (8), and (9) below.
5. Documentation has been received when viewable in the *View Submitted Documents* tab of MyPSC. If the documents submitted are not viewable, the GaPSC has not received the documentation and individuals should continue to monitor this tab for receipt.

(d) GAPSC Issued Certificates and Correspondence

1. Correspondence detailing missing documentation for incomplete applications is posted to the *Correspondence/Notifications* tab in MyPSC.
2. Correspondence may accompany issuance of a certificate/license outlining requirements. All correspondence is posted to the *Correspondence/Notifications* tab in MyPSC.
3. Official certificates and licenses may be viewed/printed from the *Certificate/License* tab in MyPSC. Certificates/Licenses will not be mailed.

4. Individuals must monitor their MyPSC account for receipt of submitted documents and to check the status of an application.

(e) **GACE Eligibility**

1. Individuals must request and be granted eligibility to test by the GaPSC before creating a GACE account and registering for a test, with the exception of the GACE Paraprofessional assessment.

(i) Login to MyPSC at <https://mypsc.gapsc.org/home.aspx>.

(ii) Click on the *Assessments* tab and follow the instructions to request eligibility.

(iii) Once eligibility is transferred, you may proceed to the GACE website to create an account and register for a test.

2. Questions regarding GACE registration, test preparation, and assessment score reporting should be directed to GACE.

(3) **ExpressLane.**

(a) ExpressLane must be utilized by a local unit of administration (LUA) or a Georgia Educator Preparation Provider (EPP) when submitting documentation to the GaPSC. LUA and EPP personnel must first request and be approved for gapsc.org access. Once granted, ExpressLane is available to LUAs and EPPs as part of the gapsc.org account.

1. LUAs and EPPs must monitor the educator/candidate certification file in gapsc.org for receipt of submitted documents, issuance of correspondence, and to check the status of an application.

(4) **Traditional Program Management System (TPMS).**

(a) TPMS is a data collection system utilized by EPPs to verify program admission and completion for candidates enrolled in traditional (college/university) programs.

(5) **Non Traditional Reporting System (NTRS).**

(a) NTRS is a data collection system utilized by EPPs to verify program admission and completion for candidates enrolled in GaTAPP and alternative leadership programs.

(6) **Documentation and Forms.**

(a) Personal Affirmation Questions

(b) Online Application

(c) Verification of Lawful Presence

(d) Official Transcripts

(e) Foreign Credential Report

(f) Approved Program Completion

(g) Certificate or License

(h) Experience Verification

- (i) Assessment Score Reports
- (j) Employer Assurance
- (k) Alternate Level Six Certification Option
- (l) Upgrade Degree Approval
- (m) Dramatic Writing Verification
- (n) Professional Learning Verification
- (o) Voluntary Certificate Field Deletion
- (p) Verification of Degree Validation
- (q) International Exchange Verification
- (r) Temporary Certification ID Number

(a) Personal Affirmation Questions (PAQs) are a set of questions individuals applying for certification must answer for processing of certification transactions. False answers may be grounds for disciplinary action. A "Yes" response to any question requires an attached explanation with supporting documentation and will be investigated by the GaPSC Ethics Division. This documentation should not be uploaded to the MyPSC account but sent directly to the Ethics Division. All individuals applying for certification or planning to apply for certification must complete PAQs through their MyPSC Account for the current fiscal year beginning July 1 and ending June 30.

(b) An online application is required to open certain certification transactions for processing by the GaPSC. It is completed through an individual's MyPSC Account. The online application is required in addition to PAQs as outlined in Sections (7) and (8) below.

(c) Verification of Lawful Presence is required by Georgia law, O.C.G.A. [50-36-1](#), and stipulates that "every agency or political subdivision shall verify the lawful presence in the United States of any applicant for public benefits." The documentation requires a notarized affidavit, and the supporting document that was used to verify status (Ex: Driver's license for US citizen). All US citizens must verify lawful presence once, and individuals who are not US citizens will verify lawful status prior to processing each certification transaction unless previous verification is under 180 days. This documentation may be uploaded to MyPSC by the applicant or submitted by the LUA or EPP through ExpressLane.

(d) Official transcripts are unaltered transcripts embossed with the stamp or signature of the college registrar, imprinted with a college or university seal, or imprinted with a special seal used by the institution for certification purposes. Transcripts must include course numbers, titles, grades and credit earned. When a degree is awarded, transcripts must also bear a degree statement and date that specifies the month, day and year the degree was awarded. The GaPSC will accept electronic transcripts from institutions of higher learning only if the transcripts are directly delivered to the GaPSC by a Georgia LUA, EPP or one of the GaPSC-approved secure electronic transcript delivery services. GaPSC will reject any transcript faxed, emailed, mailed, or uploaded by an educator to their MyPSC account.

1. Official Georgia Professional Learning Unit (PLU) and Continuing Education Unit (CEU) transcripts must reflect the name of the individual awarded credit along with provider name, course title, completion date, and credit earned. PLU and CEU transcripts may be uploaded to MyPSC by an individual unless CEUs are through a college/university, which must be submitted as outlined above.

(e) A foreign credential report is required for individuals who have attended colleges or universities outside the United States. Individuals must provide the GaPSC with a detailed course-by-course credential report of college-

level credit completed unless a subsequent advanced degree was earned from a US institution and the degree earned outside the country was not an educator preparation program degree. The course-by-course evaluation must be prepared by a [GaPSC-recognized agency](#), and include English translation of such information as course titles, grade, semester hours earned, and U.S. equivalency of degree(s). In addition, if the equivalent of a GaPSC-approved educator preparation program was completed, this must also be documented in the report. These agencies are private enterprises who charge a fee for their services. Regardless of the agency selected, should the report not be sufficiently detailed for processing purposes, further information will be requested. See Rule [505-2-.29](#) EVALUATION OF CREDIT EARNED OUTSIDE OF THE U.S. This documentation may be uploaded to MyPSC by the applicant or submitted by the LUA or EPP through ExpressLane.

(f) Approved program completion is required to verify program completion for teaching, service and leadership fields unless an out-of-state professional certificate is submitted and accepted by the GaPSC based on reciprocity. The form must be completed by a certification official at a GaPSC-accepted college with a state-approved educator preparation program in the field requested. This form is also required when an individual completes a leadership degree and the GaPSC must determine if a leader level is applicable, even if the individual is not applying for leadership certification. See Rule [505-2-.02](#) CLASSIFICATION for more information on the leader level. This form may be uploaded to MyPSC by the applicant or submitted by the LUA through ExpressLane.

1. The NTRS completion form will be electronically generated and posted to the candidate's certification file once a program provider verifies all requirements for program completion have been met.

2. The TPMS completion form will be electronically generated and posted to the candidate's certification file once a program provider verifies all requirements for program completion have been met.

(g) A professional certificate or license is required as supporting documentation for a transaction request from individuals applying by reciprocity, renewing a GA certificate based on out-of-state experience, for certain service fields, or Career and Technical Specialization fields, See Rule [505-2-.90](#) CAREER AND TECHNICAL SPECIALIZATIONS. The GaPSC will accept copies of official certificates. However, an unofficial printout from a personal online account is not acceptable unless the information is publically verifiable. The GaPSC maintains a record of all valid and expired Georgia educator certificates, so Georgia educator certificates should not be submitted to the GaPSC unless specifically requested. This documentation may be uploaded to MyPSC by the applicant or submitted by the LUA or EPP through ExpressLane.

(h) Experience verification is required to verify educational work experience for certification purposes. Experience for other purposes such as salary determination is handled by the LUA. Experience in Georgia public schools is reported electronically and should not be verified on this form. Georgia accredited private schools without access to ExpressLane may use this form to verify experience. This form may be used to verify out-of-state educator experience for initial certification by reciprocity and renewal for educators working outside the state. Experience must indicate performance ratings to be accepted for certification purposes. Otherwise, performance documentation must accompany the form. This form may be uploaded to MyPSC by the applicant or submitted by the LUA through ExpressLane.

1. This form is not accepted to verify occupational work experience for Career & Technical Specializations, Healthcare Science, and the following Permit fields: Art, Dance, Drama, Music, and Superintendent. Experience to qualify for these fields must be submitted on official letterhead from previous employers to include a signature.

2. If the form is updated to indicate missing information, a new signature and date must be reflected on the form.

(i) Assessment score reports are required as supporting documentation for certain certification transactions. The GaPSC will accept copies of official out-of-state score reports. However, an unofficial printout from a personal online account is not acceptable. If an out-of-state applicant is unable to obtain an official score report copy, the GaPSC will accept verification by official correspondence from the certification/licensure office in the state for which the assessment was required. GACE scores must be received electronically by the GaPSC. GACE assessments with more than one test will not reflect on the file until both tests are passed. GACE score reports should not be submitted to the GaPSC by an individual unless specifically requested. Official non-GACE



assessment score report copies may be uploaded to MyPSC by the applicant or submitted by the LUA or EPP through ExpressLane.

(j) Employer assurance is required to verify employment in a Georgia LUA, document transaction requests made by Georgia LUAs, and waive certification fees for certain transactions. Georgia LUAs must submit the form electronically to the GaPSC. Georgia private schools without access to ExpressLane may use this form to verify employment for upload to MyPSC by an individual. The ExpressLane cover page may serve as the Employer Assurance form when a transaction is requested in ExpressLane.

(k) Alternate level six certification option is required to verify completion of a minimum of thirty-six (36) semester hours of course work required for a level seven (7) doctoral degree and successful completion of the oral and/or written comprehensive examinations in order to determine if an individual qualifies for the alternate level 6 certificate upgrade. This form may be uploaded to MyPSC by the applicant or submitted by the LUA or EPP through ExpressLane.

(l) Upgrade degree approval is required to determine the acceptability of an advanced degree program for a certificate level upgrade when the program of interest is not listed in the Certificate Upgrade Advisor. This form should be submitted prior to enrollment in a prospective advanced degree program and should not be submitted with an upgrade application request.

(m) Dramatic writing verification is required to document completion of the Georgia Film Academy (GFA) Dramatic Writing Film, Television, and Theatre I training course for the purpose of adding the Dramatic Writing Micro-Endorsement. This form is available from the GFA and may be uploaded to MyPSC by the applicant or submitted by the LUA through ExpressLane. See GaPSC Rule [505-2-.187](#) DRAMATIC WRITING MICRO-ENDORSEMENT.

(n) Professional learning verification is required to document completion of a Professional Learning Plan or Professional Learning Goals during or after the FY 2018 school year for educators no longer employed by a Georgia LUA at the time of certificate renewal. This form may be uploaded to MyPSC by the applicant or submitted by the LUA through ExpressLane.

(o) Voluntary certificate field deletion is required to request deletion of a certificate field held by an educator. This form may be uploaded to MyPSC by the applicant or submitted by the LUA through ExpressLane. See GaPSC rule [505-2-.35](#) VOLUNTARY FIELD DELETION.

(p) Verification of degree validation is required to validate a bachelor's degree from non GaPSC-accepted institutions upon successful completion of nine (9) semester hours of graduate level coursework at a GaPSC-accepted accredited institution. This form may be uploaded to MyPSC by the applicant or submitted by the LUA or EPP through ExpressLane. An official transcript of the coursework used to validate the degree must also be submitted using procedures outlined in (6)(d) above. See GaPSC rule [505-2-.31](#) GaPSC-ACCEPTED ACCREDITATION FOR CERTIFICATION PURPOSES.

(q) International exchange verification is required for educators seeking the International Exchange certificate to verify that all eligibility requirements have been met at the time of application. This form may be uploaded to MyPSC by the applicant or submitted by the LUA through ExpressLane. See GaPSC Rule [505-2-.11](#) INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE CERTIFICATE.

(r) Temporary Certification ID Number is required for certification applicants without a social security number issued by Social Security Administration. A temporary number is generated by the GaPSC in order to create a certification file and for GACE testing only. Upon issuance of a social security number by the Social Security Administration, the individual must upload a copy of the social security card to their MyPSC account and request to have the information updated. Individuals requiring a Temporary Certification ID Number must contact the GaPSC by email for the form and procedures.

#### **(7) Applying Independently.**



(a) Georgia Educators: The online application is required for individuals who hold or previously held Georgia certification and are applying for certification without the support of a LUA.

1. GA Educators may apply independently for the transactions identified on the GaPSC website at [www.gapsc.com](http://www.gapsc.com).

(b) Out-of-State Educators: The online application may be submitted by individuals applying for initial certification by reciprocity or based on completion of out-of-state educator preparation programs. If an out-of-state educator becomes employed prior to submission of an application for certification, the LUA may submit documentation in support of the educator. Educators should always communicate with their employer to coordinate submission of documentation. Common certificate types and required documentation are available on the GaPSC website as indicated below.

1. Individuals applying by reciprocity may apply independently for the transactions identified on the GaPSC website at [www.gapsc.com](http://www.gapsc.com).

2. Individuals applying based on completion of out-of-state educator preparation programs may apply independently for the transactions identified on the GaPSC website at [www.gapsc.com](http://www.gapsc.com).

#### **(8) Applying with Employer (LUA) Support.**

(a) Applying with Employer (LUA) support is required for processing certain certification transactions for licenses like the Paraprofessional license, certificates like the Provisional and One-Year Induction certificate that are issued prior to an individual meeting requirements for full certification, or certificate renewals for those employed. Common licensure and certificate types and required documentation are available on the GaPSC website.

1. The initial *licensure* transactions identified on the GaPSC website at [www.gapsc.com](http://www.gapsc.com) require employment and request submitted by the LUA through ExpressLane.

2. The initial *certificate* transactions identified on the GaPSC website at [www.gapsc.com](http://www.gapsc.com) require employment and request submitted by the LUA through ExpressLane.

3. The transactions identified on the GaPSC website at [www.gapsc.com](http://www.gapsc.com) are available for Georgia Educators and only require PAQs and a request submitted by the LUA through ExpressLane.

4. The transactions identified on the GaPSC website at [www.gapsc.com](http://www.gapsc.com) are processed automatically by the GaPSC and no action is required on the part of the individual or LUA.

#### **(9) Educator Preparation Program Application.**

(a) Individuals enrolled in initial GaPSC-approved programs must be entered and completed in TPMS or NTRS by the program provider before applying for the transactions identified on the GaPSC website at [www.gapsc.com](http://www.gapsc.com).

(b) Individuals completing GaPSC-accepted out-of-state/online teaching programs who are completing student teaching/practicums in GA schools must be entered and completed by the EPP in TPMS before applying for the transactions identified on the GaPSC website at [www.gapsc.com](http://www.gapsc.com).

#### **(10) Restrictions.**

(a) All documents submitted become the property of the GaPSC, and the GaPSC will not retrieve or return original documents or copies to the sender or to any other destination on behalf of the sender.

(b) Mailed, faxed, or emailed documentation will not be processed by the GaPSC.

(c) Employed educators are encouraged to check with their employing LUA before submitting documents directly to the GaPSC.

(d) "Yes" answers to PAQs require submission of the online application and appropriate documentation to the Ethics Division.

1. Educators with Property Rights will be processed once the online application and supporting documentation is received by the Ethics Division.

(e) Individuals may not withdraw an application with a "Yes" answer on PAQs or pending with the Ethics Division. All other withdrawals may be requested in writing at <https://www.gapsc.com/Certification/EmailPSC.aspx>

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-2-.27

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Contacting the Certification Section" adopted. F. Dec. 18, 1991; eff. Jan. 7, 1992.

**Repealed:** Rule Reserved. F. Dec. 16, 1992; eff. Jul. 1, 1993, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** New Rule entitled "Core Academic Certificate" adopted. F. Apr. 20, 2009; eff. May 15, 2009, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Certification Application Procedures" adopted. F. Jun. 11, 2014; eff. Jul. 1, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. May 22, 2015; eff. June 15, 2015, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 8, 2017; eff. July 1, 2017, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. Dec. 13, 2019; eff. Jan. 1, 2020, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Certification Application, MyPSC and Test Eligibility Procedures" adopted. F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

## **505-2-.142 Instructional Technology**

(1) **Summary:** This rule outlines the requirements and procedures for issuance of the service certificate in Instructional Technology P-12, which allows individuals certified in this field to provide instruction, training, and resources to students, teachers and administrators in order to facilitate the use of technology in the classroom to promote student achievement.

### **(2) Professional Requirements.**

#### **(a) Issuance.**

1. An individual is eligible for an Induction or Professional certificate in the field of Instructional Technology based on meeting the following requirements:

(i) Hold a level four (4) or higher Induction or Professional certificate in any field;

(ii) Complete a state-approved certification preparation program in Instructional Technology at the master's degree level - level five (5) - or higher;

(iii) Meet Special Georgia Requirements (See GaPSC Rule [505-2-.24](#) SPECIAL GEORGIA REQUIREMENTS) applicable to the field of Instructional Technology; and

(I) Pass the GACE content knowledge assessment; and

(II) Standards of Conduct.

(iv) Apply for certification following procedures outlined in Rule [505-2-.27](#) CERTIFICATION AND APPLICATION PROCEDURES.

**(3) Non-Renewable Professional Certificate** (See GaPSC Rule [505-2-.09](#) NON-RENEWABLE PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE).

(a) A One (1)-year Non-Renewable Professional certificate in the field of Instructional Technology may be issued at the request of an employing Georgia local unit of administration (LUA) to an individual holding an expired Georgia Clear Renewable or Standard Professional certificate in Instructional Technology who has not met renewal requirements outlined in section (7) below.

**(4) Additional Certificate Titles Issued in the Field.**

(a) Retired Educator (See GaPSC Rule [505-2-.44](#) RETIRED EDUCATOR CERTIFICATE).

**(5) To Add the Field** (See GaPSC Rule [505-2-.34](#) ADD A FIELD).

(a) To add Instructional Technology to an existing certificate in any field, an individual must complete the requirements for an initial Instructional Technology certificate outlined in (2)(a), to include all applicable Special Georgia Requirements.

**(6) To Upgrade the Level** (See GaPSC Rule [505-2-.33](#) CERTIFICATE UPGRADE).

**(7) Renewal Requirements** (See GaPSC Rule [505-2-.36](#) RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS).

**(8) Restrictions.**

(a) The field of Instructional Technology may not be added or used to upgrade a Provisional Certificate or previously issued Induction Pathway 4 Certificate or the equivalent.

**(9) In-Field Statement** (See GaPSC Rule [505-2-.40](#) IN-FIELD ASSIGNMENT). An individual holding the Instructional Technology certificate has strengthened and enhanced competency levels to include:

(a) Visionary Leadership: The individual demonstrates the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to inspire and lead the development and implementation of a shared vision for the effective use of technology to promote excellence and support transformational change throughout the organization.

(b) Teaching, Learning, & Assessment: The individual demonstrates the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to effectively integrate technology into his/her own teaching practice and to collaboratively plan with and assist other educators in utilizing technology to improve teaching, learning, and assessment.

(c) Digital Learning Environments: The individual demonstrates the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to create, support and manage effective digital learning environments.

(d) Digital Citizenship & Responsibility: The individual demonstrates the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to model and promote digital citizenship and responsibility.

(e) Professional Learning & Program Evaluation: The individual demonstrates the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to conduct needs assessments, develop technology-based professional learning programs, and design and implement regular and rigorous program evaluations to assess effectiveness and impact on student learning.

(f) Candidate Professional Growth & Development: The individual demonstrates the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to engage in continuous learning, reflect on professional practice, and engage in appropriate field experiences.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-2-.142

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "School Social Work" adopted. F. Dec. 18, 1991, eff. Jan. 7, 1992.

**Repealed:** F. Dec. 16, 1992; eff. Jul. 1, 1993, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** New Rule entitled "Foreign Language, Urdu" adopted. F. Sept. 16, 2008; eff. Oct. 15, 2008, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. Apr. 20, 2009; eff. May 15, 2009, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Instructional Technology" adopted. F. Jun. 11, 2014; eff. Jul. 1, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. Dec. 22, 2014; eff. Jan. 15, 2015, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Dec. 13, 2019; eff. Jan. 1, 2020, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

## **505-2-.163 Computer Science Endorsement**

### **(1) Eligibility Requirements.**

(a) To be eligible for the professional or Five-Year Induction Computer Science Endorsement, the individual must hold a level four (4) or higher renewable professional or Five-Year Induction certificate in any teaching field and complete other requirements outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.14](#) ENDORSEMENTS.

(b) To be eligible for the a Three-Year Non-Renewable or Three-Year Induction Computer Science Endorsement the individual must complete requirements outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.14](#) ENDORSEMENTS.

(2) **In-Field Statement (See GaPSC Rule [505-2-.40](#) IN-FIELD ASSIGNMENT).** An individual with the Computer Science endorsement is in-field to teach computer science curriculum in grades P-12. Each state-approved curriculum course, with specified certificate fields that are designated as in-field, may be found under Certification/Curriculum Assignment Policies (CAPS) on the GaPSC web site at [www.gapsc.com](http://www.gapsc.com).

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-2-.163

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Director of Pupil Personnel Services" adopted. F. Dec. 18, 1991, eff. Jan. 7, 1992.

**Repealed:** F. Dec. 16, 1992; eff. Jul. 1, 1993, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** New Rule entitled "Reading In-Field Endorsement" adopted. F. Oct. 22, 2004; eff. Nov. 15, 2004, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Reading Endorsement" adopted. F. June 23, 2005; eff. July 15, 2005, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. Feb. 10, 2006; eff. Mar. 15, 2006, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. Nov. 9, 2006; eff. Dec. 15, 2006, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Computer Science Endorsement" adopted. F. Jun. 11, 2014; eff. Jul. 1, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. Sep. 24, 2019; eff. Oct. 15, 2019, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

## **505-2-.164 Coordinated Career Academic Education (CCAЕ) Endorsement**

### **(1) Eligibility Requirements.**

(a) To be eligible for the professional or Five-Year Induction Coordinated Career Academic Education (CCAЕ) Endorsement, the individual must hold a level four (4) or higher renewable professional or Five-Year Induction teaching certificate and complete other requirements as outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.14](#) ENDORSEMENTS.

(b) To be eligible for the a Three-Year Non-Renewable or Three-Year Induction Coordinated Career Academic Education (CCAЕ) Endorsement, the individual must complete requirements as outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.14](#) ENDORSEMENTS.

(2) **In-Field Statement (See GaPSC Rule [505-2-.40](#) IN-FIELD ASSIGNMENT).** An individual with the Coordinated Career Academic Endorsement is in-field to coordinate Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education programs in grades 6-12. Each state-approved curriculum course, with specified certificate fields that are designated as in-field, may be found under Certification/Curriculum Assignment Policies (CAPS) on the GaPSC web site at [www.gapsc.com](http://www.gapsc.com).

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-2-.164

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Director of Special Education" adopted. F. Dec. 18, 1991, eff. Jan. 7, 1992.

**Repealed:** F. Dec. 16, 1992; eff. Jul. 1, 1993, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** New Rule entitled "Related Vocational Instruction Endorsement (RVI)" adopted. F. Oct. 22, 2004; eff. Nov. 15, 2004, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 23, 2005; eff. July 15, 2005, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Career Technical Instruction Endorsement (CTI)" adopted. F. Feb. 16, 2009; eff. Mar. 15, 2009, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Coordinated Career Academic Education (CCAЕ) Endorsement" adopted. F. Jun. 11, 2014; eff. Jul. 1, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

## **505-2-.180 Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) Facilitator Endorsement**

### **(1) Eligibility Requirements.**

(a) To be eligible for the professional or Five-Year Induction Multi-Tiered System of Supports Facilitator Endorsement, the applicant must hold a level four (4) or higher renewable professional or Five-Year Induction certificate in any field and complete other requirements outlined in GaPSC Rule [505-2-.14](#) ENDORSEMENTS.

(2) **In-Field Statement (See GaPSC Rule [505-2-.40](#) IN-FIELD ASSIGNMENT).** An individual with the Multi-Tiered System of Supports Facilitator Endorsement has strengthened and enhanced competency levels for performing assigned duties in the Multi-Tiered System of Supports Facilitator position.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-2-.180

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Student Support Team Coordinator Endorsement" adopted. F. Jun. 11, 2014; eff. Jul. 1, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) Facilitator Endorsement" adopted. F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

## Department 505. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

### Chapter 505-3. EDUCATOR PREPARATION RULES

#### 505-3-.09 Repealed and Reserved

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.09

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Innovative and Experimental Programs" adopted. F. Dec. 16, 1992; eff. July 1, 1993, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule, same title adopted. F. Nov. 9, 2001; eff. Dec. 1, 2001, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. Aug. 20, 2004; eff. Sept. 15, 2004, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Oct. 24, 2005; eff. Nov. 15, 2005, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Requirements and Standards for Training Pre-Candidates, Candidates and Facilitators in Georgia's National Board Certified Teachers Program" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

#### 505-3-.82 Birth Through Kindergarten Endorsement Program

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare individuals to work with and teach children from Birth through Kindergarten and supplements requirements in GaPSC Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Educators seeking to add the Birth Through Kindergarten Endorsement must be certified in Elementary Education (P-5). Therefore, completers of the Birth Through Kindergarten Endorsement are qualified to teach children from birth through age five.

(3) **Requirements.**

(a) A GaPSC approved professional educator preparation provider may seek state approval to offer this field as either a stand-alone endorsement program for candidates holding Elementary Education certification or as an endorsement program embedded in a GaPSC-approved initial preparation Elementary Education program or an advanced (degree-only) preparation program. In addition to meeting all applicable approval requirements and standards, embedded endorsement programs must meet requirements specified in paragraph (e) 3. (ix) of GaPSC educator preparation rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS,

(b) To receive approval, a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer an educator preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards:

1. The program shall conform to the following standards for initial Early Childhood Professional Preparation programs published by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) (2012):

(i) Promoting Child Development and Learning. Candidates prepared in Birth through Kindergarten programs are grounded in a child development knowledge base. They use their understanding of young children's characteristics and needs, and of multiple interacting influences on children's development and learning to create environments that are healthy, respectful, supportive, and challenging for each child. Indicators are as follows:

(I) Knowing and understanding Birth through Kindergarten children's characteristics and needs;

(II) Knowing and understanding the multiple influences on early development and learning; and

(III) Using developmental knowledge to create healthy, respectful, supportive, and challenging learning environments for all Birth through Kindergarten children.

(ii) Building Family and Community Relationships. Candidates prepared in Birth through Kindergarten programs understand that successful Birth through Kindergarten education depends upon partnerships with children's families and communities. They know about, understand, and value the importance and complex characteristics of children's families and communities. They use this understanding to create respectful, reciprocal relationships that support and empower families, and to involve all families in their children's development and learning. Indicators are as follows:

(I) Knowing about and understanding diverse family, family structures and community characteristics;

(II) Supporting and engaging families and communities through respectful, reciprocal relationships; and

(III) Involving families and communities in children's development and learning.

(iii) Observing, Documenting, and Assessing to Support Children and Families. Candidates prepared in Birth through Kindergarten programs understand that child observation, documentation, and other forms of assessment are central to the practice of all Birth through Kindergarten professionals. They know about and understand the goals, benefits, and uses of assessment. They know about and use systematic observations, documentation, and other effective assessment strategies in a responsible way, in partnership with families and other professionals, to positively influence the development of every child. Indicators are as follows:

(I) Understanding the goals, benefits, and uses of assessment including its interpretation and use in development of appropriate goals and differentiated teaching strategies for Birth through Kindergarten;

(II) Systematically collecting and analyzing relevant data (via observation, documentation, and other appropriate assessment tools and approaches including the use of technology) to monitor student progress and to inform instruction;

(III) Understanding and practicing responsible assessment to promote positive outcomes for each child, including the use of assistive technology for children with disabilities; and

(IV) Engaging in productive effective assessment partnerships with families and with professional colleagues to build effective learning environments.

(iv) Using Developmentally Effective Approaches. Candidates prepared in Birth through Kindergarten programs understand that teaching and learning with children is a complex enterprise, and its details vary depending on children's ages, characteristics, and the setting within which teaching and learning occur. They understand and use positive relationships and supportive interactions as the foundation for their work with children and families. Candidates know, understand, and use a wide array of developmentally appropriate approaches, instructional strategies, and tools to connect with children and families and positively influence each child's development and learning. Indicators are as follows:

(I) Establishing a classroom environment grounded in positive relationships and supportive interactions as the foundation of their work with children;



(II) Knowing and using effective research based strategies and tools for Birth through Kindergarten children including the appropriate use of technology;

(III) Using a broad repertoire of developmentally appropriate research-based teaching/learning approaches (play, small group projects, open-ended questioning, group discussion, problem solving, cooperative learning, reflection, and inquiry experiences) to help Birth through Kindergarten children develop intellectual curiosity, solve problems, and make decisions; and

(IV) Reflecting on own practice to promote positive outcomes for each child.

(v) Using Content Knowledge to Build Meaningful Curriculum. Candidates prepared in Birth through Kindergarten programs use their knowledge of academic disciplines to design, implement, and evaluate experiences that promote positive development and learning for each and every child. Candidates understand the importance of developmental domains and academic (or content) disciplines in Birth through Kindergarten curriculum. They know the essential concepts, inquiry tools, and structure of content areas, including academic subjects, and can identify resources to deepen their understanding. Candidates use their own knowledge and other resources to design, implement, and evaluate meaningful, challenging curriculum that promotes comprehensive development and learning outcomes for every child. Indicators are as follows:

(I) Understanding content knowledge and resources in academic disciplines: language and literacy; mathematics, science, social studies, the arts-music, creative movement, dance, drama, visual arts; physical activity, physical education and health and safety;

(II) Knowing and using the central concepts, inquiry tools, and structures of content areas or academic disciplines;

(III) Using content knowledge, appropriate content standards, and other resources to design implement and evaluate developmentally meaningful and challenging curriculum for each child; and

(IV) Recognizing and utilizing opportunities for appropriate curriculum integration.

(vi) Becoming a Professional. Candidates prepared in Birth through Kindergarten programs identify and conduct themselves as members of the Birth through Kindergarten profession. They know and use ethical guidelines and other professional standards related to Birth through Kindergarten practice. They are continuous, collaborative learners who demonstrate knowledgeable, reflective and critical perspectives on their work, making informed decisions that integrate knowledge from a variety of sources. They are informed advocates for sound educational practices and policies. Indicators are as follows:

(I) Knowing about and upholding ethical standards, legal responsibilities, and other professional guidelines;

(II) Engaging in continuous, collaborative learning to inform practice; using technology effectively with Birth through Kindergarten children, with peers, and as a professional resource;

(III) Integrating knowledgeable, reflective, and critical perspectives on education;

(IV) Engaging in informed advocacy for Birth through Kindergarten children and the profession; and

(V) Demonstrate an understanding of the early childhood profession, its multiple historical, philosophical, and social foundations, and how these foundations influence current thought and practice.

(vii) Early Childhood Field Experiences. Field experiences are planned and sequenced so that candidates develop the knowledge, skills and professional dispositions necessary to promote the development and learning of Birth through Kindergarten children.

(I) Observe and participate under supervision of qualified professionals in programs that involve Ages 0-2, Ages 3-4, and kindergarten for at least 100 clock hours; and

(II) Work effectively with children with diverse abilities, and with children reflecting culturally and linguistically diverse family systems.

(c) To receive approval, a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs and syllabi addressing the following standards for initial early childhood education programs published by the Council for Exceptional Children (2012):

(i) Learner and Learning: Learner Development and Individual Learning Differences. Beginning Birth through Kindergarten professionals understand how exceptionalities may interact with development and learning and use this knowledge to provide meaningful and challenging learning experiences for individuals with exceptionalities. They understand how language, culture, and family background influence the learning of individuals with exceptionalities and use understanding of development and individual differences to respond to the needs of individuals with exceptionalities. The standard and elements will be indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand typical and atypical human growth and development;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who understand similarities and differences among individuals with exceptionalities;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who understand educational implications of characteristics of various exceptionalities;

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who understand family systems and the role of families in supporting development;

(V) The program shall prepare candidates who are familiar with cultural perspectives influencing the relationships among families, schools, and communities as related to instruction;

(VI) The program shall prepare candidates who understand variations in beliefs, traditions, and values across and within cultures and their effects on relationships among individuals with exceptionalities, family, and schooling;

(VII) The program shall prepare candidates who understand characteristics and effects of the cultural and environmental milieu of the individual with exceptionalities and the family;

(VIII) The program shall prepare candidates who understand similarities and differences of individuals with and without exceptionalities;

(IX) The program shall prepare candidates who understand effects of various medications on individuals with exceptionalities;

(X) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the effects an exceptional condition(s) can have on an individual's life;

(XI) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the impact of individuals with exceptionalities' academic and social abilities, attitudes, interests, and values on instruction and career development;

(XII) The program shall prepare candidates who can demonstrate differing ways of learning of individuals with exceptionalities, including those from culturally diverse backgrounds, and strategies for addressing these differences;

(XIII) The program shall prepare candidates who can demonstrate the effects of cultural and linguistic differences on growth and development;

(XIV) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the characteristics of one's own culture and use of language and the ways in which these can differ from other cultures and uses of languages;

(XV) The program shall prepare candidates who understand ways of behaving and communicating among cultures that can lead to misinterpretation and misunderstanding;

(XVI) The program shall prepare candidates who understand theories of typical and atypical early childhood development;

(XVII) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the impact of medical conditions and related care on development and learning;

(XVIII) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the impact of medical conditions on family concerns, resources, and priorities;

(XIX) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the specific disabilities, including the etiology, characteristics, and classification of common disabilities in infants and young children, and specific implications for development and learning in the first years of life;

(XX) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the factors that affect the mental health and social-emotional development of infants and young children;

(XXI) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the impact of language delays on cognitive, social-emotional, adaptive, play, temperament and motor development; and

(XXII) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the impact of language delays on behavior;

(ii) Learning Environments. Beginning Birth through Kindergarten professionals create safe, inclusive, culturally responsive learning environments so that individuals with exceptionalities become active and effective learners and develop emotional well-being, positive social interactions, and self-determination. They collaborate with general educators and other colleagues to create safe, inclusive, culturally responsive learning environments to engage individuals with exceptionalities in meaningful learning activities and social interactions. Beginning Birth through Kindergarten professionals use motivational and instructional interventions to teach individuals with exceptionalities how to adapt to different environments. They know how to intervene safely and appropriately with individuals with exceptionalities. The standard and elements will be indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the demands of learning environments;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who understand basic classroom management theories and strategies for individuals with exceptionalities;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who understand effective management of teaching and learning;

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who understand teacher attitudes and behaviors that influence behavior of individuals with exceptionalities;

(V) The program shall prepare candidates who understand social skills needed for educational and other environments;

(VI) The program shall prepare candidates who are aware of strategies for crisis prevention and intervention;

(VII) The program shall prepare candidates who are aware of strategies for preparing individuals to live harmoniously and productively in a culturally diverse world;

(VIII) The program shall prepare candidates who understand ways to create learning environments that allow individuals to retain and appreciate their own and each other's respective language and cultural heritage;

(IX) The program shall prepare candidates who understand ways cultures are negatively stereotyped; and

(X) The program shall prepare candidates who understand strategies used by diverse populations to cope with a legacy of former and continuing racism.

(iii) Curricular Content Knowledge. Beginning Birth through Kindergarten professionals use knowledge of general and specialized curricula to individualize learning for individuals with exceptionalities. They understand the central concepts, structures of the discipline, and tools of inquiry of the content areas they teach and can organize this knowledge, integrate cross-disciplinary skills, and develop meaningful learning progressions for individuals with exceptionalities. Beginning Birth through Kindergarten professionals understand and use general and specialized content knowledge for teaching across curricular content areas to individualize learning for individuals with exceptionalities and can modify general and specialized curricula to make them accessible to individuals with exceptionalities. The standard and elements will be indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand theories and research that form the basis of curriculum development and instructional practices;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who understand scope and sequences of general and special curricula;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who understand national, state or provincial, and local curricula standards; and

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who understand technology for planning and managing the teaching and learning environment;

(iv) Assessment. Beginning Birth through Kindergarten professionals use multiple methods of assessment and data-sources in making educational decisions. They select and use technically sound formal and informal assessments that minimize bias and use knowledge of measurement principles and practices to interpret assessment results and guide educational decisions for individuals with exceptionalities. Beginning Birth through Kindergarten professionals in collaboration with colleagues and families use multiple types of assessment information in making decisions about individuals with exceptionalities. They engage individuals with exceptionalities to work toward quality learning and performance and provide feedback to guide them. The standard and elements will be indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand basic terminology used in assessment;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who understand legal provisions and ethical principles regarding assessment of individuals;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who understand screening, pre-referral, referral, and classification procedures;

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the use and limitations of assessment instruments;

(V) The program shall prepare candidates who understand national, state or provincial, and local accommodations and modifications; and

(VI) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the legal requirements that distinguish among at-risk, developmental delay and disability.

(v) Instructional Planning and Strategies. Beginning Birth through Kindergarten professionals select, adapt, and use a repertoire of evidence-based instructional strategies to advance learning of individuals with exceptionalities. They consider an individual's abilities, interests, learning environments, and cultural and linguistic factors in the selection, development, and adaptation of learning experiences for individuals with exceptionalities. Beginning Birth through Kindergarten professionals use technologies to support instructional assessment, planning, and delivery for individuals with exceptionalities. They are familiar with augmentative and alternative communication systems and a variety of assistive technologies to support the communication and learning of individuals with exceptionalities. They use strategies to enhance language development and communication skills of individuals with exceptionalities,

develop and implement a variety of education and transition plans for individuals with exceptionalities across a wide range of settings and different learning experiences in collaboration with individuals, families and teams, and teach to mastery and promote generalization of learning. They teach cross-disciplinary knowledge and skills such as critical thinking and problem solving to individuals with exceptionalities. The standard and elements will be indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who are aware of the roles and responsibilities of the Para-educator related to instruction, intervention, and direct service;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who know and apply evidence-based practices validated for specific characteristics of learners and settings;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who know augmentative and assistive communication strategies; and

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who are aware of the concept of universal design for learning.

(vi) Professional Learning and Ethical Practice. Beginning Birth through Kindergarten professionals use foundational knowledge of the field and their professional Ethical Principles and Practice Standards to inform Birth through Kindergarten practice, to engage in lifelong learning and to advance the profession. They use Ethical Principles and Professional Practice Standards to guide their practice and understand how foundational knowledge and current issues influence professional practice. They understand that diversity is a part of families, cultures, and schools and that complex human issues can interact with the delivery of Birth through Kindergarten services. Beginning Birth through Kindergarten professionals understand the significance of lifelong learning and participate in professional activities and learning communities. They advance the profession by engaging in activities such as advocacy and mentoring and provide guidance and direction to Para-educators, tutors, and volunteers. The standard and elements will be indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand models, theories, philosophies, and research methods that form the basis for Birth through Kindergarten practice;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who understand laws, policies and ethical principles regarding behavior management planning and implementation;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the relationship of Birth through Kindergarten to the organization and function of educational agencies;

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the rights and responsibilities of individuals with exceptionalities, parents, teachers and other professionals, and schools related to exceptionalities;

(V) The program shall prepare candidates who understand issues in definition and identification of individuals with exceptionalities, including those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds;

(VI) The program shall prepare candidates who understand issues, assurances, and due process rights related to assessment, eligibility, and placement within a continuum of services;

(VII) The program shall prepare candidates who understand family systems and the role of families in the educational process;

(VIII) The program shall prepare candidates who understand historical points of view and contributions of culturally diverse groups;

(IX) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the impact of the dominant culture on shaping schools and the individuals who study and work in them;

(X) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the potential impact of differences in values, languages, and customs that can exist between the home and school;

(XI) The program shall prepare candidates who understand personal cultural biases and differences that affect one's teaching;

(XII) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the importance of the teacher serving as a model for individuals with exceptionalities;

(XIII) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the continuum of lifelong professional development;

(XIV) The program shall prepare candidates who understand methods to remain current regarding research-validated practice;

(XV) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the historical, philosophical foundations and legal basis of services for infants and young children both with and without exceptional needs;

(XVI) The program shall prepare candidates who know the trends and issues in early childhood education, early Birth through Kindergarten, and early intervention; and

(XVII) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the legal, ethical and policy issues related to educational developmental and medical services for infants and young children, and their families.

(vii) Collaboration. Beginning Birth through Kindergarten professionals collaborate with families, other educators, related service providers, individuals with exceptionalities, and personnel from community agencies in culturally responsive ways to address the needs of individuals with exceptionalities across a range of learning experiences. They use the theory and elements of effective collaboration, serve as a collaborative resource to colleagues, and use collaboration to promote the well-being of individuals with exceptionalities across a wide range of settings and collaborators. The standard and elements will be indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who know models and strategies of consultation and collaboration;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who know the roles of individuals with exceptional learning needs, families, and school and community personnel in the planning of an individualized program;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the concerns of families of individuals with exceptional learning needs and strategies to help address these concerns;

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who know culturally responsive factors that promote effective communication and collaboration with individuals with exceptional learning needs, families, school personnel, and community members; and

(V) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the structures supporting interagency collaboration, including interagency agreements, referrals, and consultations.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.82

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-20](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Teacher Support Specialist Program" adopted. F. Dec. 18, 1991; eff. Jan. 7, 1992.

**Repealed:** F. Dec. 16, 1992; eff. Jul. 1, 1993, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** New Rule entitled "Special Education Visual Impairment Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Oct. 24, 2005; eff. Nov. 15, 2005, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Sep. 25, 2013; eff. Oct. 15, 2013, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Birth through Kindergarten Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Oct. 7, 2014; eff. Oct. 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. May 25, 2016; eff. June 15, 2016, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 26, 2019; eff. July 1, 2019, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

### **505-3-.83 Autism Education Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare general and special education teachers to teach students with Autism. This rule supplements requirements in Rule [505-3-.01](#) REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the Autism Endorsement have strengthened and enhanced competencies for teaching children with autism in the grade levels and/or subjects of their base certificate(s).

(3) **Requirements.**

(a) A GaPSC approved professional educator preparation provider may seek state approval to offer this field as either a stand-alone endorsement program or as an endorsement program embedded in a GaPSC-approved initial preparation program or an advanced (degree-only) preparation program. In addition to meeting all applicable approval requirements and standards, embedded endorsement programs must meet requirements specified in paragraph (e) 3. (ix) of GaPSC educator preparation rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

1. To receive approval for an Autism Education Program a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards published by the Council for Exceptional Children 2012 as follows:

(i) **Learner and Learning:** Learner Development and Individual Learning Differences. General and Special Educational professionals, in collaboration with Special Education staff, understand how exceptionalities may interact with development and learning and use this knowledge to provide meaningful and challenging learning experiences for individuals with exceptionalities as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand core and associated characteristics of individuals with autism spectrum disorders;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who understand co-existing conditions and ranges that exist at a higher rate than in the general population;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the sensory challenges of individuals with autism spectrum disorders;

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the speech, language, and communication of individuals with autism spectrum disorders;

(V) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the adaptive behavior needs of individuals with autism spectrum disorders;

(VI) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the impact of theory of mind, central coherence, and executive function on learning and behavior;

(VII) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the impact of neurological differences on learning and behavior; and

(VIII) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the impact of self-regulation on learning and behavior.

(ii) Learning Environments. General and Special Educational professionals, in collaboration with Special Education staff, create safe, inclusive, culturally responsive learning environments so that individuals with exceptionalities become active and effective learners and develop emotional well-being, positive social interactions, and self-determination as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who plan instruction for independent functional life skills and adaptive behavior that enhances full community participation;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who plan and implement instruction and related services for individuals with autism spectrum disorders that is both age-appropriate and ability-appropriate; and

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who use specialized instruction to enhance social participation across environments to include formal and informal social interactions.

(iii) Curricular Content Knowledge. General and Special Educational professionals, in collaboration with Special Education staff, use knowledge of general and specialized curricula to individualize learning for individuals with exceptionalities as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand evidence-based career/vocational transition programs for individuals with autism spectrum disorders;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who provide pragmatic language instruction and other specialized instruction that facilitates social skills;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who provide individuals with autism spectrum disorders strategies to avoid and repair miscommunications;

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who plan instruction for independent functional life skills and adaptive behavior;

(V) The program shall prepare candidates who plan and implement instruction and related services - with enhanced knowledge of assistive technology - for individuals with autism spectrum disorders that is both age-appropriate and ability-appropriate; and

(VI) The program shall prepare candidates who plan systematic instruction based on learner characteristics, interests, and ongoing assessment.

(iv) Assessment. General and Special Educational professionals, in collaboration with Special Education staff, use multiple methods of assessment and data-sources in making educational decisions as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate specialized terminology used in the assessment of individuals with autism spectrum disorders;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who understand assessments of environmental conditions that promote maximum performance of individuals with autism spectrum disorders:

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who understand components of assessment for the core areas for individuals with autism spectrum disorders:



- (IV) The program shall prepare candidates who can identify individual strengths, skills and learning preferences;
- (V) The program shall prepare candidates who select, adapt and use assessment tools and methods to accommodate the abilities and needs of individuals with developmental disabilities/autism spectrum disorders;
- (VI) The program shall prepare candidates develop strategies for monitoring and analyzing challenging behavior and its communicative intent; and
- (VII) The program shall prepare candidates who conduct functional behavior assessments that lead to development of behavior support plans.
- (v) Instructional Planning and Strategies. General and Special Educational professionals, in collaboration with Special Education staff, select, adapt, and use a repertoire of evidence-based instructional strategies to advance learning of individuals with exceptionalities as indicated by the following:
- (I) The program shall prepare candidates who are aware of specialized curriculum designed to meet the needs of individuals with autism spectrum disorders;
- (II) The program shall prepare candidates who match levels of support to changing needs of the individual;
- (III) The program shall prepare candidates who implement instructional programs that promote effective communication skills using verbal and augmentative/alternative communication systems for individuals with autism spectrum disorder;
- (IV) The program shall prepare candidates who provide specialized instruction for spoken language, reading and writing for individuals with autism spectrum disorders;
- (V) The program shall prepare candidates who use instructional strategies that fall on a continuum of child-directed to adult-directed in natural and structured context;
- (VI) The program shall prepare candidates who consistently use proactive strategies and positive behavioral supports;
- (VII) The program shall prepare candidates who involve individuals with autism spectrum disorders in the transition planning process;
- (VIII) The program shall prepare candidates who plan for transition needs including linkages to supports and agencies focusing on lifelong needs;
- (IX) The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate transfer, lifting and positioning techniques;
- (X) The program shall prepare candidates who structure the physical environment to provide optimal learning for individuals with autism spectrum disorders;
- (XI) The program shall prepare candidates who provide instruction in self-regulation;
- (XII) The program shall prepare candidates who utilize student strengths to reinforce and maintain social skills;
- (XII) The program shall prepare candidates who plan instruction for independent functional life skills and adaptive behavior; and
- (XIV) The program shall prepare candidates who plan systematic instruction based on learner characteristics, interests, and ongoing assessment.

(vi) Professional Learning and Ethical Practice. General and Special Educational professionals, in collaboration with Special Education staff, use foundational knowledge of the field and their professional Ethical Principles and Practice Standards to inform special education practice, to engage in lifelong learning and to advance the profession as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand definitions and issues related to the identification of individuals with developmental disabilities/autism spectrum disorders;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who can identify continuum of placement and services available for individuals with autism spectrum disorders;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who understand historical foundations and classic studies of autism spectrum disorders;

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the trends and practices in the field of autism spectrum disorders;

(V) The program shall prepare candidates who recognize theories of behavior problems of individuals with autism spectrum disorders; and

(VI) The program shall prepare candidates who understand perspectives held by individuals with autism spectrum disorders.

(vii) Collaboration. General and Special Educational professionals, in collaboration with Special Education staff, collaborate with families, other educators, related service providers, individuals with exceptionalities, and personnel from community agencies in culturally responsive ways to address the needs of individuals with exceptionalities across a range of learning experiences as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who services, networks, and organizations for individuals, professionals, and families with autism spectrum disorders; and

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who collaborate with team members to plan transition to adulthood that encourages post-secondary education, employment and full community participation.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.83

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "History" adopted. F. Dec. 18, 1991; eff. Jan. 7, 1992.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Mental Retardation" adopted. F. Dec. 16, 1992; eff. Jul. 1, 1993, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 21, 1996; eff. July 11, 1996.

**Amended:** F. Mar. 7, 2000; eff. Apr. 1, 2000, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. July 13, 2001; eff. Aug. 5, 2001, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. Dec. 3, 2002; eff. Jan. 1, 2003, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Feb. 20, 2004; eff. Mar. 15, 2004, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** Rule reserved. F. July 21, 2005; eff. Aug. 15, 2005, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Sep. 22, 2011; eff. Oct. 15, 2011.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Career Exploration (PECE) Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** F. Oct. 7, 2014; eff. Oct. 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Adopted:** New Rule entitled "Autism Education Endorsement Program." F. May 25, 2016; eff. June 15, 2016, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

### **505-3-.84 Career Technical Instruction (CTI) Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare individuals to coordinate and teach Career Technical Instruction programs in grades 6-12 and supplements requirements in Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Educators seeking to add the Career Technical Instruction (CTI) Endorsement must be certified in Special Education. Completers of the Career Technical Instruction Endorsement are qualified to coordinate and provide Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education (CTAE) instruction to students in grades 6-12 identified as having special educational needs.

(3) **Requirements.**

(a) A GaPSC approved professional educator preparation provider may seek state approval to offer this field as either a stand-alone endorsement program to candidates who hold Special Education certification or as an endorsement program embedded in a GaPSC-approved initial preparation Special Education program or an advanced (degree-only) preparation program. In addition to meeting all applicable approval requirements and standards, embedded endorsement programs must meet requirements specified in paragraph (e) 3. (ix) of GaPSC educator preparation rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(b) To receive approval, a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi, addressing the following standards:

1. The program shall prepare candidates who have knowledge of youth with disabilities, Georgia's career technical education programs, development and implementation of the IEP, transition of students from school to life and work, and opportunities for post-secondary education and/or employment;
2. The program shall prepare candidates who know principles of career development, employability and retention, and implement techniques for assisting students and their parents in making educational and occupational choices;
3. The program shall prepare candidates who can plan curriculum and provide necessary accommodations or modifications, implement instructional techniques, accommodate students' learning styles and/or learning disabilities, assess student progress, and garner community based support for Georgia's career technical programs;
4. The program shall require demonstrated competence in the promotion, organization, instruction, budget, and coordination required to sustain a CTI program at the local level;
5. The program shall require demonstrated competence in the staffing process, due process, career technical placement, job placement, screening selection, guidance, assessment and counseling of students with disabilities enrolled in secondary career and technical programs;
6. The program shall require demonstrated competence in the knowledge of federal and state laws and regulations governing the assurances of programs serving students in special education;

7. The program shall require demonstrated competence to assure that each student will be guided in the development of a positive self-image, job entrance and retention skills, self-motivation, life coping skills, and the tools to make sound decisions;
8. The program shall require demonstrated competence in the mastery of technical skills, problem solving, and understanding subject matter thereby raising student expectations as much as possible, and intervening with CTI services to accelerate success in career and technical courses;
9. The program shall require demonstrated competence in the ability to utilize the community, business, industry, local and state support agencies, family, and school to assume the realistic opportunity to complete high school and transition to work and/or post-secondary education;
10. The program shall require demonstrated competence in the knowledge of remedial techniques; CTI enrichment camp; national, state, and local intervention services; advisory committees; instructional equipment; tools; safety procedures; facilities; life skills; and the documentation and progress of individual special education students enrolled in career and technical courses;
11. The program shall require demonstrated competence in the knowledge of the technical workplace, including various work-based learning options;
12. The program shall require demonstrated competence in an understanding of poverty, economically disadvantaged, unsupportive families, social and economic barriers, and other problems that CTI students face in a technical society;
13. The program shall require demonstrated competence in the knowledge of benchmarks for evaluating CTI students;
14. The program shall require demonstrated competence in the knowledge of annual evaluation of goals, objectives, delivery, and outcomes for the local CTI program;
15. The program shall require demonstrated competence in the use of available technology, particularly multimedia, for children with special needs, including the application of computer hardware and software and techniques for evaluating software for instruction; and
16. The program shall require supervised school/field-based internship in conducting a CTI program.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.84

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Teacher Support Specialist Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Oct. 24, 2005; eff. Nov. 15, 2005, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Career Technical Instruction Endorsement Program (CTI)" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Oct. 7, 2014; eff. Oct. 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** New title "Career Technical Instruction (CTI) Endorsement Program." F. May 25, 2016; eff. June 15, 2016, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

## **505-3-.85 Coaching Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare individuals to use performance assessment data to provide specific feedback to individuals that will assist them in meeting criteria for performance in various educational positions such as, but not limited to, a supervisor/coach of individuals completing student teaching requirements or a non-traditional teacher preparation program, a mentor/coach of interns/beginning teachers, an instructional/academic coach of classroom teachers, a classroom teacher providing professional learning for peers, or a coach of candidates seeking educational leadership positions. This rule supplements requirements in Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the P-12 Service (S) field Coaching Endorsement are qualified to use performance assessment data to provide specific feedback to other educators or prospective educators in a variety of roles or educational positions, such as but not limited to the examples provided in paragraph (1).

(3) **Requirements.**

(a) A GaPSC approved professional educator preparation provider may seek state approval to offer this field as a stand-alone endorsement program to candidates who hold a valid, level 4 or higher Professional, Advanced Professional, or Lead Professional teaching certificate, leadership certificate, Life certificate, or service certificate. Educators with leadership, Life, or service certificates must have held a Professional teaching certificate. A recommendation from a school district is required for program admission.

(b) To receive approval, a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards:

1. The program shall prepare the coach to have the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to identify performance criteria:

(i) The program shall prepare the coach to analyze the context in order to identify organizational criteria with the coachee's performance. The coach will know and be able to:

(I) Identify the organization's mission, vision, beliefs and goals;

(II) Analyze the alignment of the mission, vision, beliefs and goals to the roles, responsibilities and performances required for the coachee's position; and

(III) Communicate this alignment.

(ii) The program shall prepare the coach to analyze the strengths and opportunities for growth of the coachee to meet the organization's performance criteria. The coach will know and be able to:

(I) Communicate the expected performance criteria;

(II) Assess the coachee's understanding of the performance criteria;

(III) Analyze the strengths of the coachee against performance criteria;

(IV) Help the coachee self-assess against performance criteria;

(V) Determine the coachee's "opportunities for growth" against the performance criteria;

(VI) Help the coachee self-assess his/her "opportunities for growth" against the performance criteria; and

(VII) Support the coachee in the development of confidence in her/his ability to achieve the performance criteria.

2. The program shall prepare the coach to have the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of performance assessments and analysis of results:

(i) The program shall prepare the coach to identify and know how to use assessments for coachee based on roles, responsibilities, positions and performance criteria. The coaches know and are able to:

(I) Identify and use various assessments available;

(II) Identify and use appropriate assessments for role and context;

(III) Identify and use appropriate questioning techniques for diagnostic purposes; and

(IV) Identify and use appropriate questioning techniques for clarifying purposes.

(ii) The program shall prepare the coach to implement appropriate assessments based on roles, positions, responsibilities, and performance criteria. The coach will know and be able to:

(I) Use active and empathetic listening skills for diagnostic and/or clarifying purposes;

(II) Demonstrate the effective use of appropriate assessments; and

(III) Demonstrate the effective use of coaching processes.

(iii) The program shall prepare the coach to have the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to analyze results from assessments. The coach will know and be able to:

(I) Demonstrate effective analysis skills for performance assessments for coachee's strengths and areas of growth;

(II) Analyze and identify barriers to performance;

(III) Compare areas for improvement identified by coach, coachee, and the district;

(IV) Communicate results of assessments effectively; and

(V) Demonstrate data interpretation/analysis.

3. The program shall prepare the coach to have the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to develop, maintain, and implement an effective coaching plan:

(i) The program shall prepare the coach to develop goals and a plan to achieve them in collaboration with coachee. The coach will know and be able to:

(I) Create a plan with results that are specific, measurable, attainable, and realistic and have target dates (SMART goals);

(II) Encourage the coachee to take on new and challenging tasks;

(III) Define actions that will enable the coachee to demonstrate practice and deepen new learning; and

(IV) Adjust plan as warranted.

(ii) The program shall prepare the coach to demonstrate ability to manage progress and accountability. The coach will know and be able to:

(I) Monitor the plan to keep coaching on track; and

(II) Develop a system to help the coach self-monitor.

(iii) The program shall prepare the coach to have the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to provide opportunities to practice. The coach will know and be able to:

(I) Identify willing participants for practice;

(II) Identify resources used to practice; and

(III) Schedule agreed upon time to practice.

4. The program shall prepare the coach to have the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to provide feedback to an individual or group of individuals in an effort to build capacity and improve performance:

(i) The program shall prepare the coach to provide feedback based on performance criteria. The coach will know and be able to:

(I) Provide feedback that reflects best practice based on current research;

(II) Utilize a process to provide feedback;

(III) Develop specific and purposeful feedback; and

(IV) Formulate and use effective questioning techniques.

(ii) The program shall prepare the coach to demonstrate ability to use feedback to collaborate with the coachee to plan strategies. The coach will know and be able to:

(I) Provide resources that align with the identified needs;

(II) Prioritize and develop a timeline;

(III) Develop and utilize strategies to build a support network;

(IV) Develop coachee's recognition of incremental improvement and growth; and

(V) Recognize the fluid nature of coachee's plan for continuous improvement.

5. The program shall prepare the coach to have the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to communicate effectively with the coachee:

(i) The program shall prepare the coach to utilize effective verbal skills. The coach will know and be able to:

(I) Utilize effective questioning skills;

(II) Utilize effective clarifying skills; and

(III) Utilize positive phrasing.

(ii) The program shall prepare the coach to use effective written skills. The coach will know and be able to:

(I) Write for varied audiences and situations;

(II) Write clear statements for improved performance;

(III) Understand the legal implications of the written word; and

(IV) Demonstrate proper grammar, usage, and mechanics.

(iii) The program shall prepare the coach to use effective non-verbal skills to communicate independently of spoken or written words. The coach will know and be able to:

(I) Use active listening skills;

(II) Recognize and analyze body language; and

(III) Recognize the non-verbal implications of the coaching environment.

6. The program shall prepare the coach to have the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to effectively establish the relationship of trust with all stakeholders in the coaching process:

(i) The program shall prepare the coach to establish and maintain a highly confidential relationship:

(I) Understand the importance of confidentiality and trust;

(II) Protect and maintain confidentiality and trust; and

(III) Communicate to others the importance of confidentiality in the coach/coachee relationship.

(ii) The program shall prepare the coach to recognize and address the significance of relationship building skills:

(I) Foster a positive relationship for high performance;

(II) Demonstrate respect for coachee's perception, learning style, and individuality;

(III) Recognize and address cross-generational/cultural/other differences; and

(IV) Demonstrate effective listening and reflection.

(iii) The program shall prepare the coach to maintain a professional ethical environment:

(I) Demonstrate professional conduct at all times;

(II) Recognize and address personal issues that may impair, conflict, or interfere with coaching performance or professional relationships; and

(III) Show genuine concern for the coachee's welfare and future.

(iv) The program shall prepare the coach to demonstrate collaboration skills:

(I) Participate effectively in partnerships and networks of support to include all stakeholders;

(II) Serve as a member of coachee's professional team; and

(III) Provide on-going support and advocacy.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.85

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Online Teaching Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Nov. 9, 2006; eff. Dec. 15, 2006, as specified by the Agency.



**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Coaching Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

### **505-3-.86 Computer Science Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards and requirements for approving endorsement programs that prepare individuals to teach computer science in grades P-12 and supplements requirements in Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Educators holding a level four (4) or higher renewable professional certificate in any P-12 or secondary (6-12) teaching field and who complete the Computer Science Endorsement are qualified to teach computer science to students in grades P-12.

(3) **Requirements.**

(a) A GaPSC approved educator preparation provider may seek state approval to offer this field as either a stand-alone endorsement program or as an endorsement program embedded in a GaPSC-approved initial preparation program or an advanced (degree-only) preparation program. In addition to meeting all applicable approval requirements and standards, embedded endorsement programs must meet requirements specified in paragraph (e) 3. (ix) of GaPSC educator preparation rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(b) To receive approval, a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program as described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi, addressing the following standards adapted from the Standards for Computer Science Educators published in 2011 by the International Society for Technology Education (ISTE), and the Computer Science Teachers Association Interim Standards published in 2016:

1. The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate computational thinking skills to formalize a problem and express its solution in a way that computers (human and machine) can effectively carry out as indicated by the following:

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate knowledge of and ability for applying computational thinking skills including decomposition, abstraction, and pattern recognition in problem solving;

(ii) The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate skills in devising algorithms for solving computational problems and checking for the correctness of the algorithms;

(iii) The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate understanding of limitations of computing; and

(iv) The program shall prepare candidates who perform activities demonstrating applications of computational thinking skills.

2. The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate proficiency in at least one third-generation programming language such as Java, Python, C, or C++, as indicated by the following:

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate knowledge of and skill regarding the syntax and semantics of a third-generation programming language, its control structures, and its data types;

(ii) The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate knowledge of and skill regarding common abstraction mechanisms including functions, data structures, and application programming interfaces (APIs);

(iii) The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate knowledge of and skill in implementing algorithms into robust programs and testing and debugging these programs for correctness;

(iv) The program shall prepare candidates who perform laboratory-based activities that demonstrate programming concepts proficiency in a third-generation programming language; and

(v) The program shall prepare candidates who can document a program so that others can understand its design and implementation.

3. The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate proficiency in basic computer system components and organization as indicated by the following:

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate knowledge of how data are represented on a computer including bits, bytes, words and binary, and both octal and hexadecimal number systems as well as conversions among them;

(ii) The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate knowledge of main components of a computer system including CPU, OS, Memory, I/O devices, and peripherals;

(iii) The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate knowledge of various types of storage options in a computing environment including hard drive, cloud storage, flash drives, DVDs; and

(iv) The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how components of a computer system work together to produce programs and applications to solve computational problems.

4. The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate proficiency in fundamental principles of computer networks and the Internet as indicated by the following:

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate knowledge of network components including hardware and software;

(ii) The program shall prepare candidates who can explain how network topologies and protocols enable users, devices, and systems to communicate and collaborate with each other;

(iii) The program shall prepare candidates who can examine the factors such as bandwidth, latency, and server capability that impact network functionality;

(iv) The program shall prepare candidates who can explain the abstractions in the Internet and how the Internet functions including the assignment of IP addresses, routing, the domain name system (DNS), and the use of protocols; and

(v) The program shall prepare candidates who can explain the characteristics of the Internet and the systems built on it including redundancy, fault tolerance, hierarchy in IP addressing scheme, hierarchy in the DNS and open standards, and the influence of these characteristics on the systems.

5. The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate proficiency in effectively and responsibly using computer applications to create digital artifacts, analyze data, model and simulate phenomena suggested by research and/or data as indicated by the following:

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who can effectively use computer applications to create digital artifacts such as audio, video, animation, presentation, and websites;

(ii) The program shall prepare candidates who can extract information from data to discover, explain, and visualize connections or trends;

(iii) The program shall prepare candidates who can create models and simulations to help formulate, test and refine hypotheses;

(iv) The program shall prepare candidates who can form a model from a hypothesis generated from research and run a simulation to collect and analyze data to test that hypothesis; and

(v) The program shall prepare candidates to use industry best practices in application development.

6. The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate proficiency and understanding of security, privacy, and safety concerns in computer systems, networks, and applications as indicated by the following:

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who can describe main tenets of information security including confidentiality, integrity, availability, authentication, and nonrepudiation;

(ii) The program shall prepare candidates who can explain fundamental design principles;

(iii) The program shall prepare candidates who can describe types of threats and vulnerabilities to computer systems and the appropriate incident response and handling as well as imaging and backup procedures;

(iv) The program shall prepare candidates who can describe common network vulnerabilities (cyberattacks, identity theft, privacy) and their associated responses;

(v) The program shall prepare candidates who can identify safe, secure, and ethical digital behavior; use effective strategies to evaluate the quality, credibility, and validity of websites; and understand the current and future implications of careless digital decisions;

(vi) The program shall prepare candidates to educate students on their role in the prevention of cyber-bullying and to take an active role in building positive online communities; and

(vii) The program shall prepare candidates to provide students with the ability to use effective search strategies to evaluate the quality, credibility, and validity of websites.

7. The program shall prepare candidates who plan, organize, deliver, and evaluate instruction that effectively utilizes current technology for teaching computational thinking principles, computer programming and its applications as indicated in the following:

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who identify resources, strategies, activities, and manipulatives appropriate to teaching computer science including related curricular areas, professional teacher and student organizations, and careers;

(ii) The program shall prepare candidates who know how to plan and implement instruction that allows students to use computer science in problem-solving and decision-making situations;

(iii) The program shall prepare candidates who know how to plan and implement instruction using a wide range of instructional strategies for individuals and groups for a diverse student population;

(iv) The program shall prepare candidates who create and implement multiple forms of assessment and use resulting data to gauge student progress and adjust instruction accordingly;

(v) The program shall prepare candidates to prepare students for the emerging technologies and educate them to become responsible digital citizens with safe, secure, ethical and professional digital behavior; and

(vi) The program shall prepare candidates to positively impact the achievement and attainment of underrepresented populations by incorporating instructional strategies to increase their students' intentions to continue advanced studies in computer science.

8. The program shall prepare candidates who work with business and industry leaders in establishing school/business partnerships and advisory committees and operate student organizations as appropriate.

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.86

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Coaching Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Apr. 20, 2009; eff. May 15, 2009, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Computer Science Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Oct. 7, 2014; eff. Oct. 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. May 25, 2016; eff. June 15, 2016, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 25, 2017; eff. June 15, 2017, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

### **505-3-.87 Coordinated Career Academic Education (CCAЕ) Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare individuals to teach Coordinated Career Academic Education (CCAЕ) in grades 6-12 and supplements requirements in Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the Coordinated Career Academic Education (CCAЕ) Endorsement are qualified to coordinate Career Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE) programs in grades 6-12.

(3) **Requirements.**

(a) A GaPSC-approved professional educator preparation provider may seek state approval to offer this field as either a stand-alone endorsement program or as an endorsement program embedded in a GaPSC-approved initial preparation program or an advanced (degree-only) preparation program. In addition to meeting all applicable approval requirements and standards, embedded endorsement programs must meet requirements specified in paragraph (e) 3. (ix) of GaPSC educator preparation rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(b) To receive approval, a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards:

1. The program shall prepare candidates who implement career development, employability, and retention skills, as well as techniques for assisting students and their parents in making appropriate educational and occupational choices;
2. The program shall prepare candidates who can plan curriculum; incorporate different learning styles, instructional techniques, and delivery systems in coordinated career academic education; and implement evaluation methods and processes for CCAЕ and/or Project Success programs;
3. The program shall prepare candidates who are familiar with the nature of at-risk disadvantaged students who are potential school dropouts;
4. The program shall prepare candidates who understand the impact of poverty, economic deprivation, unsupportive families, barriers, and other problems that CCAЕ students face in a technical society;
5. The program shall prepare candidates who plan, promote, instruct, budget for, coordinate, and organize an intervention curriculum;

6. The program shall prepare candidates who select, screen, guide, assess, and counsel disadvantaged at-risk students enrolled in secondary coordinated career academic education programs;
7. The program shall prepare candidates who know the laws, statutes, guidelines, regulations, federal, state and local grants, and policies that govern program assurances for special populations;
8. The program shall prepare candidates who design and implement programs that provide opportunities for each student to develop a positive self-image, values, motivation, and the tools to make appropriate job and life decisions;
9. The program shall prepare candidates who are familiar with Georgia's Coordinated Career Academic Education programs so that they can intervene with the necessary services to accelerate educational success;
10. The program shall prepare candidates who can serve as co-curricular youth club advisors or co-advisors;
11. The program shall prepare candidates who can collaborate with career academic education teachers, counselors, and administrators;
12. The program shall prepare candidates who utilize school, family, and community resources to assure the realistic opportunity to complete high school and transition to work or to post-secondary education;
13. The program shall prepare candidates who can apply remedial techniques, intervention services, advisory committees, instructional equipment, tools, facilities, safety practices, life skills, and documentation to promote the progress of individual at-risk students;
14. The program shall prepare candidates who are familiar with the technical workplace in the private sectors of business and industry, including various work-based learning options;
15. The program shall prepare candidates who can develop and apply benchmarks for student and program evaluation;
16. The program shall prepare candidates who are familiar with and can apply the practices and procedures of Coordinated Career Academic Education to establish and sustain the program;
17. The program shall prepare candidates who can manage and utilize a wide variety of career related resources and instructional materials that increase student success; and
18. The program shall prepare candidates who can apply a system of measuring annual goals and objectives to the local CCAE and/or Project Success program.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.87

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Paraprofessional Preparation Program" adopted. F. Oct. 24, 2005; eff. Nov. 15, 2005, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Coordinated Career Academic Education Endorsement Program (CCAEE)" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Oct. 7, 2014; eff. Oct. 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** New title "Coordinated Career Academic Education (CCAEE) Endorsement Program." F. May 25, 2016; eff. June 15, 2016, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

## **505-3-.88 Culinary Arts Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare individuals to teach culinary arts in grades 6-12 and supplements requirements in GaPSC Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Educators seeking to add the Culinary Arts Endorsement must be certified in Family and Consumer Sciences (6-12). Completers of the Culinary Arts Endorsement are qualified to teach culinary arts curriculum to students in grades 6-12.

### **(3) Requirements.**

(a) A GaPSC approved professional educator preparation provider may seek state approval to offer this field as either a stand-alone endorsement program for candidates who hold Family and Consumer Science certification or as an endorsement program embedded in a GaPSC-approved initial preparation Family and Consumer Sciences program or an advanced (degree-only) preparation program. In addition to meeting all applicable approval requirements and standards, embedded endorsement programs must meet requirements specified in paragraph (e) 3. (ix) of GaPSC educator preparation rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(b) To receive approval, a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards:

#### **1. Pre-requisites**

(i) Candidates must have earned and documented 120 hours of industry experience consisting of 40 hours completed in front of the house service (defined as dining room area, table service, point of service system/electronic ordering system, wait staff management and table etiquette) and 80 hours in back of the house service (defined as hot line, grill, sauté, cold, fry, dessert stations, kitchen food preparation, and plating for service); and

(ii) Candidates must have earned the ServSafe Certificate issued by the National Restaurant Association by having passed the ServSafe Certification test with a score of 75% or above.

#### **2. Knowledge of Nutrition**

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate and apply knowledge of nutrition principles applicable to cooking.

#### **3. Knife Skills**

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate and apply knife skills to culinary production and fabrication.

#### **4. Cooking Methods**

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate and apply basic food preparation (proteins, vegetables and starches, stocks, soups and sauces) using moist, dry and combination cooking methods.

#### **5. Professionalism**

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who display professionalism to include professional culinary attire;

(ii) The program shall prepare candidates who are familiar with organizations and publications relevant to the field;

- (iii) The program shall prepare candidates who can identify and understand industry segments; and
- (iv) The program shall prepare candidates who will serve as an advisor for a Career Tech Student Organization and participate in culinary competitions.

#### 6. Professional Kitchen Equipment

- (i) The program shall prepare candidates who know, apply and demonstrate the use and safety of all kitchen equipment; and
- (ii) The program shall prepare candidates who know and demonstrate the proper use and safe handling of equipment and small wares.

#### 7. Baking & Pastry

- (i) The program shall prepare candidates who understand and apply basic baking and pastry concepts, techniques and preparations to include yeast, bread-making-doughs, basic cake preparation, double-boilers, icing and decorating principles.

#### 8. Basic Garde Manger/Pantry

- (i) The program shall prepare candidates who understand and apply the preparation of salads, sandwiches, dressings, appetizers, canapés, and breakfast cookery.

#### 9. Front of the House Service

- (i) The program shall prepare candidates who know and demonstrate table settings, service styles, correct etiquette of service, and table side service.

#### 10. Menu Planning, Purchasing, Cost Control, Math Skills, Receiving and Storage, Standardized Recipes, and Inventory

- (i) The program shall prepare candidates who know and demonstrate the principles of receiving, storage and inventory control; and
- (ii) The program shall prepare candidates who know and demonstrate the principles of menu development, food costs, conversions, food handling procedures, writing a recipe, portion control, sales cost, math skills, and organic and sustainable foods.

#### 11. Regional and International cuisines

- (i) The program shall prepare candidates who know and demonstrate American regional and Asian, Indian, European, and Central American cuisines.

#### 12. Demonstrating

- (i) The program shall prepare candidates who can present live demonstrations using rigorous lesson plans demonstrating the principles of lecture, demo and student practice.

#### 13. Butchery

- (i) The program shall prepare candidates who can demonstrate chicken butchery, key protein groups (beef, poultry, pork and fish), muscle fiber directions, and tenderness as it relates to correct cooking methods.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.88

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Culinary Arts Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. May 25, 2016; eff. June 15, 2016, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. Oct. 11, 2018; eff. Oct. 15, 2018, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

### **505-3-.89 English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepares individuals to teach English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) in grades P-12 and supplements requirements in Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Endorsement program are qualified to teach ESOL courses in grades P-12.

#### **(3) Requirements.**

(a) A GaPSC approved professional educator preparation provider may seek state approval to offer this field as either a stand-alone endorsement program or as an endorsement program embedded in a GaPSC-approved initial preparation program or an advanced (degree-only) preparation program. In addition to meeting all applicable approval requirements and standards, embedded endorsement programs must meet requirements specified in paragraph (e) 3. (ix) of GaPSC educator preparation rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(b) To receive approval, a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards adapted from the standards published in 2018 by the specialized professional association, Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, Inc.:

1. Knowledge about Language: Candidates demonstrate knowledge of English language structures, English language use, and second language acquisition and development processes to help English Learners (ELs) acquire academic language and literacies specific to various content areas as indicated by the following:

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who understand and apply theories and research in language acquisition and development to support ELL English language and literacy learning and content-area achievement;

(ii) Candidates demonstrate knowledge of second language acquisition theory and research pertaining to pedagogy and developmental processes of language acquisition to set achievable expectations for, facilitate, and monitor ELs' language learning; and

(iii) Candidates demonstrate knowledge of English academic language functions (e.g., compare, describe, explain), content-specific language and discourse structures, and vocabulary to promote ELs' academic achievement across content areas.

2. Language and Culture: Candidates demonstrate and apply knowledge of the impact of dynamic academic, personal, familial, cultural, social, and sociopolitical contexts on the education and language acquisition of ELs as supported by research and theories. Candidates investigate the academic, cultural and personal characteristics of each EL, as well as family circumstances and literacy practices, to develop individualized, effective instructional



and assessment practices for their ELs. Candidates recognize how educator identity, role, culture, race, gender, class and biases impact the interpretation of ELs' strengths and needs as indicated by:

- (i) Candidates demonstrate pedagogical language knowledge and critical language awareness that can help understand and challenge the normative discourses and the ways in which dynamic academic, personal, familial, cultural, and social contexts, including sociopolitical factors, impact the education of ELs;
- (ii) Candidates demonstrate knowledge of research and theories of cultural and linguistic diversity and equity that promote critical literacy and critical pedagogies, to support academic achievement and English language acquisition;
- (iii) Candidates devise and implement methods and strategies to understand each ELs' academic characteristics, including background knowledge, educational history, English Language Proficiency (ELP) and current performance data, to develop effective, individualized instructional and assessment practices;
- (iv) Candidates devise and implement methods to learn about personal characteristics of the individual ELs (e.g., interests, motivations, strengths, needs) and their family (e.g., language use, literacy practices, circumstances) to develop effective instructional practices; and
- (v) Candidates use their own and ELs' multiple identities (e.g., professional, cultural, linguistic, multilingual, transnational etc.) as pedagogical resources to empower ELs, by describing their own personal biases, critical consciousness, and conscious knowledge of U.S. culture on their interpretation of the educational strengths and needs of ELs.

3. Planning and Implementing Instruction: Candidates plan supportive environments for ELs, design and implement standards-based instruction using evidence-based, EL-centered, interactive approaches. Candidates make instructional decisions by reflecting on individual EL outcomes and adjusting instruction as indicated by:

- (i) Candidates plan for culturally and linguistically relevant, supportive environments that promote ELs' learning. Candidates design scaffolded instruction of language and literacies to support standards and curricular objectives for ELs' in the content areas;
- (ii) Candidates instruct ELs using evidence-based, student-centered, developmentally appropriate interactive approaches;
- (iii) Candidates adjust instructional decisions after critical reflection on individual ELs' learning outcomes in both language and content;
- (iv) Candidates plan strategies to collaborate with other educators, school personnel, and families in order to support their ELs' learning of language and literacies in the content areas;
- (v) Candidates use and adapt relevant materials and resources, including digital resources, to plan lessons for ELs, support communication with other educators, school personnel, and ELs and to foster student learning of language and literacies in the content areas; and
- (vi) Candidates utilize WIDA Consortium English Language Development (ELD) standards and ELD assessment results aligned with the state-adopted content standards to effectively plan, develop, implement and communicate data-driven instruction for ELs.

4. Assessment and Evaluation: Candidates apply assessment principles to analyze and interpret multiple and varied assessments for ELs, including classroom-based, standardized, and language proficiency assessments. Candidates understand how to analyze and interpret data to make informed decisions that promote English language and content learning. Candidates understand the importance of communicating results to other educators, ELs, and ELs' families as indicated by the following:

- (i) Candidates apply knowledge of validity, reliability, and assessment purposes to analyze and interpret student data from multiple sources, including norm-referenced, criterion-referenced, and authentic ongoing assessments.

Candidates recognize biases in language testing and make informed instructional decisions that support language learning and assessment;

(ii) Candidates demonstrate understanding of classroom-based formative, summative, and diagnostic assessments scaffolded for both English language and content assessment;

(iii) Candidates continuously determine language and content learning goals based on assessment data;

(iv) Candidates demonstrate knowledge of state-approved administrative considerations, accessibility features, and accommodations appropriate to ELs for standardized and other assessments; and

(v) Candidates demonstrate understanding of how English language proficiency assessment results are used for identification, placement, and reclassification and communicate these results to other educators, EL's families, and other stakeholders.

#### 5. Professionalism and Leadership

(i) Candidates demonstrate knowledge of effective collaboration strategies in order to plan ways to serve as a resource for EL instruction, support educators and school staff, and advocate for ELs;

(ii) Candidates apply knowledge of school, district, and state policies as well as state and federal legislation that impact ELs educational rights in order to advocate for ELs;

(iii) Candidates practice self-assessment and reflection, make adjustments for self-improvement, and plan for continuous professional development in the field of English language learning and teaching; and

(iv) Candidates engage in field experiences to apply their knowledge and further develop their understanding of language, sociocultural context, planning and implementing instruction for ELs, and assessment and evaluation of ELs to improve their professional practice.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.89

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. May 25, 2016; eff. June 15, 2016, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule with same title adopted. F. Apr. 7, 2020; eff. Apr. 15, 2020, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

### 505-3-.90 Gifted In-Field Education Endorsement Program

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare individuals to teach gifted and talented students in the field(s) and at the grade levels of their base teacher certification and supplements requirements in Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the Gifted In-Field Endorsement program are qualified to provide direct instruction to gifted students in the grade levels and/or field(s) of their base teaching certificate(s), or to serve as a resource teacher for indirect gifted education services in any content area in grades P-12.

(3) **Requirements.**

(a) A GaPSC-approved professional educator preparation provider may seek state approval to offer this field as either a stand-alone endorsement program or as an endorsement program embedded in a GaPSC-approved initial preparation program or an advanced (degree-only) preparation program. In addition to meeting all applicable approval requirements and standards, embedded endorsement programs must meet requirements specified in paragraph (e) 3. (ix) of GaPSC Educator Preparation Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(b) To receive approval, a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards for the preparation of teachers of students with gifts and talents developed by the National Association for Gifted Children and the Council for Exceptional Children:

1. Standard 1: Learner Development and Individual Learning Differences: Beginning gifted education professionals understand the variations in learning and development in cognitive and affective areas between and among individuals with gifts and talents and apply this understanding to provide meaningful and challenging learning experiences for individuals with exceptionalities as evidenced by the following:

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who understand how language, culture, economic status, family background, and/or area of disability can influence the learning of individuals with gifts and talents; and

(ii) The program shall prepare candidates who use their understanding of development and individual differences to respond to the needs of individuals with gifts and talents.

2. Standard 2: Learning Environments: Beginning gifted education professionals create safe, inclusive, and culturally responsive learning environments so that individuals with gifts and talents become effective learners and develop social and emotional well-being as evidenced by the following:

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who create safe, inclusive, culturally responsive learning environments that engage individuals with gifts and talent in meaningful and rigorous learning activities and social interactions;

(ii) The program shall prepare candidates who use communication and motivational and instructional strategies to facilitate understanding of subject matter and to teach individuals with gifts and talents how to adapt to different environments and develop ethical leadership skills;

(iii) The program shall prepare candidates who adjust their communication to an individual's language proficiency and cultural and linguistic differences; and

(iv) The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate understanding of the multiple environments that are part of a continuum of services for individuals with gifts and talents, including the advantages and disadvantages of various settings and teach students to adapt to these environments.

3. Standard 3: Curricular Content Knowledge: Beginning gifted education professionals use knowledge of general (core content) and specialized (interventions that are designed to address the unique needs of individuals with gifts and talents) to advance learning for individuals with gifts and talents as evidenced by:

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the role of central concepts, structures of the discipline, and tools of inquiry of the content areas they teach, and use their understanding to organize knowledge, integrate cross-disciplinary skills, and develop meaningful learning progressions within and across grade levels;

(ii) The program shall prepare candidates who design appropriate learning and performance modifications for individuals with gifts and talents that enhance creativity, acceleration, depth and complexity in academic subject matter and specialized domains;

(iii) The program shall prepare candidates who use assessments to select, adapt, and create materials to differentiate instructional strategies and general and specialized curricula to challenge individuals with gifts and talents; and

(iv) The program shall prepare candidates who understand that individuals with gifts and talents demonstrate a wide range of advanced knowledge and performance levels and modify the general or specialized curriculum appropriately.

4. Standard 4: Assessment: Beginning gifted education professionals use multiple methods of assessment and data sources in making educational decisions about identification of individuals with gifts and talents and student learning as evidenced by the following:

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who understand that some groups of individuals with gifts and talents have been underrepresented in gifted education programs and select and use technically sound formal and informal assessments that minimize bias in identifying students for gifted education programs and services;

(ii) The program shall prepare candidates who use knowledge of measurement principles and practices to differentiate assessments and interpret results to guide educational decisions for individuals with gifts and talents;

(iii) The program shall prepare candidates who collaborate with colleagues and families in using multiple types of assessment information to make identification and learning progress decisions and to minimize bias in assessment and decision-making;

(iv) The program shall prepare candidates who use assessment results to develop long- and short-range goals and objectives that take into consideration an individual's abilities and needs, the learning environment, and other factors related to diversity; and

(v) The program shall prepare candidates who engage individuals with gifts and talents in assessing the quality of their own learning and performance and in setting future goals and objectives.

5. Standard 5: Instructional Planning and Strategies: Beginning gifted education professionals select, adapt, and use a repertoire of evidence-based instructional strategies to advance the learning of individuals with gifts and talents as evidenced by the following:

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who know principles of evidence-based, differentiated, and accelerated practices and possess a repertoire of instructional strategies to enhance the critical and creative thinking, problem-solving, and performance skills of individuals with gifts and talents;

(ii) The program shall prepare candidates who apply appropriate technologies to support instructional assessment, planning, and delivery for individuals with gifts and talents;

(iii) The program shall prepare candidates who collaborate with families, professional colleagues, and other educators to select, adapt, and use evidence-based strategies that promote challenging learning opportunities in general and specialized curricula;

(iv) The program shall prepare candidates who emphasize the development, practice, and transfer of advanced knowledge and skills across environments throughout the lifespan leading to creative, productive careers in a multicultural society for individuals with gifts and talents; and

(v) The program shall prepare candidates who use instructional strategies that enhance the affective development of individuals with gifts and talents.

6. Standard 6: Professional Learning and Ethical Practice: Beginning gifted education professionals use foundational knowledge of the field and professional ethical principles and programming standards to inform gifted education practice, to engage in lifelong learning, and to advance the profession as evidenced by the following:

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who use professional ethical principles and specialized program standards to guide their practice;

(ii) The program shall prepare candidates who understand how foundational knowledge, perspectives, and historical and current issues influence professional practice and the education and treatment of individuals with gifts and talents both in school and society;

(iii) The program shall prepare candidates who model respect for diversity, understanding that it is an integral part of society's institutions and impacts learning of individuals with gifts and talents in the delivery of gifted education services;

(iv) The program shall prepare candidates who are aware of their own professional learning needs, understand the significance of lifelong learning, and participate in professional activities and learning communities; and

(v) The program shall prepare candidates who advance the profession by engaging in activities such as advocacy and mentoring.

7. Standard 7: Collaboration: Beginning gifted education professionals collaborate with families, other educators, related-service providers, individuals with gifts and talents, and personnel from community agencies in culturally responsive ways to address the needs of individuals with gifts and talents across a range of learning experiences as evidenced by the following:

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who apply elements of effective collaboration;

(ii) The program shall prepare candidates who serve as a collaborative resource to colleagues; and

(iii) The program shall prepare candidates who use collaboration to promote the well-being of individuals with gifts and talents across a wide range of settings, experiences, and collaborators.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.90

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Gifted In-Field Education Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Apr. 13, 2016; eff. Apr. 15, 2016, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 25, 2016; eff. June 15, 2016, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

### **505-3-.91 Intervention Specialist Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare individuals to teach in Georgia's early intervention programs and supplements requirements in GaPSC Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the Intervention Specialist Endorsement program are qualified to teach, in the grade levels and field(s) of their base certificates, students in early intervention programs who are at risk of not reaching or maintaining academic grade level.

(3) **Requirements.**

(a) A valid, level 4 or higher Induction, Professional, Advanced Professional, or Lead Professional teaching certificate in Elementary Education (P-5), Middle Grades Education (with a language arts and/or mathematics area of concentration), or Special Education General Curriculum (with a language arts and/or mathematics concentration) is required for program admission.

(b) A GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards, published by the Council for Exceptional Children 2012.

1. Education of Students Who are At-Risk. The program shall prepare candidates who:

(i) Plan and implement developmentally and individually appropriate curricula and instructional practices based on knowledge of individual children, the family, the community, curriculum goals and content, and effective instructional practices for at-risk learners;

(ii) Develop and implement curriculum that focuses on individual students' needs and interests, and takes into account culturally valued content and students' home experiences;

(iii) Develop and implement learning activities that correlate with the Common Core Curriculum and Georgia Performance Standards and with the content domains of the Georgia Criterion Referenced Content Tests;

(iv) Assess students' cognitive, social-emotional, communication, motor, adaptive and aesthetic development and use assessment results to appropriately differentiate instruction;

(v) Demonstrate understanding of the developmental consequences of stress and trauma, protective factors and resilience and the development of mental health, and the importance of supportive relationships;

(vi) Establish and maintain positive, collaborative relationships with families; and

(vii) Collaborate/consult with other professionals and with agencies in the larger community to support children's development, learning, and well-being.

(c) Certificate-Specific Requirements. The program shall incorporate the following certificate-specific requirements:

1. For Elementary Education (P-5) certificate holders, the program shall meet the standards for the Reading In-Field Endorsement specified in GaPSC Rule [505-3-.96](#) or the standards for the K-5 Mathematics Endorsement specified in GaPSC Rule [505-3-.92](#).

2. For Middle Grades certificate holders, the program shall meet the standards for the Middle Grades areas of specialization in mathematics or reading specified in GaPSC Rule [505-3-.19](#).

3. For Special Education General Curriculum certificate holders, the program shall meet the standards for either Elementary certificate holders or Middle Grades certificate holders, as appropriate to the candidate's job assignment.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.91

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Intervention Specialist Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 26, 2019; eff. July 1, 2019, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

## **505-3-.92 K-5 Mathematics Endorsement Program**

### **(1) Purpose.**

(a) This rule describes requirements and field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare mathematics specialists for teaching students in grades K-5 and supplements requirements in Rule [505-3-](#)

.01, REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION UNITS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(b) This endorsement is designed to strengthen and enhance educator competency levels. Individuals teaching mathematics in grades K-5 who hold a valid, level 4 or higher Induction, Professional, Advanced Professional, or Lead Professional teaching certificate and this endorsement will be eligible to earn salary incentives when funded by the General Assembly. The endorsement applies to educators teaching within grades K-5 but it does not modify the grade levels of the base certificate. For example, educators with the Middle Grades Mathematics (4-8) certificate and this K-5 endorsement are only in-field to teach mathematics in grades 4-8. They will be eligible for salary incentives only if they are assigned to teach mathematics in grades 4 or 5.

(c) Individuals with the following certificates will be eligible for pay incentives if they are assigned to teach mathematics in the grade levels defined below:

1. Elementary Education (P-5) certificate holders will be eligible to earn pay incentives if they are assigned to teach mathematics to children in grades K-5.

2. Middle Grades Mathematics (4-8) certificate holders will be eligible to earn pay incentives if they are assigned to teach mathematics to children in grades 4-5.

3. Special Education General Curriculum/Elementary Education (P-5) certificate holders will be eligible to earn pay incentives if they are assigned to teach mathematics to children in grades K-5.

4. Educators holding the following certificates and a core academic content concentration in mathematics will be eligible to earn pay incentives if they are assigned to teach mathematics to children in grades K-5:

(i) Special Education General Curriculum (P-12)

(ii) Special Education Adapted Curriculum (P-12)

(iii) Special Education Behavior Disorders (P-12)

(iv) Special Education Learning Disabilities (P-12)

(v) Special Education Deaf Education (P-12)

(vi) Special Education Physical and Health Disabilities (P-12)

(vii) Special Education Visual Impairment (P-12)

(viii) Gifted Education (P-12)

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the K-5 Mathematics Endorsement program have strengthened and enhanced competency levels in mathematics content and instruction for teaching students in grades Kindergarten through five, based on the grade levels of their base certificate.

(3) **Requirements.**

(a) To be eligible to enroll in this endorsement program, the educator must have:

1. A valid, level 4 or higher Induction, Professional, Advanced Professional, or Lead Professional teaching certificate, in one of the following fields:

(i) Elementary Education (P-5);

(ii) Middle Grades Mathematics (4-8);

- (iii) Special Education General Curriculum/Elementary Education (P-5); or
- (iv) any of the following certificates combined with a core academic content concentration in mathematics:

- (I) Special Education General Curriculum (P-12);
- (II) Special Education Adapted Curriculum (P-12);
- (III) Special Education Behavior Disorders (P-12);
- (IV) Special Education Learning Disabilities (P-12);
- (V) Special Education Deaf Education (P-12);
- (VI) Special Education Physical and Health Disabilities (P-12);
- (VII) Special Education Visual Impairment (P-12); or
- (VIII) Gifted Certificate (P-12); and

2. a minimum of one year of teaching experience.

(b) The program may be offered only by a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider.

(c) The program shall be offered as a post-baccalaureate endorsement and may not be embedded in an initial preparation program.

(d) The program shall require candidates to complete an authentic residency. An authentic residency is defined as a supervised and coordinated series of real applications of knowledge and skills occurring in actual classroom settings that allow candidates to further develop and demonstrate the knowledge and skills acquired in coursework. Residency experiences shall require demonstration of the content knowledge and pedagogical skills delineated in program content standards. Authentic residency experiences shall occur in candidates' assigned classrooms, as well as in settings other than candidates' assigned classrooms to ensure experiences with diverse students and with students in the grade levels of the candidate's base certificate. The authentic residency must include a portfolio component.

(e) Prior to the creation of this rule a certificate known as the Early Childhood Mathematics Endorsement was available. Those holding the Early Childhood Mathematics Endorsement issued prior to June 30, 2010 may keep the endorsement; however, it will not result in eligibility for salary incentives. The K-5 Mathematics Endorsement program shall include a process by which educators holding the Early Childhood Mathematics Endorsement may add the K-5 Mathematics Endorsement and thereby become eligible to earn salary incentives without repeating the full endorsement program. The process shall include but not be limited to the submission of a portfolio which will be assessed by the program provider. Based on the assessment of the portfolio, the program provider may prescribe coursework or performance-based assessments as necessary to ensure that all standards and requirements herein are met before notifying the GaPSC the candidate has met all requirements for the K-5 Mathematics Endorsement.

(f) The portfolio shall include but not be limited to: evidence of observations by supervisors, student work samples including analysis of student work, self reflection and evidence of the effective use of technology to assist in student learning.

(g) The preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi shall require a minimum of three courses of which two courses shall be focused on the advancement of content knowledge and one course shall be focused on content-specific pedagogy and proven strategies that address the following standards:



1. The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate conceptual understanding and procedural fluency regarding major concepts of mathematics appropriate for grades K-5. Candidates shall:

- (i) demonstrate knowledge of the development, use and multiple representation of numbers and number systems;
- (ii) demonstrate number sense and knowledge of number systems, not limited to base ten;
- (iii) model the use of the four basic operations in multiple contexts;
- (iv) use a variety of mental computation techniques;
- (v) apply estimation strategies to quantities, measurements, and computation to determine the reasonableness of results;
- (vi) model, explain, and develop a variety of computational algorithms;
- (vii) apply the process of measurement to two- and three-dimensional objects using nonstandard, customary and geometric units;
- (viii) use geometric concepts and relationships to describe and model mathematical ideas and real world constructs;
- (ix) collect, organize, represent, analyze, and interpret data;
- (x) apply concepts of probability to real-world situations; and
- (xi) describe and represent mathematical relationships.

2. The program shall prepare candidates who have knowledge of historical developments in mathematics that includes the contributions of underrepresented groups and diverse cultures.

3. The program shall prepare candidates who use their knowledge of student diversity to affirm and support full participation and continued study of mathematics by all students. This diversity includes gender, ethnicity, socioeconomic background, language, special needs, and mathematical learning styles.

4. The program shall prepare candidates who use appropriate technology to support the learning of mathematics.

5. The program shall prepare candidates who use appropriate assessment methods to assess student learning and program effectiveness.

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who use formative and summative methods to determine students' understanding of mathematics and to monitor their own teaching effectiveness.

(ii) The program shall prepare candidates who use formative assessment to monitor student learning and to adjust instructional strategies and activities.

(iii) The program shall prepare candidates who use summative assessment to determine student achievement and to evaluate the mathematics program.

6. The program shall prepare candidates who can facilitate problem solving in grades K-5.

7. The program shall prepare candidates who use a variety of physical, visual, and digital materials for exploration and development of:

- (i) prenumeration concepts;
- (ii) numbers (whole numbers, fractions, decimals, percents) and their relationships;

- (iii) four basic operations with positive and negative rational numbers;
  - (iv) geometric concepts and spatial visualization;
  - (v) measurement concepts and procedures;
  - (vi) algebraic concepts;
  - (vii) logical conjectures and conclusions using quantifiers such as "all", "some", and "none"; and
  - (viii) concepts of probability and elementary data analysis.
8. The program shall prepare candidates who use a variety of print, electronic, and online resources.
9. The program shall prepare candidates who know when and how to use student groupings such as collaborative groups, cooperative learning, and peer teaching.
10. The program shall prepare candidates who use instructional strategies based on current research as well as national, state, and local standards relating to mathematics instruction.
11. The program shall prepare candidates who can work on an interdisciplinary team and in an interdisciplinary environment.
12. The program shall prepare candidates who participate actively in the professional community of mathematics educators.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.92

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "K-5 Mathematics Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

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**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

## **505-3-.93 K-5 Science Endorsement Program**

### **(1) Purpose.**

(a) This rule describes requirements and field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare science specialists for teaching students in grades K-5 and supplements requirements in GaPSC Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(b) This endorsement program is designed to strengthen and enhance educator competency levels. This endorsement is designed to advance science content knowledge, provide professional growth, and promote changes in practice that impact student achievement.

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the K-5 Science Endorsement program have strengthened and enhanced competency levels in science content and instruction for teaching students in grades Kindergarten through five, based on the grade levels of their base certificate.

### **(3) Requirements.**

(a) To be eligible to enroll in this endorsement program, the educator must have:

1. A valid, level 4 or higher Induction, Professional, Advanced Professional, or Lead Professional teaching certificate in one of the following fields:

(i) Elementary Education (P-5);

(ii) Middle Grades Science (4-8);

(iii) Special Education General Curriculum/ Elementary Education (P-5); or

(iv) The following certificates combined with a core academic content concentration in Science:

(I) Special Education General Curriculum (P-12);

(II) Special Education Adapted Curriculum (P-12);

(III) Special Education Behavior Disorders (P-12);

(IV) Special Education Learning Disabilities (P-12);

(V) Special Education Deaf Education (P-12);

(VI) Special Education Physical and Health Disabilities (P-12);

(VII) Special Education Visual Impairment (P-12); or

(VIII) Gifted Certificate (P-12); and

2. A minimum of one year of teaching experience.

(b) The program may be offered only by a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider.

(c) The program shall be offered as a post-baccalaureate endorsement and may not be embedded in an initial preparation program.

(d) The program shall require candidates to complete an authentic residency. An authentic residency is defined as a supervised and coordinated series of real applications of knowledge and skills occurring in actual classroom settings that allow candidates to further develop and demonstrate the knowledge and skills acquired in coursework. Residency experiences shall require demonstration of the content knowledge and pedagogical skills delineated in program content standards. Authentic residency experiences shall occur in candidates' assigned classrooms, as well as in settings other than candidates' assigned classrooms to ensure experiences with diverse students and with students in the grade levels of the candidate's base certificate. The authentic residency must include a portfolio component.

(e) Prior to the creation of this rule a certificate known as the Early Childhood Science Endorsement was available. Those holding the Early Childhood Science Endorsement issued prior to June 30, 2010 may keep the endorsement; however, it will not result in eligibility for salary incentives. The K-5 Science Endorsement program shall include a process by which educators holding the Early Childhood Science Endorsement may add the K-5 Science Endorsement and thereby become eligible to earn salary incentives without repeating the full endorsement program. The process shall include but not be limited to the submission of a portfolio which will be assessed by the program provider. Based on the assessment of the portfolio, the program provider may prescribe coursework or performance-

based assessments as necessary to ensure that all standards and requirements herein are met before recommending the candidate for the K-5 Science Endorsement.

(f) The portfolio shall include but not be limited to: evidence of observations by supervisors, student work samples, student work samples with analysis, self-reflection, and evidence of the effective use of technology to assist in student learning.

(g) The preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi shall require a minimum of three courses of which two courses shall be focused on the advancement of content knowledge and one course shall be focused on content-specific pedagogy and proven strategies that address the following standards:

1. The program shall prepare candidates who structure and interpret concepts, ideas and relationships in science at a level appropriate to K-5 students as indicated in the following:

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the major concepts and principles of the science disciplines (life, physical, and earth and space) and interdisciplinary science perspectives as defined by *A Framework for K-12 Science Education - Practices, Crosscutting Concepts, and Core Ideas 2012*.

(I) In relation to the life sciences, candidates shall understand

I. From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes - How organisms live, grow, respond to their environment, and reproduce including:

A. Structure and Function - How the structures of organisms enable life's functions;

B. Growth and Development of Organisms - How organisms grow and develop;

C. Organization for Matter and Energy Flow in Organisms - How organisms obtain and use the matter and energy they need to live and grow; and

D. Information Processing - How organisms detect, process, and use information about the environment.

II. Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics - How and why organisms interact with their environment and the effects of the interactions including:

A. Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems - How organisms interact with the living and nonliving environments to obtain matter and energy;

B. Cycles of Matter and Energy Transfer in Ecosystems - How matter and energy move through an ecosystem;

C. Ecosystem Dynamics, Functioning, and Resilience - What happens to ecosystems when the environment changes; and

D. Social Interactions and Group Behavior - How organisms interact in groups so as to benefit individuals.

III. Heredity: Inheritance and Variation of Traits - How characteristics of one generation pass to the next and how individuals of the same species and even siblings have different characteristics including:

A. Inheritance of Traits - How the characteristics of one generation relate to the previous generation; and

B. Variation of Traits - How individuals of the same species vary in how they look, function, and behave.

IV. Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity - How there can be so many similarities among organisms yet so many different kinds of plants, animals, and microorganisms and how biodiversity affects humans including:

A. Evidence of Common Ancestry and Diversity - What evidence shows that different species are related;

- B. Natural Selection - How genetic variation among organisms affects survival and reproduction;
  - C. Adaptation - How the environment influences populations of organisms over multiple generations; and
  - D. Biodiversity and Humans - Biodiversity, how humans affect it, and how it affects humans;
- (II) In relation to the physical sciences, candidates shall understand
- I. Matter and Its Interactions - How one explains the structure, properties, and interactions of matter including:
    - A. Structure and Properties of Matter - How particles combine to form the variety of matter one observes; and
    - B. Chemical Reactions - How substances combine or change (react) to make new substances and how one characterizes and explains these reactions and makes predictions about them.
  - II. Motion and Stability: Forces and Interactions - How one explains and predicts interactions between objects and within systems of objects including:
    - A. Forces and Motion - How one predicts an object's continued motion, changes in motion, or stability;
    - B. Types of Interactions - What underlying forces explain the variety of interactions observed; and
    - C. Stability and Instability in Physical Systems - Why some physical systems are more stable than others.
  - III. Energy - How energy is transferred and conserved including:
    - A. Definitions of Energy;
    - B. Conservation of Energy in Energy Transfer - What is meant by conservation of energy and how energy is transferred between objects or systems;
    - C. Relationship Between Energy and Forces- How forces are related to energy; and
    - D. Energy in Chemical Processes and Everyday Life - How food and fuel provide energy and if energy is conserved, why people say it is produced or used;
  - IV. Waves and Their Application in Technologies for Information Transfer - How waves are used to transfer energy and information including:
    - A. Wave Properties -The characteristics, properties, and behaviors of waves;
    - B. Electromagnetic Radiation - What is light, how one explains the varied effects that involve light, and other forms of electromagnetic radiation; and
    - C. Information Technologies and Instrumentation - How instruments that transmit and detect waves are used to extend human senses.
- (III) In relation to the Earth and space sciences, candidates shall understand
- I. Earth's Place in the Universe Including:
    - A. The Universe and Its Stars;
    - B. Earth and the Solar System - The predictable patterns caused by Earth's movement in the solar system; and

C. The History of Planet Earth - How people reconstruct and date events in Earth's planetary history.

II. Earth's Systems - How and why Earth is constantly changing including:

A. Earth Materials and Systems - How Earth's major systems interact;

B. Plate Tectonics and Large-Scale System Interactions - Why the continents move, and what causes earthquakes and volcanoes;

C. The Roles of Water in Earth's Surface Processes - How the properties and movements of water shape Earth's surface and affect its systems;

D. Weather and Climate - What regulates weather and climate; and

E. Biogeology - How living organisms alter Earth's processes and structures.

III. Earth and Human Activity - How Earth's surface processes and human activities affect each other including:

A. Natural Resources - How humans depend on Earth's resources;

B. Natural Hazards - How natural hazards affect individuals and societies;

C. Human Impacts on Earth Systems - How humans change the planet; and

D. Global Climate Change - How people model and predict the effects of human activities on Earth's climate.

(ii) The program shall prepare candidates who understand how the major crosscutting concepts and scientific and engineering practices, which include inquiry, are integrated with the scientific disciplinary core ideas to create a three dimensional learning experience as indicated in the following:

(I) Scientific and Engineering Practices including:

I. Asking questions (for science) and defining problems (for engineering):

A. Developing and using models;

B. Planning and carrying out investigations;

C. Analyzing and interpreting data;

D. Using mathematics and computational thinking;

E. Constructing explanations (for science) and designing solutions (for engineering);

F. Engaging in argument from evidence; and

G. Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information.

II. Crosscutting Concepts including:

A. Patterns;

B. Cause and effect: Mechanism and explanation;

C. Scale, proportion, and quantity;

D. Systems and system models;

E. Energy and matter: Flows, cycles, and conservation;

F. Structure and function; and

G. Stability and change.

2. The program shall prepare candidates who are able to engage K-5 students regularly and effectively integrate core ideas, crosscutting concepts, and science and engineering practices and who understand the roles the three dimensions of the Framework play in the development of scientific knowledge as indicated in the following:

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who understand scientific and engineering practices and their relationship to the development of scientific knowledge;

(ii) The program shall prepare candidates who engage K-5 students effectively in scientific and engineering practices appropriate for their grade level and abilities;

(iii) The program shall prepare candidates who understand how to engage K-5 students effectively in studies of the nature of science and conventions of scientific explanations; and

(iv) The program shall prepare candidates who use appropriate technology to teach K-5 students science.

3. The program shall prepare candidates who relate science to the daily lives and interests of students, understand the relationships of science to society and the community, and use human and institutional resources to advance the science education of their students understanding as indicated in the following:

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who relate science to the personal lives, needs, and interests of K-5 students;

(ii) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the values and needs of the community and their effect on science teaching and learning;

(iii) The program shall prepare candidates who use community, human, and institutional resources to advance science learning in the classroom and in the field;

(iv) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the nature of science.

4. The program shall prepare candidates who are able to engage a diverse community of student learners through differentiated strategies as indicated in the following:

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who value and respect the experiences that all students bring from their backgrounds (e.g., homes or communities) and who tailor instruction by using culturally relevant pedagogy.

(ii) The program shall prepare candidates to support a diverse population of students, to include economically disadvantaged, by connecting science education to students' sense of "place" by physical, historical, and/or sociocultural dimensions.

(iii) The program shall prepare candidates to positively impact the achievement and confidence of underrepresented groups, including females and other minority groups, by incorporating instructional strategies to increase their intentions to continue studies in science and curricula to improve their achievement and confidence in science.

(iv) The program shall prepare candidates to support students with limited English proficiency by using adequate literacy strategies for all students, language support strategies with ELLs, and discourse strategies with ELLs.

5. The program shall prepare candidates who use a variety of contemporary science formative and summative assessments to determine, guide, and inform science instruction and then use the results of these assessments to improve their practice and increase student achievement.

6. The program shall prepare candidates who create and maintain a psychologically, socially, and ethically safe and supportive learning environment and a science teaching environment that conforms to the National Science Teachers Association's National Science Safety Standards. To this end, the program will include instruction and training on the safe handling, distribution, disposal and storage of chemicals and other laboratory equipment and the safe and ethical treatment of animals in the classroom.

7. The program shall prepare candidates through authentic experiences who participate in the professional community and improve practices through their personal actions, education, and development.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.93

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "K-5 Science Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

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**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Sep. 24, 2015; eff. Oct. 15, 2015, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 26, 2019; eff. July 1, 2019, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

### **505-3-.94 STEM Education Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare individuals to model STEM content pedagogy in the field and at the grade level of their base certification and supplements requirements in Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the STEM Endorsement program have strengthened and enhanced competency in STEM content and instruction for teaching students in the field(s) and at the grade levels of their base certificate(s).

(3) **Requirements.**

(a) A GaPSC approved professional educator preparation provider may seek state approval to offer this field as either a stand-alone endorsement program or as an endorsement program embedded in a GaPSC-approved initial preparation program or an advanced (degree-only) preparation program. In addition to meeting all applicable approval requirements and standards, embedded endorsement programs must meet requirements specified in paragraph (e) 3. (ix) of GaPSC educator preparation rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(b) To receive approval, a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards for the preparation of teachers of STEM and STEM related content:

1. The program will prepare candidates who demonstrate their understanding of STEM education as an interdisciplinary endeavor by demonstrating their ability to apply rigorous content across STEM and STEM related disciplines as indicated by the following:



- (i) Candidates will demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of and the ability to integrate STEM content standards;
  - (ii) Candidates will be able to articulate a clear definition and understanding of what STEM education is and what it looks like in practice as both interdisciplinary and process driven;
  - (iii) Candidates will demonstrate the ability to apply integrated STEM and STEM related content to answer complex questions, to investigate local, regional and global issues to make connections and to develop solutions for challenges and real world problems; and
  - (iv) Candidates will demonstrate knowledge of the benefits of STEM education for all citizens, enabling them to make informed decisions about challenges facing the next generation, for future STEM workforce development and related career opportunities and the skills necessary to be successful in them.
2. The program will prepare candidates who demonstrate that they understand and can engage learners in the ways of thinking and habits of mind used in STEM and STEM related disciplines as indicated by the following:
- (i) Candidates will demonstrate the ability to think critically, evaluate complex data, draw evidence-based conclusions, engage in effective argumentation and communicate effectively in written format.
  - (ii) Candidates will demonstrate the ability to engage students in STEM reasoning that reveals how STEM professionals think and solve problems.
  - (iii) Candidates will demonstrate the dispositions necessary to be effective interdisciplinary STEM educators (i.e., life-long learning, value collaborations, flexible, high tolerance for ambiguity, risk taker, innovative, committed to the profession, self-reflective perseverance).
3. The program will prepare candidates who understand and demonstrate the role of meaningful collaboration and partnerships as evidenced by the following:
- (i) Candidates will demonstrate the ability to work effectively within a STEM focused multidisciplinary professional learning community to achieve a common goal and to co-plan authentic STEM based experiences and interdisciplinary lessons;
  - (ii) Candidates will demonstrate the ability to involve business partners in identifying and solving relevant problems; and
  - (iii) Candidates will demonstrate the ability to engage local STEM experts in their programs.
4. The program will prepare candidates who demonstrate the ability to engage students using STEM and STEM related discipline pedagogical practices as indicated by the following:
- (i) Candidates will demonstrate the ability to effectively engage students in engineering design processes to solve open-ended problems or complete design challenges;
  - (ii) Candidates will demonstrate the ability to effectively engage students in authentic or investigative research to answer relevant questions;
  - (iii) Candidate will demonstrate the ability to effectively engage students in using STEM reasoning abilities (i.e., computational reasoning, model-based reasoning, quantitative reasoning, engineering design-based reasoning and complex systems thinking);
  - (iv) Candidates will demonstrate the ability to effectively engage students in experiential learning;
  - (v) Candidates will demonstrate the ability to effectively engage students in project management techniques;

- (vi) Candidates will demonstrate proficiency in differentiating instruction related to integrated STEM concepts;
- (vii) Candidates will demonstrate the ability to effectively assess students using interdisciplinary STEM performance tasks, and portfolio assessments and create rubrics for these assessments;
- (vii) Candidates will be able to demonstrate the ability to facilitate student-led learning and to apply knowledge and skills to novel, relevant and authentic situations;
- (viii) Candidates will demonstrate the implementation of authentic teaching and learning strategies, including project-based learning, problem-based learning, and place-based education;
- (ix) Candidates will foster a learning environment which encourages risk taking, innovation and creativity; and
- (x) Candidates will demonstrate the ability to facilitate student-led team-based learning with appropriate etiquette.

5. The program will provide candidates with authentic experiences in STEM and STEM related careers and teaching environments (a clinical component) as indicated by the following:

- (i) Candidates will show evidence of an interaction with a STEM related business or externships with STEM professionals to gain perspective of what it is to work in a STEM or STEM related field;
- (ii) Candidates will show evidence of field based experiences that includes observation of classrooms, collaborative planning and interview of teachers in an integrated STEM education environment that is evidenced by reflective documentation; and
- (iii) Candidates will complete an interdisciplinary STEM culminating project.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.94

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Middle Grades Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** F. Dec. 22, 2014; eff. Jan. 15, 2015, as specified by the Agency.

**Adopted:** New Rule entitled "STEM Education Endorsement Program." F. Sep. 26, 2016; eff. Oct. 15, 2016, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

### **505-3-.95 Online Teaching Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare individuals to teach classes within online and blended learning environments and supplements requirements in Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

#### **(2) Definitions.**

- (a) **Accessibility:** Ensuring the content, tools, and technologies used in online and blended learning are designed and developed so that learners with disabilities can use them.
- (b) **Blended:** Learning that combines face-to-face and online learning experiences, ideally benefitting from the strengths of each.

- (c) Content Management System (CMS): A software program used to create and modify digital content for online and blended learning environments.
  - (d) Culturally responsive pedagogy: Using students' cultural knowledge, prior experiences, and frames of reference to select and convey content, enrich classroom experiences, and keep students actively engaged in learning.
  - (e) Digital citizenship: Knowledge and willingness to communicate and act civilly, appropriately, and safely in online environments.
  - (f) Digital learning tools: Software programs, websites, or online resources used to facilitate learning.
  - (g) Digital pedagogy: The use of digital technologies when teaching and learning in online, blended, or face-to-face learning environments.
  - (h) Instructional design: A systematic process for designing instruction by determining the needs of the learners, defining the end goals and objectives of instruction, and designing and planning learning activities and assessments to ensure effective learning experiences.
  - (i) Learner-centered instructional strategies: An approach to learning that gives learners more agency and responsibility for their learning and puts learners' interests and needs first, in which students are actively learning and have greater input into what they learn, how they learn, and when they learn.
  - (j) Learning Management System (LMS): A web-based program that contains and curates all materials and digital activities for a class or other learning experience, from content and communication to assessments.
  - (k) Netiquette: Guidelines for civil and appropriate communication in the online environment.
  - (l) Personalized learning: An approach to learning that values learner differences and harnesses technology to allow the educator and learner to co-plan a unique educational experience that addresses the distinct learning needs, interests, goals, and background of each individual student.
  - (m) Universal Design for Learning (UDL): A framework for designing learning goals, materials, methods, and assessments that give learners multiple means of engagement, representation, action, and expression. UDL includes but is not limited to concerns related to accessibility, and focuses on supporting the success of ALL learners.
- (3) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the Online Teaching Endorsement program have strengthened and enhanced competency levels to teach online courses in the content areas and grade levels of their base certificate(s).

(4) **Requirements.**

- (a) A GaPSC approved educator preparation provider may seek state approval to offer this field as either a stand-alone endorsement program or as an endorsement program embedded in a GaPSC-approved initial preparation program or an advanced (degree-only) preparation program. In addition to meeting all applicable approval requirements and standards, embedded endorsement programs must meet requirements specified in paragraph (e) 3. (ix) of GaPSC Educator Preparation Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.
- (b) To receive approval, a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards adapted from the standards published in 2019 by the Virtual Learning Leadership Alliance (VLLA) and Quality Matters (QM). These standards include portions of the National Standards for Quality Online Learning initially developed by The International Association for K-12 Online Learning (iNACOL).

1. Digital Proficiency. The online teacher supports learning and facilitates engagement with digital pedagogy in online and blended learning environments. The program shall prepare candidates who:

- (i) Select and utilize a range of digital pedagogical tools for communication, productivity, collaboration, analysis, presentation, research, content delivery, interaction and assessment;
- (ii) Select and utilize a variety of content-specific and developmentally appropriate digital learning tools and resources to meet individualized learning needs;
- (iii) Use a variety of communication technologies (e.g., learning management systems [LMS], content management systems [CMS], email, phone, video, audio, instant messaging, social media) in a variety of contexts to enhance online learning; and
- (iv) Apply troubleshooting skills to address basic technical issues of online learners and access additional technical support as needed.

2. Instructional Design and Best Practices. The online teacher incorporates instructional design principles and best practices when designing and facilitating online and blended learning environments. The program shall prepare candidates who:

- (i) Provide a syllabus with measurable objectives, grading criteria, expectations for interactions for both teacher and learners, and appropriate behavior criteria for learners;
- (ii) Utilize principles of universal design for learning (UDL) to design instruction and present content in a variety of ways using a digital learning platform;
- (iii) Incorporate sufficient support, directions, and guidelines to ensure navigation is logical, consistent, and efficient for online learners;
- (iv) Differentiate instruction so all learners can be successful in online learning environments;
- (v) Design or incorporate flexible, digital, interactive and collaborative learning experiences that engage students in the learning process and promote higher order thinking and creativity;
- (vi) Employ learner-centered instructional strategies incorporating authentic learning experiences;
- (vii) Continually review and update all content materials and resources for relevancy, appropriateness, functionality, and alignment with course assignments, assessments, and standards-based learning goals;
- (viii) Create and maintain a community of learners by communicating clear expectations for both teacher and learners, creating a relationship of trust, and establishing consistent and reliable classroom procedures;
- (ix) Facilitate active learning among learners by providing opportunities for regular and frequent teacher-learner interaction, learner-learner interaction, learner-content interaction, learner-interface interaction, teacher-parent interaction, and teacher-mentor interaction;
- (x) Lead synchronous online instructional sessions using best practices that support the learning goals and are meaningful, project-based, and inquiry-oriented; and
- (xi) Model frequent, effective and timely communications regarding learner progress with stakeholders through various formats (e.g., emails, phone calls, video conferences, social media) and maintain records of communications with students, parents, and other school personnel.

3. Assessment and Feedback. The online teacher designs and implements a variety of assessments and provides high-quality feedback in online learning and blended learning environments. The program shall prepare candidates who:

- (i) Assess student readiness for content and method of delivery;

- (ii) Continually measure learner proficiency through a variety of valid and reliable formative and summative assessments;
- (iii) Design, select, and implement assignments, projects, and assessments that align with learning goals and promote research-based best practices (e.g., higher order thinking, problem-solving, authentic assessment);
- (iv) Provide a clear description of learning goals, assessment expectations, and evaluation criteria for each assignment, assessment, and project;
- (v) Provide timely, specific, constructive, and personalized feedback to learners about assignments, projects, tests, and questions;
- (vi) Provide a clear explanation of the expectations of teacher response time and feedback to students;
- (vii) Use student feedback data and assessments to inform instruction; and
- (viii) Create opportunities for peer review and learner self-assessment.

4. Data Analysis, Reflection, and Professional Growth. The online teacher engages in data analysis and reflection to increase student learning in online and blended learning environments and enhance professional growth. The program shall prepare candidates who:

- (i) Use assessment data to plan instruction, modify instructional methods and content, monitor learner progress, and develop intervention and enrichment plans;
- (ii) Use learner analytics or other observational data (e.g., tracking data in electronic courses, Web logs, email, student postings, discussions) to monitor learner progress, engagement, and success;
- (iii) Use assessment data to personalize learning experiences and enable a learner customized pace and/or path through instruction, aligned with learner goals, needs and interests;
- (iv) Empower learners to establish learning goals, self-assess, and reflect on learning;
- (v) Engage in regular self-reflection and evaluation of teaching to improve and strengthen teaching effectiveness (e.g., LMS analytics, student surveys, teacher evaluations, teacher peer reviews);
- (vi) Demonstrate continual growth in knowledge and skills of digital pedagogy and current and emerging technologies, and apply them to improve productivity and professional practice; and
- (vii) Develop a professional learning network and stay abreast of issues, trends, research, and best practices on teaching and learning in online and blended learning environments.

5. Digital Citizenship. The online teacher models, guides, and encourages legal, ethical, and safe behavior in online and blended learning environments. The program shall prepare candidates who:

- (i) Ensure academic integrity and the security of learner assessment data;
- (ii) Identify the risks of academic dishonesty for learners and create assessment opportunities that limit this risk;
- (iii) Model and facilitate the safe, legal, ethical, and credible uses of digital information and technologies;
- (iv) Create expectations for appropriate use of the internet and interaction among learners, including establishing netiquette requirements and enforcing the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) and other similar guidelines/requirements; and

(v) Comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and communicate privacy guidelines to protect student privacy and maintain confidentiality of student information, including in the use of technology tools.

6. Diversity and Accessibility. The online teacher recognizes the diversity of student academic needs, ensures accessibility of online learning, and incorporates appropriate accommodations in online and blended learning environments. The program shall prepare candidates who:

(i) Address learner preference and abilities by creating multiple paths to meet learning goals and standards;

(ii) Identify students who are struggling with various learning obstacles and apply appropriate strategies to support student learning;

(iii) Ensure accessibility through compliance with legal mandates and other guidelines such as providing alternative text for images, synchronizing captions or including transcripts for video and audio files, formatting documents for screen readers, and choosing accessible digital tools and resources;

(iv) Utilize culturally responsive pedagogy demonstrating respect for and responsiveness to the cultural backgrounds and differing perspectives learners bring to the online environment; and

(v) Collaborate with appropriate school staff to make appropriate accommodations or modifications to meet the needs of all learners, to include the use of assistive technologies when appropriate.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.95

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Online Teaching Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. May 25, 2016; eff. June 15, 2016, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 25, 2017; eff. June 15, 2017, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule of same title adopted. F. Dec. 11, 2020; eff. Jan. 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

## **505-3-.96 Reading Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare individuals to teach reading to students in grades P-12 and supplements requirements in GaPSC Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the Reading Endorsement program are qualified to teach reading to students in grades P-12.

(3) **Requirements.**

(a) A GaPSC-approved professional educator preparation provider may seek state approval to offer this field as either a stand-alone endorsement program or as an endorsement program embedded in a GaPSC-approved initial preparation program or an advanced (degree-only) preparation program. In addition to meeting all applicable approval requirements and standards, embedded endorsement programs must meet requirements specified in paragraph (e) 3. (ix) of GaPSC Educator Preparation Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(b) To receive approval, a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs and syllabi addressing the following standards for classroom teachers of reading adapted from standards published by the International Literacy Association (2017).

1. Standard Foundational Knowledge. Candidates demonstrate knowledge of the major theoretical, conceptual, and evidence-based foundations of literacy and language development and the ways in which they interrelate as indicated by the following:

(i) Candidates demonstrate knowledge of major theoretical, conceptual, and evidence-based components of reading development (i.e., concepts of print, phonological awareness, phonics, word recognition, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension) and evidence-based instructional approaches that support that development;

(ii) Candidates demonstrate knowledge of major theoretical, conceptual, and evidence-based foundations of writing development and the writing process, and evidence-based instructional approaches that support writing of specific types of text and producing writing appropriate to task;

(iii) Candidates demonstrate knowledge of major theoretical, conceptual, and evidence-based frameworks that describe the centrality of language to literacy learning and evidence-based instructional approaches that support the development of listening, speaking, viewing, and visually representing; and

(iv) Candidates demonstrate knowledge of major theoretical, conceptual, and evidence-based frameworks that describe the interrelated components of literacy and interdisciplinary learning.

2. Curriculum and Instruction. Candidates apply foundational knowledge to critically examine, select, and evaluate curriculum and design; implement, adapt, and evaluate instruction to provide a coherent and motivating literacy program that addresses both general and discipline specific literacy processes as indicated by the following:

(i) Candidates demonstrate the ability to critically examine literacy curricula and select high-quality literary, multimedia, and informational texts to provide a coherent, integrated, and motivating literacy program;

(ii) Candidates plan, modify, and implement evidence-based, developmentally appropriate, and integrated instructional approaches that develop reading processes as related to foundational skills (i.e., concepts of print, phonological awareness, phonics, word recognition, fluency), vocabulary, and comprehension for all learners;

(iii) Candidates design, adapt, implement, and evaluate evidence-based and developmentally appropriate instruction and materials to develop writing processes and orthographic knowledge of all learners; and

(iv) Candidates plan, modify, implement, and evaluate evidence-based and integrated instructional approaches and materials that provide developmentally appropriate instruction and materials to develop the language, speaking, listening, viewing, and visual representation skills and processes of all learners.

3. Assessment and Evaluation. Candidates understand, select, and use appropriate assessments to gather evidence for all students' content knowledge and literacy processes within a discipline for instructional and accountability purposes as indicated by:

(i) Candidates understand the purposes, strengths and limitations, reliability/validity, formats, and appropriateness of various types of informal and formal assessments;

(ii) Candidates use observational skills and results of student work to determine students' literacy and language strengths and needs;

(iii) Candidates select and administer other formal and informal assessments appropriate for assessing students' language and literacy development;

(iv) Candidates use results of various assessment measures to inform and/or modify instruction: and

(v) Candidates use data in an ethical manner, interpret data to explain student progress, and inform families and colleagues about the function/ purpose of assessments.

4. Diversity and Equity. Candidates examine their own culture and beliefs; set high expectations for their students; and learn about and appreciate the cultures of their students, families, and communities to inform instruction as indicated by the following:

(i) Candidates recognize how their own cultural experiences affect instruction and appreciate the diversity of their students, families, and communities;

(ii) Candidates set high expectations for learners and implement instructional practices that are responsive to students' diversity;

(iii) Candidates situate diversity as a core asset in instructional planning, teaching, and selecting texts and materials; and

(iv) Candidates forge family, community, and school relationships to enhance students' literacy learning.

5. Learners and The Literacy Environment. Candidates apply knowledge of learner development and learning differences to create a learning environment anchored in digital and print literacies as indicated by the following:

(i) Candidates apply knowledge of learner development and learning differences to plan literacy learning experiences that develop motivated and engaged literacy learners;

(ii) Candidates incorporate digital and print texts and experiences designed to differentiate and enhance students' language, literacy, and the learning environment;

(iii) Candidates incorporate safe, appropriate, and effective ways to use digital technologies in literacy and language learning experiences; and

(iv) Candidates create physical and social literacy-rich environments that use routines and a variety of grouping configurations for independent and collaborative learning.

6. Professional Learning and Leadership. Candidates are lifelong learners who reflect upon practice, use ongoing inquiry to improve their professional practice and enhance students' literacy learning, and advocate for students and their families to enhance students' literacy learning as indicated by the following:

(i) Candidates are readers, writers, and lifelong learners who continually seek and engage with professional resources and hold membership in professional organizations;

(ii) Candidates reflect as a means of improving professional teaching practices and understand the value of reflection in fostering individual and school change;

(iii) Candidates collaboratively participate in ongoing inquiry with colleagues and mentor teachers and participate in professional learning communities; and

(iv) Candidates advocate for the teaching profession and their students, schools, and communities.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.96

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Reading Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. May 25, 2016; eff. June 15, 2016, as specified by the Agency.



**Amended:** F. Dec. 13, 2019; eff. Jan. 1, 2020, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

## **505-3-.97 Repealed and Reserved**

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.97

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Safety and Driver Education Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. May 25, 2016; eff. June 15, 2016, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

## **505-3-.98 Special Education Deaf Education Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare teachers to teach students who are deaf or hard of hearing in grades P-12. This rule supplements requirements in GaPSC Rule [505-3-.01](#) Requirements and Standards for Approving EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS and Educator Preparation Programs.

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the Special Education Deaf Education Endorsement program are qualified to provide educational services for students with hearing impairments in grades P-12 and preschool students (ages three [3] to five [5]), subject to the following conditions:

(a) The educator may work collaboratively with a content area teacher of record in all content subjects.

(b) To serve as the teacher of record, the educator may teach only the content subjects of her/his base certificate field(s) and the Special Education academic content concentrations with designated cognitive levels identified on their certificate.

(3) **Requirements.**

(a) A GaPSC approved professional educator preparation provider may seek state approval to offer this field as either a stand-alone endorsement program to candidates who hold Special Education P-12 certification or Special Education General Curriculum/Elementary Education (P-5) certification or as an endorsement program embedded in a GaPSC-approved initial preparation Special Education or Special Education/Elementary Education (P-5) program or an advanced (degree-only) preparation program. In addition to meeting all applicable approval requirements and standards, embedded endorsement programs must meet requirements specified in paragraph (e) 3. (ix) of GaPSC educator preparation rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

1. A GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards for the preparation of all beginning special education teachers of students who are deaf or hard of hearing published by the Council for Exceptional Children 2012.

(i) Learner and Learning: Learner Development and Individual Learning Differences. Beginning special education professionals understand how exceptionalities may interact with development and learning and use this knowledge

to provide meaningful and challenging learning experiences for individuals with exceptionalities as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand cognitive and language development of individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the effects of the interrelationship among onset of hearing loss, age of identification, and provision of services on the development of the individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the influence of experience and educational placement on all developmental domains;

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the influence of cultural identity and language on all developmental domains;

(V) The program shall prepare candidates who understand components of linguistic and non-linguistic communication;

(VI) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the importance of early intervention to language development;

(VII) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the effects of sensory input on the development of language and learning;

(VIII) The program shall prepare candidates who understand spoken and visual communication modes; and

(IX) The program shall prepare candidates who understand current theories of the development of spoken language and signed languages.

(ii) Learning Environments. Beginning special education professionals create safe, inclusive, culturally responsive learning environments so that individuals with exceptionalities become active and effective learners and develop emotional well-being, positive social interactions, and self-determination as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the influence of family communication and culture on all developmental domains;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who provide ongoing opportunities for interactions between individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing with peers and role models who are deaf or hard of hearing;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who provide access to incidental language experiences;

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who prepare individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing to use interpreters;

(V) The program shall prepare candidates who manage assistive technology for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing; and

(VI) The program shall prepare candidates who can design a classroom environment that maximizes opportunities for visual and/or auditory learning and meets developmental and learning needs.

(iii) Curricular Content Knowledge. Beginning special education professionals use knowledge of general and specialized curricula to individualize learning for individuals with exceptionalities as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who plan and implement transitions across service continuums; and

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who integrate language instruction into academic areas.

(iv) Assessment. Beginning special education professionals use multiple methods of assessment and data-sources in making educational decisions as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who are aware of specialized terminology used in assessing individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who administer assessment tools using the individual's preferred mode and language of communication;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who develop specialized assessment procedures that allow for alternative forms of expression; and,

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who collect and analyze spoken, signed, or written communication samples.

(v) Instructional Planning and Strategies. Beginning special education professionals select, adapt, and use a repertoire of evidence-based instructional strategies to advance learning of individuals with exceptionalities as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who are aware of visual tools and organizers that support content mastery and retention by individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who apply strategies to facilitate cognitive and communicative development;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who implement strategies for stimulating and using residual hearing;

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who facilitate independent communication in all contexts;

(V) The program shall prepare candidates who use reading methods appropriate to individuals with exceptionalities;

(VI) The program shall prepare candidates who implement strategies for developing spoken language in orally communicating individuals, and sign language proficiency in signing individuals;

(VII) The program shall prepare candidates who use specialized technologies, resources, and instructional strategies unique to individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing;

(VIII) The program shall prepare candidates who develop successful inclusion experiences;

(IX) The program shall prepare candidates who develop proficiency in the languages used to teach individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing;

(X) The program shall prepare candidates who provide activities to promote print literacy and content area reading and writing through instruction via spoken language and/or the signed language indigenous to the Deaf community;

(XI) The program shall prepare candidates who apply first and second language teaching strategies to the instruction of the individual; and

(XII) The program shall prepare candidates who provide balance among explicit instruction, guided instruction, peer learning, and reflection.

(vi) Professional Learning and Ethical Practice. Beginning special education professionals use foundational knowledge of the field and their professional Ethical Principles and Practice Standards to inform special education practice, to engage in lifelong learning and to advance the profession as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand model programs for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the roles and responsibilities of teachers and support personnel in educational practice for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates are aware of professional resources relevant to the field of education of individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing;

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who have knowledge of professional organizations in the field of deaf education;

(V) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the incidence and prevalence figures for individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing;

(VI) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the sociocultural, historical, and political forces unique to deaf education;

(VII) The program shall prepare candidates who understand etiologies of hearing loss that can result in additional learning challenges;

(VIII) The program shall prepare candidates who communicate proficiently in spoken language or the sign language indigenous to the Deaf community;

(IX) The program shall prepare candidates who increase proficiency and sustain a life-long commitment to maintaining instructional language competence;

(X) The program shall prepare candidates who can explain historical foundations and research evidence upon which educational practices are based; and

(XI) The program shall prepare candidates who develop and enrich cultural competence relative to the Deaf community.

(vii) Collaboration. Beginning special education professionals collaborate with families, other educators, related service providers, individuals with exceptionalities, and personnel from community agencies in culturally responsive ways to address the needs of individuals with exceptionalities across a range of learning experiences as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who are aware of services, organizations, and networks that support individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing; and

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who provide families with support to make informed choices regarding communication modes, philosophies, and educational options.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.98

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Special Education Deaf Education Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. May 25, 2016; eff. June 15, 2016, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 26, 2019; eff. July 1, 2019, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

### **505-3-.99 Special Education Physical and Health Disabilities Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving programs that prepare teachers to provide instruction or instructional support to P-12 students who have physical or health-related disabilities for all or part of a student's general or special curriculum needs as indicated in the Individual Education Plan (IEP). This rule supplements requirements in GaPSC Rule [505-3-.01](#), Requirements and Standards for Approving EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS and Educator Preparation Programs.

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the Special Education Physical and Health Disabilities Endorsement program are qualified to provide educational services for students with physical or health related disabilities in grades Pre-school (P) through twelve (12) and for special education preschool students, aged three (3) to five (5), subject to the following conditions:

(a) The educator may work collaboratively with a content area teacher of record in all content subjects.

(b) To serve as the teacher of record, the educator may teach only the content subjects of her/his base certificate field(s) and the Special Education academic content concentrations with designated cognitive levels identified on their certificate.

(3) **Requirements.**

(a) A GaPSC approved professional educator preparation provider may seek state approval to offer this field as either a stand-alone endorsement program or as an endorsement program embedded in a GaPSC-approved initial preparation program or an advanced (degree-only) preparation program. In addition to meeting all applicable approval requirements and standards, embedded endorsement programs must meet requirements specified in paragraph (e) 3. (ix) of GaPSC educator preparation rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

1. A GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards for the preparation of all beginning special education teachers of students with physical and health disabilities published by the Council for Exceptional Children 2012.

(i) **Learner and Learning: Learner Development and Individual Learning Differences.** Beginning special education professionals understand how exceptionalities may interact with development and learning and use this knowledge to provide meaningful and challenging learning experiences for individuals with exceptionalities as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the characteristics, treatment, and course of physical and health disabilities;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who understand secondary conditions and treatment options that accompany physical and health disabilities;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the implications of physical and health disabilities on development and learning;

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the progression of degenerative diseases and the impact on educational performance;

(V) The program shall prepare candidates who understand issues related to children's perceptions of death and dying;

(VI) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the effects of physical disabilities on the way information is processed;

(VII) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the functional effects of the type and severity of physical and health disabilities on individual performance;

(VIII) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the psychosocial effects of physical and health disabilities;

(IX) The program shall prepare candidates who apply knowledge of characteristics of individual's physical and health disabilities to their treatment interventions;

(X) The program shall prepare candidates who monitor the effects of medication on individual performance; and

(XI) The program shall prepare candidates who address learned helplessness in individuals with physical and health disabilities.

(ii) Learning Environments. Beginning special education professionals create safe, inclusive, culturally responsive learning environments so that individuals with exceptionalities become active and effective learners and develop emotional well-being, positive social interactions, and self-determination as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand adaptations of educational environments to enhance the potential of individuals with physical and health disabilities;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who understand barriers to accessibility by individuals with physical and health disabilities;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who understand evacuation plans for individuals with physical and health disabilities;

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who provide positioning techniques and equipment to promote participation in academic and social environments;

(V) The program shall prepare candidates to demonstrate proper body mechanics to promote individual and teacher safety in transfer, lifting, positioning and seating;

(VI) The program shall prepare candidates who arrange equipment and materials to provide a safe and healthy environment;

(VII) The program shall prepare candidates who provide information that promotes sensitivity towards, and acceptance of, those who have physical and health disabilities including communicable diseases; and

(VIII) The program shall prepare candidates who create learning environments to develop self-advocacy and independence when working with personal assistants.

(iii) Curricular Content Knowledge. Beginning special education professionals use knowledge of general and specialized curricula to individualize learning for individuals with exceptionalities as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the continuum of nonsymbolic to symbolic forms of communication;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the medical terminology related to physical and health disabilities;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the types and transmission routes of infectious and communicable diseases; and

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who identify sources of specialized materials, equipment, and assistive technology for individuals with physical and health disabilities.

(iv) Assessment. Beginning special education professionals use multiple methods of assessment and data-sources in making educational decisions as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand valid and reliable assessment instruments for individuals who have poor motor skills and/or are non-verbal;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who teach response modes to establish accuracy in the assessment of individuals with physical and health disabilities;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who select, adapt, and use assessment information when tests are not validated on individuals with physical and health disabilities; and

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who modify and adapt tools and procedures within the confines of the standardization process.

(v) Instructional Planning and Strategies. Beginning special education professionals select, adapt, and use a repertoire of evidence-based instructional strategies to advance learning of individuals with exceptionalities as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the adaptations and assistive technology necessary to accommodate the unique characteristics of individuals with physical and health disabilities;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who understand strategies for teaching organization and study skills;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who understand strategies for teaching adapted physical education and recreational skills;

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate techniques for teaching human sexuality;

(V) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the incorporation of augmentative and assistive communication into instruction and daily living activities;

(VI) The program shall prepare candidates who use specialized instructional strategies for academic and functional tasks for individuals with physical and health disabilities;

(VII) The program shall prepare candidates who use adaptations and assistive technology to provide access to and participation in the general curriculum;

(VIII) The program shall prepare candidates who individualize instructional strategies to minimize the functional effects of the disability;

(IX) The program shall prepare candidates who teach how to manage and document personal health care procedures in a safe, healthy environment;

(X) The program shall prepare candidates who teach the use and management of technology;

(XI) The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate techniques for teaching literacy skills to individuals who are non-verbal;

(XII) The program shall prepare candidates who support the use of primary and secondary forms of communication across environments;

- (XIII) The program shall prepare candidates who suggest data driven adjustments to communication systems;
- (XIV) The program shall prepare candidates who use assistive technology assessment to plan adaptations;
- (XV) The program shall prepare candidates who integrate individualized health care plans into daily programming;
- (XVI) The program shall prepare candidates who pace instruction based on individual characteristics and health factors;
- (XVII) The program shall prepare candidates who implement data driven progress monitoring to document and guide instruction; and
- (XVIII) The program shall prepare candidates who include independent living and post-secondary needs in instructional programming and transitional planning.

(vi) Professional Learning and Ethical Practice. Beginning special education professionals use foundational knowledge of the field and their professional Ethical Principles and Practice Standards to inform special education practice, to engage in lifelong learning and to advance the profession as indicated by the following:

- (I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand issues and educational definitions of individuals with physical and health disabilities;
- (II) The program shall prepare candidates who understand historical foundations related to knowledge and practices in physical and health disabilities;
- (III) The program shall prepare candidates who understand laws and policies related to the provision of specialized health care in the educational setting;
- (IV) The program shall prepare candidates who articulate key elements of service delivery for individuals with physical and health disabilities; and
- (V) The program shall prepare candidates who participate in the activities of professional organizations in the field of physical and health disabilities.

(vii) Collaboration. Beginning special education professionals collaborate with families, other educators, related service providers, individuals with exceptionalities, and personnel from community agencies in culturally responsive ways to address the needs of individuals with exceptionalities across a range of learning experiences as indicated by the following:

- (I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the roles and responsibilities of school- and community-based medical and related services personnel;
- (II) The program shall prepare candidates who collaborate in the selection and implementation of augmentative and alternative communication and assistive technology;
- (III) The program shall prepare candidates who use available resources to assist with planning and the design of programs for individuals with physical and health disabilities;
- (IV) The program shall prepare candidates who support individuals with exceptional learning needs as members of augmentative and assistive communication and assistive technology selection teams;
- (V) The program shall prepare candidates who coordinate with related service personnel to maximize direct instruction time for individuals with physical and health disabilities;
- (VI) The program shall prepare candidates who collaborate with service providers, general education teachers, and families to provide integrated services; and



(VII) The program shall prepare candidates who participate in trans-disciplinary teams.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.99

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Special Education Physical and Health Disabilities Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. May 25, 2016; eff. June 15, 2016, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

### **505-3-.100 Special Education Preschool (Ages 3-5) Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare teachers holding renewable professional certification in Elementary Education (P-5) or any Special Education field to teach students ages 3-5 (below K) with disabilities. This rule supplements requirements in Rule [505-3-.01](#) Requirements and Standards for Approving EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS and Educator Preparation Programs.

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the Special Education Preschool (ages 3-5) Endorsement program are qualified to provide educational services for students aged 3-5 (below K) with disabilities other than visual and hearing impaired, under the following conditions:

- (a) The educator may work collaboratively with a content area teacher of record in all content subjects.
- (b) To serve as the teacher of record, the educator may teach only the content subjects of his/her base certificate fields(s).

(3) **Requirements.**

(a) A GaPSC approved professional educator preparation provider may seek state approval to offer this field as either a stand-alone endorsement program or as an endorsement program embedded in a GaPSC-approved initial preparation program in Elementary Education (P-5) or any Special Education field, or an advanced (degree-only) preparation program. In addition to meeting all applicable approval requirements and standards, embedded endorsement programs must meet requirements specified in paragraph (e) 3. (ix) of GaPSC educator preparation rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

1. A GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards published by the Council for Exceptional Children 2012.

(i) **Learner and Learning: Learner Development and Individual Learning Differences.** Beginning special education professionals understand how exceptionalities may interact with development and learning and use this knowledge to provide meaningful and challenging learning experiences for individuals with exceptionalities as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand theories of typical and atypical early childhood development;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the biological and environmental factors that affect pre-, peri-, and postnatal development and learning;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the impact of medical conditions and related care on development and learning;

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the impact of medical conditions on family concerns, resources, and priorities;

(V) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the specific disabilities, including the etiology, characteristics, and classification of common disabilities in infants and young children, and specific implications for development and learning in the first years of life;

(VI) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the factors that affect the mental health and social-emotional development of infants and young children;

(VII) The program shall prepare candidates who understand that infants and young children develop and learn at varying rates;

(VIII) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the impact of a child's abilities, needs, and characteristics on development and learning;

(IX) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the impact of social and physical environments on development and learning;

(X) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the impact of language delays on cognitive, social-emotional, adaptive, play, temperament and motor development;

(XI) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the impact of language delays on behavior;

(XII) The program shall prepare candidates who apply current research to the five developmental domains, play and temperament in learning situations;

(XIII) The program shall prepare candidates who develop, implement, and evaluate learning experiences and strategies that respect the diversity of infants and young children and their families;

(XIV) The program shall prepare candidates who develop and match learning experiences and strategies to characteristics of infants and young children;

(XV) The program shall prepare candidates who support and facilitate family and child interactions as primary contexts for development and learning;

(XVI) The program shall prepare candidates who support caregivers to respond to a child's cues and preferences, establish predictable routines and turn-taking, and facilitate communicative initiations; and

(XVII) The program shall prepare candidates who establish communication systems for young children that support self-advocacy.

(ii) Learning Environments. Beginning special education professionals create safe, inclusive, culturally responsive learning environments so that individuals with exceptionalities become active and effective learners and develop emotional well-being, positive social interactions, and self-determination as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who select, develop, and evaluate developmentally and functionally appropriate, materials, equipment, and environments;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who organize space, time, materials, peers, and adults to maximize progress in natural and structured environments;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who embed learning opportunities in everyday routines, relationships, activities, and places;

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who structure social environments, using peer models and proximity, and responsive adults, to promote interactions among peers, parents, and caregivers;

(V) The program shall prepare candidates who provide a stimulus-rich indoor and outdoor environment that employs materials, media, and adaptive and assistive technology responsive to individual differences;

(VI) The program shall prepare candidates who implement basic health, nutrition and safety management procedures for infants and young children; and

(VII) The program shall prepare candidates who use evaluation procedures and recommend referral with ongoing follow-up to community health and social services.

(iii) Curricular Content Knowledge. Beginning special education professionals use knowledge of general and specialized curricula to individualize learning for individuals with exceptionalities as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who manage the learning environment through appropriate use of interest to help determine curriculum priorities for infants and young children.

(iv) Assessment. Beginning special education professionals use multiple methods of assessment and data-sources in making educational decisions as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the role of the family in the assessment process;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the legal requirements that distinguish among at-risk, developmental delay and disability;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who understand alignment of assessment with curriculum, content standards, and local, state and federal regulations;

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who assist families in identifying their concerns, resources, and priorities;

(V) The program shall prepare candidates who integrate family priorities and concerns in the assessment process;

(VI) The program shall prepare candidates who assess progress in the five developmental domains, play, and temperament;

(VII) The program shall prepare candidates who select and administer assessment instruments in compliance with established criteria;

(VIII) The program shall prepare candidates who use informal and formal assessments to make decisions about infants and young children's development and learning;

(IX) The program shall prepare candidates who gather information from multiple sources and environments;

(X) The program shall prepare candidates who use a variety of materials and contexts to maintain the interest of infants and young children in the assessment process;

(XI) The program shall prepare candidates who participate as a team member to integrate assessment results in the development and implementation of individualized plans;

(XII) The program shall prepare candidates who emphasize a child's strengths and needs in assessment reports;

(XIII) The program shall prepare candidates who produce reports that focus on developmental domains and functional concerns; and

(XIV) The program shall prepare candidates who conduct ongoing formative child, family, and setting assessments to monitor instructional effectiveness.

(v) Instructional Planning and Strategies. Beginning special education professionals select, adapt, and use a repertoire of evidence-based instructional strategies to advance learning of individuals with exceptionalities as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who are aware of the concept of universal design for learning;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the theories and research that form the basis of developmental and academic curricula and instructional strategies for infants and young children;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who understand developmental and academic content;

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the connection of curriculum to assessment and progress monitoring activities;

(V) The program shall prepare candidates who plan, implement, and evaluate developmentally appropriate curricula, instruction, and adaptations based on knowledge of individual children, the family and the community;

(VI) The program shall prepare candidates who facilitate child-initiated development and learning;

(VII) The program shall prepare candidates who use teacher-scaffolded and teacher-initiated instruction to complement child-initiated learning;

(VIII) The program shall prepare candidates who link development, learning experiences, and instruction to promote educational transitions;

(IX) The program shall prepare candidates who use individual and group guidance and problem-solving techniques to develop supportive relationships with and among children;

(X) The program shall prepare candidates who use strategies to teach social skills and conflict resolution;

(XI) The program shall prepare candidates who use a continuum of intervention strategies to support access of young children in the general curriculum and daily routines;

(XII) The program shall prepare candidates who implement and evaluate preventative and reductive strategies to address challenging behaviors;

(XIII) The program shall prepare candidates who develop, implement, and evaluate individualized plans with family members and other professionals as a member of a team;

(XIV) The program shall prepare candidates who plan and implement developmentally and individually appropriate curriculum;

(XV) The program shall prepare candidates who design intervention strategies incorporating information from multiple disciplines;

(XVI) The program shall prepare candidates who implement developmentally and functionally appropriate activities, using a variety of formats based on systematic instruction;

(XVII) The program shall prepare candidates who align individualized goals with developmental and academic content;

(XVIII) The program shall prepare candidates who develop individualized plans that support development and learning as well as caregiver responsiveness;

(XIX) The program shall prepare candidates who develop an individualized plan that supports the child's independent functioning in the child's natural environments; and

(XX) The program shall prepare candidates who make adaptations for the unique developmental and learning needs of children, including those from diverse backgrounds.

(vi) Professional Learning and Ethical Practice. Beginning special education professionals use foundational knowledge of the field and their professional Ethical Principles and Practice Standards to inform special education practice, to engage in lifelong learning and to advance the profession as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the historical, philosophical foundations and legal basis of services for infants and young children both with and without exceptional needs;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who know the trends and issues in early childhood education, early special education, and early intervention;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the legal, ethical and policy issues related to educational developmental, and medical services for infants and young children and their families;

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who understand advocacy for professional status and working conditions for those who serve infants and young children and their families;

(V) The program shall prepare candidates who recognize signs of emotional distress, neglect, and abuse, and follow reporting procedures;

(VI) The program shall prepare candidates who integrate family systems theories and principles into professional practice;

(VII) The program shall prepare candidates who respect family choices and goals;

(VIII) The program shall prepare candidates who apply models of team process in early childhood;

(IX) The program shall prepare candidates who participate in activities of professional organizations relevant to early childhood, special education, and early intervention;

(X) The program shall prepare candidates who apply evidence-based and recommended practices for infants and young children including those from diverse backgrounds;

(XI) The program shall prepare candidates who advocate on behalf of infants and young children and their families; and

(XII) The program shall prepare candidates who implement family services consistent with due process safeguards.

(vii) Collaboration. Beginning special education professionals collaborate with families, other educators, related service providers, individuals with exceptionalities, and personnel from community agencies in culturally responsive ways to address the needs of individuals with exceptionalities across a range of learning experiences as indicated by the following:

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the structures supporting interagency collaboration, including interagency agreements, referral, and consultation;

- (II) The program shall prepare candidates who collaborate with caregivers, professionals, and agencies to support children's development and learning;
- (III) The program shall prepare candidates who support families' choices and priorities in the development of goals and intervention strategies;
- (IV) The program shall prepare candidates who implement family-oriented services based on the family's identified resources, priorities, and concerns;
- (V) The program shall prepare candidates who provide consultation in settings serving infants and young children;
- (VI) The program shall prepare candidates who involve families in evaluation of services;
- (VII) The program shall prepare candidates who participate as a team member to identify and enhance team roles, communication, and problem-solving;
- (VIII) The program shall prepare candidates who employ adult learning principles in consulting and training family members and service providers;
- (IX) The program shall prepare candidates who assist the family in planning for transition; and
- (X) The program shall prepare candidates who implement processes and strategies that support transitions among settings for infants and young children.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.100

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Special Education Preschool Endorsement (Ages 3-5)" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** New title "Special Education Preschool (Ages 3-5) Endorsement Program." F. May 25, 2016; eff. June 15, 2016, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

### **505-3-.101 Special Education Transition Specialist Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare teachers to serve as transition specialists in grades 9-12. This rule supplements requirements in Rule [505-3-.01](#), Requirements and Standards for Approving EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS and Educator Preparation Programs.

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the Special Education Transition Specialist Endorsement Program are qualified to serve as a transition specialist in grades 9-12 who provides assistance in establishing post-school goals and objectives and facilitates the transition to work and community environments.

(3) **Requirements.**

(a) A GaPSC approved professional educator preparation provider may seek state approval to offer this field as either a stand-alone endorsement program or as an endorsement program embedded in a GaPSC-approved initial preparation program or an advanced (degree-only) preparation program. In addition to meeting all applicable approval requirements and standards, embedded endorsement programs must meet requirements specified in paragraph (e) 3. (ix) of GaPSC educator preparation rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

1. A GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards for the preparation of all beginning special education teachers of students served by transition specialists in grades 9-12 published by the Council for Exceptional Children 2012.

(i) Assessment.

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the procedures and requirements for referring individuals to community service agencies;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the implications of individual characteristics with respect to post-school outcomes and support needs;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the formal and informal approaches for identifying students' interests and preferences related to educational experiences and post school goals;

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who match skills and interests of the individuals to skills and demands required by vocational and post-school settings;

(V) The program shall prepare candidates who interpret results of career and vocational assessment for individuals, families, and professionals;

(VI) The program shall prepare candidates who use a variety of formal and informal career, transition, and vocational assessment procedures;

(VII) The program shall prepare candidates who evaluate and modify transitional goals on an ongoing basis; and

(VIII) The program shall prepare candidates who assess and develop natural support systems to facilitate transition to post-school environments.

(ii) Programs, Services, and Outcomes.

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand school and post-school services available to specific populations of individuals with exceptional learning needs;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the methods for providing community-based education for individuals with exceptional learning needs;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the methods for linking academic content to transition goals;

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who understand strategies for involving families and individuals with exceptional learning needs in transition planning and evaluation;

(V) The program shall prepare candidates who understand job seeking and job retention skills identified by employers as essential for successful employment;

(VI) The program shall prepare candidates who understand vocational education methods, models, and curricula;

(VII) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the range of post-school options within specific outcome areas;

(VIII) The program shall prepare candidates who identify and facilitate modifications within work and community environments;

(IX) The program shall prepare candidates who arrange and evaluate instructional activities in relation to post-school goals;

(X) The program shall prepare candidates who identify outcomes and instructional options specific to the community and the individual; and

(XI) The program shall prepare candidates who use support systems to facilitate self-advocacy in transition planning.

(iii) Research and Inquiry.

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand theoretical and applied models of transitions; and

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who understand research on relationships between individual outcomes and transition practices.

(iv) Leadership and Policy.

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand transitional related laws and policies; and

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the history of national transition initiatives.

(v) Professional Learning and Ethical Practice.

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the scope and role of the transition specialist;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the scope and role of agency personnel related to transition;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who are aware of organizations and publications relevant to the field of transition;

(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who show positive regard for the capacity and operating constraints of community organizations involved in transition services;

(V) The program shall prepare candidates who participate in activities of professional organizations in the field of transition;

(VI) The program shall prepare candidates who ensure the inclusion on transition-related goals in the educational program plan; and

(VII) The program shall prepare candidates who develop post-school goals and objectives, using interests and preferences of the individual.

(vi) Collaboration

(I) The program shall prepare candidates who are aware of methods to increase transition service delivery through interagency agreements and collaborative funding;

(II) The program shall prepare candidates who understand transition planning strategies that facilitate input from team members;

(III) The program shall prepare candidates who design and use procedures to evaluate and improve transition education and services in collaboration with team members;



(IV) The program shall prepare candidates who provide information to families about transition education, services, support networks, and post-school options;

(V) The program shall prepare candidates who involve team members in establishing transition policy;

(VI) The program shall prepare candidates who provide transition-focused technical assistance and professional development in collaboration with team members;

(VII) The program shall prepare candidates who collaborate with transition-focused agencies;

(VIII) The program shall prepare candidates who develop interagency strategies to collect, share, and use student assessment data;

(IX) The program shall prepare candidates who use strategies for resolving differences in collaborative relationships and interagency agreements;

(X) The program shall prepare candidates who assist teachers to identify educational program planning team members; and

(XI) The program shall prepare candidates who assure individual, family, and agency participation in transition planning and implementation.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.101

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Special Education Transition Specialist Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. May 25, 2016; eff. June 15, 2016, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

### **505-3-.102 Special Education Visual Impairment Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving an endorsement program that shall conform to all cross-specialty area knowledge and skills listed in the seven Council for Exceptional Children Initial Preparation Standards for the preparation of entry-level special education teachers. Such endorsement programs admitting candidates who are currently certified in an area of special education may accept this certification as a candidate meeting the required knowledge and skills. This rule supplements requirements in GaPSC Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the Special Education Visual Impairment Endorsement are qualified to work with visually impaired students in grades P-12 and special education pre-school students (ages 3-5) under the following conditions:

(a) The educator may work collaboratively with a content area teacher of record in all content subjects.

(b) To serve as a teacher of record, the educator may teach only the content subjects of the base certificate field(s) and the Special Education academic content concentration with designated cognitive levels identified on the certificate.

(3) **Requirements.**

(a) A GaPSC approved professional educator preparation provider may seek state approval to offer this field as either a stand-alone endorsement program to candidates who hold Special Education P-12 certification or Special Education General Curriculum/Elementary Education (P-5) certification or as an endorsement program embedded in a GaPSC-approved initial preparation Special Education or Special Education/Elementary Education (P-5) program or an advanced (degree-only) preparation program. In addition to meeting all applicable approval requirements and standards, embedded endorsement programs must meet requirements specified in paragraph (e) 3. (ix) of GaPSC educator preparation rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(b) A GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards adapted from the Council for Exceptional Children standards published in 2012.

#### 1. Foundations.

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who are aware of access rights to specialized equipment and materials for individuals with visual impairments;

(ii) The program shall prepare candidates who know the historical foundations of education of individuals with visual impairments as related to traditional roles of specialized and public schools around the world;

(iii) The program shall prepare candidates who know educational definitions, identification criteria, labeling issues, and incidence and prevalence for individuals with visual impairments;

(iv) The program shall prepare candidates who know basic terminology related to the function of the human visual system;

(v) The program shall prepare candidates who know basic terminology related to diseases and disorders for the human visual system;

(vi) The program shall prepare candidates who can articulate an instructional philosophy that responds to the specific implications of visual impairment within the general curriculum; and

(vii) The program shall prepare candidates who can articulate a professional philosophy that draws on specialized knowledge of visual impairment within the continuum instructional options.

#### 2. Development and Characteristics of Learners.

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the development of the human visual system;

(ii) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the development of secondary senses when vision is impaired;

(iii) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the effects of visual impairment on human development;

(iv) The program shall prepare candidates who help families and other team members understand the impact of visual impairment on learning and experience;

(v) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the impact of visual impairment on learning and experience;

(vi) The program shall prepare candidates who understand psychosocial aspects of visual impairment; and

(vii) The program shall prepare candidates who select and develop teaching strategies addressing age, visual impairment and visual prognosis.

### 3. Individual Learning Differences.

- (i) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the effects of visual impairment on receptive and expressive literacy and communication;
- (ii) The program shall prepare candidates who use strategies to address the effects of visual impairment on the family and the reciprocal impact on the individuals' self-esteem;
- (iii) The program shall prepare candidates to address the loss of incidental learning and the development of concepts and lexicon as related to incidental learning; and
- (iv) The program shall prepare candidates who select, adapt and use instructional strategies to address the impact of additional exceptionalities.

### 4. Instructional Strategies.

- (i) The program shall prepare candidates who know effective strategies for teaching new concepts;
- (ii) The program shall prepare candidates who know effective strategies for teaching sensory efficiency skills and use of print adaptations, optical devices, and non-optical devices;
- (iii) The program shall prepare candidates who know effective strategies for teaching organization and study skills;
- (iv) The program shall prepare candidates who know effective strategies for teaching tactual perceptual skills;
- (v) The program shall prepare candidates who know effective strategies for teaching adapted physical and recreational skills;
- (vi) The program shall prepare candidates who know effective strategies for teaching social, independent living, and functional life skills;
- (vii) The program shall prepare candidates who know effective strategies for teaching career-vocational skills and providing vocational counseling;
- (viii) The program shall prepare candidates who know effective strategies to prepare individuals with progressive eye conditions to achieve a positive transition to alternative skills;
- (ix) The program shall prepare candidates who know effective techniques for teaching human sexuality;
- (x) The program shall prepare candidates who select and adapt materials in appropriate Braille code, accessible print, and other formats;
- (xi) The program shall prepare candidates who use brailewriter, slate and stylus, and computer technology to produce Braille materials and other related adapted and assistive technologies;
- (xii) The program shall prepare candidates who can teach the use of the abacus, talking calculator, tactile graphics, and adapted science equipment and other related adapted and assistive technologies;
- (xiii) The program shall prepare candidates who know strategies to prepare individuals for human guide and pre-cane orientation and mobility screening and instruction; and
- (xiv) The program shall prepare candidates who can teach literacy skills to individuals who have vision loss as well as other disabilities.

### 5. Learning Environments/Socials Interactions.

- (i) The program shall prepare candidates who know techniques of classroom organization to accommodate materials, equipment, and technology for vision loss and other disabilities;
- (ii) The program shall prepare candidates who know the importance of role models with visual impairments;
- (iii) The program shall prepare candidates who design multisensory learning environments that encourage active participation in group and individual activities; and
- (iv) The program shall prepare candidates who provide access to incidental learning experiences.

#### 6. Language.

- (i) The program shall prepare candidates who know strategies for responding and understanding the implications of nonverbal communication as a substructure of language;
- (ii) The program shall prepare candidates who know strategies for teaching listening and compensatory auditory skills; and
- (iii) The program shall prepare candidates who know strategies for teaching communication through technology and adaptations specific to visual impairments.

#### 7. Instructional Planning.

- (i) The program shall prepare candidates who understand the relationship among assessment, development of individualized education program, and placement as they affect vision-related services;
- (ii) The program shall prepare candidates who select and use technologies to accomplish instructional objectives;
- (iii) The program shall prepare candidates who sequence, implement, and evaluate learning objectives based on the expanded core curriculum for individuals with visual impairments;
- (iv) The program shall prepare candidates who obtain and organize specialized materials to implement instructional goals; and
- (v) The program shall prepare candidates who integrate the individualized health care plan into daily programming.

#### 8. Assessment.

- (i) The program shall prepare candidates who know specialized terminology used in assessing individuals with visual impairments;
- (ii) The program shall prepare candidates who know alternative assessment techniques for individuals with visual impairments;
- (iii) The program shall prepare candidates who administer and interpret vision-related assessments;
- (iv) The program shall prepare candidates who use functional evaluations related to the expanded core curriculum;
- (v) The program shall prepare candidates who select, adapt, and use assessment information when tests are not validated on individuals with visual impairments;
- (vi) The program shall prepare candidates who participate in the standardization process for local and state assessments; and
- (vii) The program shall prepare candidates who interpret and apply background information and family history related to the individual's visual status.

9. Professional and Ethical Practice.

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who are familiar with ethical considerations, laws, and policies for assessment of individuals with visual impairments.

10. Collaboration.

(i) The program shall prepare candidates who know strategies for assisting families and other team members in transition planning;

(ii) The program shall prepare candidates who are familiar with services, networks, publications for and organization of individuals with visual impairments;

(iii) The program shall prepare candidates who structure and supervise the activities of para-educators and others who work with individuals with visual impairments; and

(iv) The program shall prepare candidates who plan and implement literacy and communication and consultative support within the general curriculum and the expanded core curriculum.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.102

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. [20-2-200](#).

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### **505-3-.103 Multi-Tiered System of Supports Facilitator Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare individuals to serve as the multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) facilitator for schools in Georgia that use a systematic process to address the needs of the whole child (P-12). This rule supplements requirements in GaPSC Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the Multi-Tiered System of Supports Facilitator Endorsement Program are qualified to perform the duties assigned to individuals in the MTSS Facilitator position.

(3) **Requirements.**

(a) A valid, level 4 or higher Induction, Professional, Advanced Professional, or Lead Professional teaching certificate, leadership certificate, service certificate, or Life certificate is required for program admission.

(b) To receive approval, a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards adapted from the essential components and fidelity rubrics from the Center for Response to Intervention (2014).

1. The Learner. The program shall prepare facilitators of multi-tiered system of supports who:

- (i) Are knowledgeable about the methodology of teaching and learning and stages of child development, including the importance of family, school, and peer contexts for understanding student academic performance and behavior and for intervention selection to address student difficulties;
- (ii) Are aware of individual differences in learning, including but not limited to the influence of culture, language, and disability, in response to instruction/intervention;
- (iii) Have knowledge of and communicate theories and practices of behavior and classroom management;
- (iv) Have knowledge on the management of intervention and instruction, and differentiated instructional practices;
- (v) Have knowledge of universal, targeted, and intensive levels of academic and behavioral interventions; and
- (vi) Have knowledge of how to promote and assess treatment fidelity and integrity of implementation.

2. Leadership. The program shall prepare facilitators of multi-tiered system of supports who:

- (i) Collaborate with leaders about the rights and/or needs of students, secure additional resources within the building or district that support student learning, and facilitate effective communication with targeted audiences;
- (ii) Foster a collaborative culture of responsibility, respect, and trust to support educator development and student learning;
- (iii) Are knowledgeable about school improvement and research proven best practice frameworks;
- (iv) Lead changes by modeling effective communication skills, building consensus, and utilizing data to generate solutions to issues of mutual importance;
- (v) Access, disaggregate, and analyze MTSS, and other data sources to inform school and system improvement planning and improve student learning;
- (vi) Help students to become self-advocates: understand their own learning and the need for self-directed learning skills; actively participate in the learning process; and know how to get assistance;
- (vii) Facilitate discussion to compare student needs with curriculum standards to determine intervention intensity; and
- (viii) Give and solicit continuous objective feedback and acknowledge credit due to others.

3. School-Family-Community Partnerships. The program shall prepare facilitators of multi-tiered system of supports who:

- (i) Communicate the MTSS Framework with parents through invitation, encouragement, and education, including explanation of their role and responsibilities;
- (ii) Utilize knowledge and understanding of the different backgrounds, ethnicities, cultures, and languages in the school community to promote effective communication and collaboration among colleagues, families, and the larger community;
- (iii) Facilitate and encourage use of culturally responsive strategies, assessments, and interventions to enrich the educational experiences of students and enable high levels of learning for all students; and
- (iv) Collaborate with all stakeholders to develop comprehensive supports to address the diverse educational needs of families and the community.

4. Professional Learning. The program shall prepare facilitators of multi-tiered system of supports who:

- (i) Engage the learning community (team, school, system, and community) to identify and systematically address professional job-embedded learning needs related to the effectiveness of MTSS;
- (ii) Demonstrate understanding of how adults learn and differentiate ongoing education opportunities for diverse learning needs;
- (iii) Collaborate with other professionals within and outside the system to share and engage in research, best practices, and pursue continuous improvement to achieve successful student outcomes;
- (iv) Partner with school/system leadership to prioritize, monitor, and coordinate resources for educator learning; and
- (v) Electronically manage documents, forms, data, and resources to effectively and securely share student information.

5. Legal and Regulatory Requirements. The program shall prepare facilitators of multi-tiered system of supports who:

- (i) Understand the judicial origin and legal intent of the MTSS framework;
- (ii) Know and apply the laws, policies, and ethical principles regarding classroom management;
- (iii) Know the rights and responsibilities of students, teachers, parents, and other professionals as it relates to implementation of MTSS; and
- (iv) Understand and communicate pertinent aspects of applicable statutes and rules including but not limited to:
  - (I) State Board of Education SST Rule [160-4-2-.32](#);
  - (II) Section 504 of 1973 Rehabilitation Act, P.L. 93-112;
  - (III) Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA/IDEIA);
  - (IV) Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and confidentiality issues;
  - (V) Records retention schedule for SST records (where required by LUA);
  - (VI) Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA);
  - (VII) System Improvement Plan, School Improvement Plan;
  - (VIII) Georgia HB 605: The Improved Student Learning Environment and Discipline Act;
  - (IX) Georgia Code of Ethics for Educators; and
  - (X) State reporting requirements, as applicable.

6. Screening. The program shall prepare facilitators of multi-tiered system of supports who:

- (i) Assist in identifying screening tools for all areas (i.e., academics and behavior);
- (ii) Ensure that the screening tools are brief, valid and reliable, and that correlations between the instruments and valued outcomes are strong;

- (iii) Establish procedures to ensure universal screening for more than once a year and for implementation fidelity (i.e., all students are tested, scores are accurate, cut points/decisions are accurate);
- (iv) Utilize screening results, with at least two other data sources (e.g., classroom performance, curriculum-based assessment, state assessments performance, diagnostic assessment data, short-term progress monitoring) to determine the level of risk and to identify students who need further assessments;
- (v) Use results to identify the needs of all students and to inform the data-based decision making process (i.e., tiered supports); and
- (vi) Utilize a data system to store and access student data in a timely fashion.

7. Progress Monitoring. The program shall prepare facilitators of multi-tiered system of supports who:

- (i) Establish procedures to ensure progress monitoring occurs at recommended intervals based on tiered support;
- (ii) Assist in selecting progress monitoring tools that have sufficient forms for all areas (i.e., academics and behavior);
- (iii) Ensure that minimum acceptable growth is specified and benchmarks for minimum acceptable end-of-year performance are provided;
- (iv) Make sure that procedures are in place to ensure implementation fidelity (i.e., appropriate students are tested, scores are accurate, decision-making rules are applied consistently); and
- (v) Utilize results to inform the data-based decision making process.

8. Data-based Decision Making. The program shall prepare facilitators of multi-tiered system of supports who can facilitate a data-driven, decision-making process and who:

- (i) Analyze data from universal screeners and progress monitoring to determine the needs of all students;
- (ii) Disaggregate and analyze data at different levels (school-wide, grade-level, classroom, student, etc.);
- (iii) Use data to plan and support effective instruction, and to determine and support movement between tiers;
- (iv) Determine the effectiveness of evidence-based practices and interventions based on frequent progress monitoring data;
- (v) Utilize data to determine enrichment opportunities for students who need acceleration and to determine which students (and educators) need extra support;
- (vi) Assist in facilitating school-based data teams focused on student achievement;
- (vii) Use a variety of formative and summative data to drive instructional decisions;
- (viii) Ensure there are consistent learning experiences among students in the same grade and subject with different teachers (effective collaborative planning);
- (ix) Make data-driven professional learning decisions;
- (x) Ensure that discussions about students are data-driven (academic and behavior);
- (xi) Determine the fidelity of implementation of professional learning based on data;



(xii) Assist in establishing clear decision rules (e.g., movement between levels or tiers, determination of appropriate instruction or interventions);

(xiii) Choose realistic measurable instructional/behavioral goals for the student;

(xiv) Develop an educational plan that specifies research/evidence-based interventions and practices, progress monitoring and fidelity of measures, and implementation steps;

(xv) Implement a plan with fidelity, assess student progress frequently, and provide ongoing feedback to parents/guardians, students, and staff as appropriate; and

(xvi) Periodically evaluate an educational plan, adjust the plan, transition to a different tier, or close the case, as appropriate.

9. Instruction. The program shall prepare facilitators of multi-tiered system of supports who:

(i) Use data and information about the student to access and identify research/evidence based practices and interventions to appropriately address the learner's instructional needs;

(ii) Prioritize and evaluate instructional alternatives/solutions and plan instruction;

(iii) Manage multiple components of effective teams, including communicating and defining roles and responsibilities of team members; developing procedures; identifying resources (personnel, materials, time); organizing documentation; record keeping; applying brainstorming strategies; utilizing conflict resolution techniques; evaluating procedures; and setting goals;

(iv) Communicate clearly and effectively in oral, written, and non-verbal forms; apply listening and responding skills (e.g., acknowledging, paraphrasing, reflecting, clarifying; elaborating, summarizing); and interview effectively to elicit/share information and explore problems;

(v) Draw upon expertise of staff, parents, and invited specialists for collaborative consultation, information, and support, creating an inclusive culture where ideas are welcomed in developing solutions;

(vi) Utilize the team process to communicate with team members, school personnel, families, and others as appropriate through various technological devices;

(vii) Advocate for specific student learning needs and recognize trends to direct instructional planning in the classroom and school wide; and

(viii) Access, disaggregate, and analyze MTSS, and other data sources to inform school and system improvement planning and improve student learning.

10. Multi-level Prevention System. The program shall prepare facilitators of multi-tiered system of supports who:

(i) Demonstrate an understanding of the characteristics of an effective multi-level prevention system as an integral component of Georgia's Systems of Continuous Improvement Framework focusing on the systems and structures (the "what") that must be in place for sustained improvement in student outcomes;

(ii) Articulate the essential components of Georgia's Tiered System of Supports for students: Screening, Progress Monitoring, Multi-Level Prevention System, Data-Based Decision Making, and Infrastructure;

(iii) Identify and demonstrate knowledge of differentiated instruction, progress monitoring, screening, and specialized instruction as it applies to multi-level prevention systems to maximize student achievement and behavior outcomes;

(iv) Identify and support implementation of the three tiers of instruction:

(I) Primary level:

I. Demonstrate knowledge of cut scores and target scores for identification using universal screeners and progress monitoring tools;

II. Identify targeted students through established criteria;

III. Articulate and support implementation of the necessary dimensions of effective core curriculum instruction at the primary level; and

IV. Demonstrate knowledge of research-based curriculum, evidence-based practices, and high-leverage practices.

(II) Secondary level:

I. Identify targeted students through established criteria;

II. Articulate and support implementation of the necessary dimensions of instruction at the primary level;

III. Select, implement, and monitor fidelity of interventions at the secondary level;

IV. Demonstrate knowledge of required levels of evidence, content, frequency, and duration of instruction necessary at the secondary level;

V. Demonstrate knowledge of research-based curriculum, evidence-based practices, and high-leverage practices at the secondary level;

VI. Demonstrate knowledge of cut scores and target scores for identification using universal screeners and progress monitoring tools; and

VII. Demonstrate knowledge of appropriate settings, group size, and schedule (frequency and duration) for selected interventions at the secondary level.

(III) Tertiary level:

I. Identify the targeted students through established criteria;

II. Articulate and support implementation of the necessary dimensions of instruction at the primary level;

III. Select, implement, and monitor fidelity of interventions at the tertiary level;

IV. Demonstrate knowledge of required levels of evidence, content, frequency, and duration of instruction necessary at the tertiary level;

V. Demonstrate knowledge of research-based curriculum, evidence-based practices, and high-leverage practices;

VI. Demonstrate knowledge of cut scores and target scores for identification using universal screeners and progress monitoring tools;

VII. Demonstrate knowledge of appropriate settings, group size, and schedule (frequency and duration) for selected interventions at the secondary level;

VIII. Design instructional interventions, strategies, and practices based upon assessment, data analysis, and teacher input;

IX. Redesign, maintain, or discontinue instructional interventions, strategies, and practices based upon ongoing assessment data from progress monitoring;

X. Develop and implement processes and procedures for assessing the effectiveness of the MTSS framework; and

XI. Document individual student instructional intervention plans, along with progress monitoring, redesign, maintenance, or completion of plan.

11. Technology. The program shall prepare facilitators of multi-tiered system of supports who:

(i) Identify and use various technologies to gather, monitor progress, and analyze data in order to use information to improve student learning and align education practices with school improvement goals.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.103

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Student Support Team Coordinator Endorsement" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Repealed:** New Rule entitled "Multi-Tiered System of Supports Facilitator Endorsement" adopted. F. Dec. 13, 2019; eff. Jan. 1, 2020, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

### **505-3-.104 Teacher Leader Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare individuals to serve in teacher leader roles in grades P-12 and supplements requirements in GaPSC Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the Teacher Leader Endorsement have strengthened and enhanced competencies to:

(a) Facilitate the design and implementation of sustained, intensive, and job-embedded professional learning based on identified student and teacher needs;

(b) Work with others to promote the development of a school culture that fosters excellence in teaching and learning and focuses on continuous improvement creating a sense of belonging and building a collaborative work environment;

(c) Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of curriculum and apply this knowledge to the alignment of curriculum, instruction, and assessment to standards;

(d) Model best practices in pedagogy and serve as a mentor and coach for other educators;

(e) Work with others to design and implement assessment practices and analyze data for monitoring and improving teaching and learning;

(f) Access and conduct research, and apply research findings to improve teaching and learning; and

(g) Demonstrate the ability to collaborate with all stakeholders to improve student learning and foster/influence change.

(3) **Requirements.**

(a) A valid, level 4 or higher Induction, Professional, Advanced Professional, or Lead Professional teaching certificate, service certificate, leadership certificate, or Life certificate, and at least one year of successful classroom teaching experience is required for program admission.

(b) To receive approval, a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards:

1. Candidates who complete the program are teacher leaders who will facilitate the design and implementation of sustained, intensive, and job-embedded professional learning based on identified student and teacher needs. The teacher leader:

(i) Applies knowledge and strategies of adult learning theories across teacher leader practices;

(ii) Models lifelong learning for students, colleagues, and community stakeholders by being reflective, by engaging in professional development, advocating for the profession, and staying current and knowledgeable of policy, trends, and practices in education;

(iii) Works with others to build viable professional learning communities designed to support the collaborative work of schools;

(iv) Diagnoses staff needs, works with administrators to implement strategies to address needs, and provides ongoing support;

(v) Advances the professional skills of colleagues by demonstrating and applying expertise in observational skills and in providing quality feedback in order to support reflective practice;

(vi) Stays current with research on the organizational conditions and features of professional learning which are necessary for designing and implementing on-going professional learning experiences that are based on identified teacher and student needs;

(vii) Involves colleagues in development and implementation of a coherent professional learning plan based on school goals;

(viii) Teaches and models changes in teacher practices that are necessary for improvement in student learning;

(ix) Applies the knowledge and skills of effective mentoring and coaching to provide support for teacher learning and practice;

(x) Continually assesses the effectiveness of professional learning activities and makes adjustments as needed; and

(xi) Designs professional development aligned to state and national professional learning standards.

2. Candidates who complete the program are teacher leaders who work with others to promote the development of a school culture that fosters excellence in teaching and learning and focuses on continuous improvement, creating a sense of belonging, and building a collaborative work environment. The teacher leader:

(i) Works with others to create an environment where colleagues and students take learning risks, where fear of initial failure is minimized and mistakes are openly discussed;

(ii) Uses effective conflict management, team building, and consensus-building skills in a variety of contexts to build a culture of collaboration, equity, trust and high expectations;

(iii) Works with others to create an environment that encourages needed change using a research-based change model;

- (iv) Leads analysis of the school's culture and builds understanding of the impact of organizational culture in teaching and learning;
- (v) Engages colleagues in creating a culture supportive of a collaborative learning community that embraces a shared vision of mission and desired results;
- (vi) Considers the ethical and legal implications of decisions made individually and collectively;
- (vii) Is informed on emerging trends and initiatives, and as a result helps the school or school district refine, redefine, or sharpen its vision;
- (viii) Facilitates the development of an interdependent culture of improvement and accountability grounded in the belief that collective responsibility and commitment to the team are fundamental to the school's success;
- (ix) Clarifies issues to sharpen the focus on the elements of student, adult, and organizational learning that are most important to the school's success; and
- (x) Works with others to build a culture that personalizes the work and learning of colleagues and students.

3. Candidates who complete the program are teacher leaders who demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of curriculum and apply this knowledge to the alignment of curriculum, instruction, and assessment to standards. The teacher leader:

- (i) Possess an in-depth knowledge of his/her discipline, and is knowledgeable about the structure of the curriculum;
- (ii) Understands how the program of studies from various disciplines and grade levels are related and sequenced in order to design and deliver meaningful and relevant professional learning and instructional strategies;
- (iii) Uses a variety of processes to engage and focus teachers in cooperative planning to improve teaching and learning;
- (iv) Uses protocols such as Standards in Practice to audit curriculum and classroom work to assure high expectations for all students;
- (v) Demonstrates deep understanding of the curriculum and is able to use a variety of protocols and organizing frameworks to engage in discussions about what students should know, understand, and do in each instructional unit based on those standards;
- (vi) Identifies content specific resources that are important in the curriculum implementation process; and
- (vii) Leads others in prioritizing, mapping, and monitoring the implementation of the curriculum.

4. Candidates who complete the program are teacher leaders who model best practices in pedagogy and serve as a mentor and coach for other educators. The teacher leader:

- (i) Models and articulates exemplary instructional practices and strategies based on current research;
- (ii) Models the effective application of curriculum standards, instructional choices, and student learning monitoring;
- (iii) Guides and assists teachers in designing and planning quality and meaningful student work and learning experiences;
- (iv) Assists teachers in developing higher order questions that promote thoughtful discourse and critical thinking in the classroom;

(v) Guides teachers in the in-depth understanding of lesson planning and delivery of content in clear and meaningful ways; and

(vi) Integrates technology to support classroom instruction and student learning.

5. Candidates who complete the program are teacher leaders who work with others to design and implement assessment practices and analyze data for monitoring and improving teaching and learning. The teacher leader:

(i) Guides teachers in the selection of appropriate assessment instruments and practical assessment strategies to improve instruction and monitor student learning;

(ii) Assists teachers in identifying resources and providing appropriate support services for specific student needs;

(iii) Assists teachers in using formative and summative data to assess student progress toward and attainment of expected outcomes;

(iv) Facilitates teachers in the collection, analysis, use, and interpretation of varied assessment data;

(v) Facilitates the use of multiple sources of evidence to monitor and evaluate teaching and learning; and

(vi) Uses technology and research to demonstrate the correct use of assessment instruments and appropriate tools and techniques of data analysis.

6. Candidates who complete the program are teacher leaders who access and conduct research, and apply research findings to improve teaching and learning. The teacher leader:

(i) Guides colleagues to relevant research to find the appropriate method and solutions to instructional problems and challenges;

(ii) Conducts and engages others in action research to improve educational outcomes and to help address critical educational issues;

(iii) Follows ethical procedures when conducting research;

(iv) Reads and stays informed of current educational research, trends, and innovations; and shares current research with the school community;

(v) Analyzes numerous and various forms of research before making decisions; and

(vi) Initiates new or different ideas and approaches based on informed decision-making.

7. Candidates who complete the program are teacher leaders who demonstrate the ability to collaborate with all stakeholders to improve student learning and foster/influence change. The teacher leader:

(i) Facilitates group processes and builds alliances necessary for school improvement;

(ii) Exhibits strong interpersonal skills that establish and maintain effective working relationships;

(iii) Develops and sustains trusting, productive, and supportive relationships with all stakeholders;

(iv) Promotes an atmosphere of collaboration through the effective use of problem solving processes and protocols;

(v) Supports colleagues in the development and improvement of interpersonal skills;

(vi) Promotes effective communication and collaboration with diverse groups of people;

- (vii) Articulates and advocates to various audiences the rationale and processes of school improvement;
- (viii) Facilitates open dialogue of ideas and information that support student achievement goals and the change of teaching and learning practices; and
- (ix) Identifies and utilizes resources to promote school and community relations.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.104

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Teacher Leader Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. Dec. 13, 2019; eff. Jan. 1, 2020, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

## **505-3-.105 Teacher Support and Coaching (TSC) Endorsement Program**

### **(1) Definitions.**

- (a) **Coach:** A coach supports the performance of the induction phase protégé in reaching a specific goal(s).
- (b) **Mentor:** A mentor is highly committed to supporting the personal growth of the induction phase protégé. The mentor provides guidance, shares knowledge and experiences, and supports the induction phase protégé in making a positive impact on student growth and achievement.
- (c) **Protégé:** The teacher candidate in the Pre-service or Induction phase, or Professional educators seeking to improve performance through reflection and modifications of practices.

(2) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare educators to supervise individuals completing clinical practice (residency, student teaching, or internship) requirements as a part of a preparation program or to mentor/coach protégés in the Induction and Professional phases of their careers, and supplements requirements in Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS. The standards delineated in Rule [505-3-.85](#), COACHING ENDORSEMENT, are embedded in this rule; therefore, a candidate's successful completion of the TSC program will result in two endorsements: the Teacher Support and Coaching (TSC) Endorsement and the Coaching Endorsement.

(3) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the Teacher Support and Coaching Endorsement are qualified to supervise pre-service teachers completing clinical practice requirements, to mentor interns or induction-phase teachers, to guide practicums, and to support other professional learning experiences for teachers.

### **(4) Requirements.**

- (a) A valid, level 4 or higher Professional, Advanced Professional, or Lead Professional teaching certificate, leadership certificate, Life certificate, or service certificate with a recommendation to serve as a TSC from a local unit of administration or school administrator is required for program admission. Educators admitted to the program holding leadership, Life, or service certificates must have held a Professional teaching certificate.
- (b) To receive approval, a GaPSC-approved EPP shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, websites, or syllabi addressing the following standards:
  1. The program shall prepare the TSC coach to have the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to identify performance criteria as follows:

(i) The program shall prepare the TSC to analyze the context of the protégé's teaching assignment in order to identify and connect organizational criteria with the protégé's performance. The TSC will know and be able to:

(I) Identify the organization's mission, vision, beliefs and goals;

(II) Analyze the alignment of the mission, vision, beliefs and goals to the roles, responsibilities and performances required for the protégé's teaching assignment; and

(III) Communicate this alignment.

(ii) The program shall prepare the TSC to analyze the strengths and opportunities for growth of the protégé to meet the organization's performance criteria. The TSC will know and be able to:

(I) Communicate the expected performance criteria;

(II) Assess the protégé's understanding of the performance criteria;

(III) Analyze the strengths of the protégé against performance criteria;

(IV) Assist the protégé in self-assessment and reflection against performance criteria;

(V) Determine the protégé's "opportunities for growth" against the performance criteria;

(VI) Assist the protégé's self-assessment to determine his/her "opportunities for growth" against the performance criteria; and

(VII) Support protégés in the development of confidence in the ability to achieve the performance criteria.

2. The program shall prepare the TSC to have the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to demonstrate the knowledge and understanding of performance assessments and analysis of results as follows:

(i) The program shall prepare the TSC to identify and effectively implement appropriate assessments for the protégé based on roles, responsibilities, positions and performance criteria. The TSC will know and be able to:

(I) Identify and use multiple assessments;

(II) Identify and use appropriate assessments for role and context;

(III) Identify and use appropriate questioning techniques for diagnostic and/or clarifying purposes;

(IV) Use active and empathetic listening skills for diagnostic and/or clarifying purposes; and

(V) Demonstrate the effective use of coaching processes.

(ii) The program shall prepare the TSC to have the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to analyze results from assessments. The TSC will know and be able to:

(I) Demonstrate effective analysis skills for performance assessments for protégé's strengths and areas of growth;

(II) Analyze and identify barriers to performance;

(III) Compare opportunities for growth identified by TSC, protégé and the local unit of administration/school;

(IV) Communicate effectively to the protégé the results of assessments; and



(V) Demonstrate data interpretation/analysis.

3. The program shall prepare the TSC to have the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to develop, maintain, and implement an effective coaching plan as follows:

(i) The program shall prepare the TSC to plan effective coaching for and in collaboration with the protégé. The TSC will know and be able to:

(I) Create collaboratively a growth plan for the protégé to include regularly scheduled meetings and goals that are specific, measurable, attainable, and realistic and have target dates (SMART goals);

(II) Encourage the protégé to take on new and challenging tasks; and

(III) Define actions that will enable the protégé to meet their SMART goals.

(ii) The program shall prepare the TSC to demonstrate ability to manage the coaching progress and accountability. The TSC will know and be able to:

(I) Meet with the protégé to adjust plan as warranted based on evidence;

(II) Progress Monitor the coaching plan to keep coaching on track; and

(III) Develop a system to help the protégé self-monitor.

(iii) The program shall prepare the TSC to have the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to implement the knowledge and skills of effective coaching. The TSC will know and be able to:

(I) Work with local unit of administration/school to identify a protégé during Clinical Practice;

(II) Identify resources used to inform Clinical Practice; and

(III) Schedule agreed upon time with protégé to implement effective coaching skills.

4. The program shall prepare TSCs who demonstrate knowledge, skills, and dispositions to create a supportive and reflective environment while establishing a relationship of trust with all stakeholders in the coaching process as follows:

(i) The program shall prepare the TSC to establish and maintain a highly confidential relationship with the protégé. The TSC will know and be able to:

(I) Understand the importance of confidentiality and trust;

(II) Protect and maintain confidentiality and trust; and

(III) Communicate to others the importance of confidentiality in the TSC/protégé relationship.

(ii) The program shall prepare the TSC to recognize and address the significance of relationship building skills. The TSC will know and be able to:

(I) Foster a positive relationship for high performance;

(II) Demonstrate respect for protégé's perception, learning style, and individuality;

(III) Recognize and address cross-generational/cultural/other differences; and

(IV) Demonstrate effective listening and reflection.

(iii) The program shall prepare the TSC to maintain a professional ethical environment. The TSC will know and be able to:

(I) Demonstrate professional conduct at all times;

(II) Recognize and address personal issues that may impair, conflict, or interfere with coaching performance or professional relationships; and

(III) Show genuine concern for the protégé's welfare and future.

(iv) The program shall prepare the TSC to demonstrate collaboration skills. The TSC will know and be able to:

(I) Participate effectively in partnerships and networks of support to include all stakeholders;

(II) Serve as a member of protégé's professional team; and

(III) Provide on-going support and advocacy.

5. The program shall prepare the TSC to have the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to communicate effectively with the protégé as follows:

(i) The program shall prepare the TSC to utilize effective verbal skills. The TSC will know and be able to:

(I) Identify and use appropriate questioning techniques for diagnostic purposes;

(II) Identify and use appropriate questioning techniques for clarifying; and

(III) Use active and empathetic listening skills for diagnostic and/or clarifying purposes;

(ii) The program shall prepare the TSC to use effective written skills. The TSC will know and be able to:

(I) Write for varied audiences and situations;

(II) Write clear statements for improved performance;

(III) Understand the legal implications of the written word including use of all electronic communications; and

(IV) Demonstrate proper grammar, usage, and mechanics including all electronic communications.

(iii) The program shall prepare the TSC to use effective non-verbal skills to communicate independently of spoken or written words. The TSC will know and be able to:

(I) Use active listening skills;

(II) Recognize and analyze body language; and

(III) Recognize the non-verbal implications of the coaching environment.

6. The program shall prepare candidates who demonstrate knowledge, skills, and dispositions of effective instructional coaching to assist protégés in planning, implementing, and assessing classroom instruction engaging all students in active learning as follows:

(i) The program shall prepare the TSC to guide protégés in the in-depth understanding of lesson planning and delivery of content in differentiated, clear, and meaningful ways. The TSC will know and be able to:

- (I) Guide and assist protégés in designing and planning quality and meaningful student work and learning experiences;
  - (II) Assist protégés in developing higher order questions that promote thoughtful discourse and critical thinking in the classroom; and
  - (III) Assist the protégé in the use of knowledge of student learning styles and interest to choose appropriate strategies to engage students in learning.
- (ii) The program shall prepare the TSC to lead the protégé in the implementation of the plan for student learning and growth. The TSC will know and be able to:
- (I) Lead the protégé to consistently integrate technology to support classroom instruction and student learning;
  - (II) Model effective classroom management strategies;
  - (III) Model and articulate exemplary instructional practices and strategies based on current research; and
  - (IV) Model the effective application of curriculum standards, instructional choices, and student learning monitoring.
- (iii) The program shall prepare the TSC who demonstrates knowledge, skills, and dispositions to use student work to evaluate and inform practice. The TSC will know and be able to:
- (I) Guide the protégé to utilize student work to evaluate practice;
  - (II) Guide the protégé to recognize patterns in student work quality;
  - (III) Guide the protégé to use student work to identify mastery of concepts;
  - (IV) Guide the protégé to use student work to identify gaps in concept understanding and mastery; and
  - (V) Guide the protégé to use the analysis of student work data to adjust instruction to better meet student learning needs.
7. The program shall prepare the TSC to demonstrate knowledge, skills, and dispositions to plan and implement collaboratively a three-year induction plan for protégés. The TSC will know and be able to:
- (i) Identify roles and responsibilities of TSCs;
  - (ii) Identify the knowledge, skills, and dispositions of the protégé to be able to differentiate coaching methods;
  - (iii) Utilize multiple methods of mentoring and coaching as needed by the protégé; and
  - (iv) Incorporate the knowledge, skills, and dispositions articulated in the standards of this rule into the three-year induction plan to ensure the protégé's opportunity for positively impacting student learning and growth.
8. Current TSS Endorsed teachers who wish to convert to the TSC Endorsement must affiliate with a GaPSC-approved Educator Preparation Provider (EPP) to complete one of the following options for conversion to the TSC Endorsement as determined by the EPP:
- (i) Option 1: A GaPSC-approved provider of the TSC Endorsement will use the TSS Conversion Rubric to assess portfolios completed by holders of the TSS Endorsement. Results of the portfolio assessment will identify:
    - (I) To what extent TSS Endorsement holders have remained current in knowledge, skills, and dispositions; and

(II) Any gaps in candidates' knowledge, skills, and/or dispositions. Coursework or assignments will be designed to meet the specific needs of each candidate to ensure all TSC Endorsement standards are met.

(ii) Option 2: A GaPSC-approved provider of the TSC Endorsement will offer a performance-based bridge course designed to provide conversion candidates with knowledge and skills not addressed in the TSS Endorsement program. This instruction could be a segment of the GaPSC-approved TSC Endorsement program.

(iii) Option 3: TSS Endorsement holders may convert to the TSC Endorsement by passing the state-approved Teacher Leader Assessment.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.105

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-20](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Teacher Support and Coaching (TSC) Endorsement" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. May 22, 2015; eff. June 15, 2015, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** New title "Teacher Support and Coaching (TSC) Endorsement Program." F. May 25, 2016; eff. June 15, 2016, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

### **505-3-.106 Work-Based Learning Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare individuals to supervise Work-Based Learning placements and supplements requirements in GaPSC Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the Work-Based Learning Endorsement are qualified to coordinate Work-Based Learning programs for students in grades 6-12.

(3) **Requirements.**

(a) A GaPSC approved professional educator preparation provider may seek state approval to offer this field as either a stand-alone endorsement program or as an endorsement program embedded in a GaPSC-approved initial preparation program or an advanced (degree-only) preparation program. In addition to meeting all applicable approval requirements and standards, embedded endorsement programs must meet requirements specified in paragraph (e) 3. (ix) of GaPSC educator preparation rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(b) To receive approval, a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards:

1. The program shall prepare candidates who are familiar with the foundations, delivery systems, and legislative foundations of career, technical and agricultural education, and the role of the work-based learning coordinator.
2. The program shall prepare candidates who can plan, market, implement, coordinate, and evaluate work-based learning programs.
3. The program shall prepare candidates who can identify, select, and organize training stations; develop training plans; correlate classroom instruction with on-the-job experiences; and evaluate job-training experiences.

4. The program shall prepare candidates who can program for special needs populations, including the gifted and talented.
5. The program shall prepare candidates who can identify and utilize community resources and advisory groups.
6. The program shall prepare candidates who are familiar with principles of vocational development, able to provide or obtain occupational information, able to develop students' employability and school-to-work transition skills, and able to implement appropriate guidance techniques.
7. The program shall prepare candidates who know the legal aspects of work-based learning programs.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.106

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Work-Based Learning Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Apr. 24, 2014; eff. May 15, 2014, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. May 25, 2016; eff. June 15, 2016, as specified by the Agency

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

### **505-3-.107 Dual Immersion Elementary Education (P-5) Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare teachers certified in P-12 Foreign Language Education to teach content to students in a dual immersion classroom. This rule supplements requirements in Rule [505-3-.01](#) Requirements and Standards for Approving EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS and Educator Preparation Programs.

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the Dual Immersion Elementary Education (P-5) Endorsement are qualified to teach Elementary Education courses (grades P-5) only in a dual immersion setting in which content is delivered in a foreign language in which the educator holds certification. Holding this endorsement does not allow an educator to be in-field to teach any Elementary Education courses outside of a dual immersion setting.

#### **(3) Requirements.**

(a) A GaPSC approved professional educator preparation provider may seek state approval to offer this field as either a stand-alone endorsement program or as an endorsement program embedded in a GaPSC-approved initial preparation Foreign Language program or an advanced (degree-only) preparation program. In addition to meeting all applicable approval requirements and standards, embedded endorsement programs must meet requirements specified in paragraph (e) 3. (ix) of GaPSC educator preparation rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(b) Candidates admitted to the program must hold certification in P-12 Foreign Language education.

(c) To receive approval for a Dual Immersion Elementary Education (P-5) Endorsement a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards published by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (2012), Association for Childhood Education International (2007), and the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing "Approved Bilingual Program Standards" as follows:

1. Using Developmentally Effective Approaches: Candidates prepared in Dual Immersion Elementary Education (P-5) programs understand that teaching and learning with children is a complex enterprise, and its details vary depending on children's ages, characteristics, and the setting within which teaching and learning occur. They understand and use positive relationships and supportive interactions as the foundation for their work with children

and families. Candidates know, understand, and use a wide array of developmentally appropriate approaches, instructional strategies, and tools to connect with children and families and positively influence each child's development and learning. The indicators are as follows:

- (i) Using developmental knowledge to establish a classroom environment that is healthy, respectful, and grounded in positive relationships and supportive interactions as the foundation of their work with children;
- (ii) Knowing and using effective research based strategies and tools for pre-Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade children including the appropriate use of technology;
- (iii) Using a broad repertoire of developmentally appropriate research-based teaching/learning approaches (play, small group projects, open-ended questioning, group discussion, problem solving, cooperative learning, reflection, and inquiry experiences) to help pre-Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade children develop intellectual curiosity, solve problems, and make decisions;
- (iv) Reflecting on own practice to promote positive outcomes for each child;
- (v) Understanding the interrelatedness among the four domains of language (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) and to know language forms and functions; and
- (vi) Employing a variety of instructional and assessment strategies, appropriate to student language proficiency levels, that foster higher-order thinking skills.

2. Using Content Knowledge to Build Meaningful Curriculum: Candidates prepared in Dual Immersion Elementary Education (P-5) programs use their knowledge of academic disciplines to design, implement, and evaluate experiences that promote positive development and learning for each and every child. Candidates understand the importance of developmental domains and academic (or content) disciplines in elementary curriculum. They know the essential concepts, inquiry tools, and structure of content areas, including academic subjects, and can identify resources to deepen their understanding. Candidates use their own knowledge and other resources to design, implement, and evaluate meaningful, challenging curriculum that promotes comprehensive development and learning outcomes for every child. The indicators are as follows:

- (i) Understanding and integrating multicultural content knowledge and resources in academic disciplines: language and literacy; mathematics, science, social studies, the arts-music, creative movement, dance, drama, visual arts; physical activity, physical education and health and safety across the curriculum;
- (ii) Knowing and using the central concepts, inquiry tools, and structures of content areas or academic disciplines;
- (iii) Using content knowledge, appropriate content standards, and other resources to design implement and evaluate developmentally meaningful, culturally responsive, and challenging curriculum for each child;
- (iv) Recognizing and utilizing opportunities for appropriate curriculum integration;
- (v) Planning, developing, implementing and assessing standards-aligned content instruction in the primary and target language differentiating by students' levels of language proficiency;
- (vi) Evaluating, selecting, using and adapting state-board adopted and state-board approved materials, as well as other supplemental instructional materials; and
- (vii) Demonstrating the ability to use a variety of criteria for selection of culturally responsive instructional materials, to assess the suitability and appropriateness for local context and to augment resources when they are not suitable or available.
- (viii) Content specific indicators: The program shall prepare elementary professionals to meet the following indicators based on content standards promoted by the Association for Childhood Education International (2007):

(I) Reading, Writing and Oral Language: Demonstrating a knowledge of teaching reading and writing in the target language and English;

(II) Language Arts: Demonstrating reading, language and child development, to teach reading, writing, speaking, viewing, listening, and thinking skills and to help students successfully apply their developing skills to many different situations, materials, and ideas;

(III) Science: Demonstrating the use of fundamental concepts of physical, life, and earth/space sciences. Candidates can design and implement age-appropriate inquiry lessons to teach science, to build student understanding for personal and social applications, and to convey the nature of science;

(IV) Mathematics: Demonstrating the major concepts and procedures that define number and operations, algebra, geometry, measurement, and data analysis. In doing so they consistently engage problem solving, reasoning and proof, communication, connections, and representation;

(V) Social studies: Demonstrating the major concepts and modes of inquiry from the social studies, the integrated study of history, geography, the social sciences, and other related areas, to promote elementary students' abilities to make informed decisions as citizens of a culturally diverse democratic society and interdependent world;

(VI) The arts: Demonstrating the content, functions, and achievements of the performing arts (dance, music, theater) and the visual arts as primary media for communication, inquiry, and engagement among elementary students;

(VII) Health education: Demonstrating the major concepts in the subject matter of health education to create opportunities for student development and practice of skills that contribute to good health; and

(VIII) Physical education: Demonstrating human movement and physical activity as central elements to foster active, healthy life styles and enhanced quality of life for elementary students.

3. Observing, Documenting, and Assessing to Support Children and Families: Candidates prepared in Dual Immersion Elementary Education (P-5) programs understand that child observation, documentation, and other forms of assessment are central to the practice of all elementary professionals. They know about and understand the goals, benefits, and uses of assessment. They know about and use systematic observations, documentation, and other effective assessment strategies in a responsible way, in partnership with families and other professionals, to positively influence the development of every child. The indicators are as follows:

(i) Understanding the goals, benefits, and uses of assessment including its interpretation and use in development of appropriate goals and differentiated teaching strategies for pre-Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade children;

(ii) Systematically collecting and analyzing relevant data (via observation, documentation, and other appropriate assessment tools and approaches including the use of technology) to monitor student progress and to inform instruction;

(iii) Understanding and practicing responsible assessment to promote positive outcomes for each child, including the use of assistive technology for children with disabilities;

(iv) Engaging in productive effective assessment partnerships with families and with professional colleagues to build effective learning environments; and

(v) Using a variety of formal and informal assessments of content and language proficiency in a dual immersion program.

4. Becoming a Dual Immersion Professional: Candidates prepared in Dual Immersion Elementary Education (P-5) programs identify and conduct themselves as members of the profession. They know and use ethical guidelines and other professional standards related to practice. They are continuous, collaborative learners who demonstrate knowledgeable, reflective and critical perspectives on their work, making informed decisions that integrate

knowledge from a variety of sources. They are informed advocates for sound educational practices and policies. The indicators are as follows:

- (i) Understanding the base of knowledge of the history, policies, programs, and research on the effectiveness of dual immersion education and biliteracy in the United States;
- (ii) Applying knowledge of the research on the cognitive effects of bilingualism and biliteracy as developmental processes in instructional practice and the dimensions of learning in dual language education program models;
- (iii) Understanding the benefits of multilingualism and multi-literacy in a global society;
- (iv) Recognizing the knowledge of contrastive linguistics; specifically, the transferability of knowledge and skills between primary and target language with the understanding that the level of transferability is affected by the level of compatibility and may vary among languages;
- (v) Demonstrating knowledge of the country/countries of origin, including geographic barriers, demographic and linguistic patterns, and the ways in which these affect trends of migration, immigration and settlement in Georgia and the United States; and
- (vi) Promoting authentic family participation that includes learning about school systems, assuming leadership roles and affecting policy.

5. Building Family and Community Relationships: Candidates prepared in Dual Immersion Elementary Education (P-5) programs understand that successful elementary education depends upon partnerships with children's families and communities. They know about, understand, and value the importance and complex characteristics of children's families and communities. They use this understanding to create respectful, reciprocal relationships that support and empower families, and to involve all families in their children's development and learning. The indicators are as follows:

- (i) Knowing about and understanding diverse family, family structures, and community characteristics;
- (ii) Supporting and engaging families and communities through respectful, reciprocal relationships;
- (iii) Involving families and communities in children's development and learning;
- (iv) Promoting candidates' understanding of the family as a primary language and cultural resource, regardless of the home language;
- (v) Understanding that students' motivation, participation and achievement are influenced by an intercultural classroom climate and school community; and
- (vi) Developing dual immersion candidates' understanding and knowledge of intercultural communication and interaction that is linguistically and culturally responsive.

6. Dual Immersion Field Experiences: Field experiences for dual immersion are planned and sequenced so that candidates develop the knowledge, skills and professional dispositions necessary to promote the development and learning of pre-Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade children in a dual immersion classroom. Candidates shall:

- (i) Observe and participate under the supervision of qualified professionals in dual immersion settings in which children are served (such as public and private centers, schools, and community agencies);
- (ii) Work effectively over time with dual language learners of diverse ages (preschoolers, or school-age), with children with diverse abilities, and with children reflecting culturally and linguistically diverse family systems; and
- (iii) Analyze and evaluate the dual immersion field experience, including supervised experience in working with families, and supervised experience in working with interdisciplinary teams of professionals.



Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.107

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Dual Immersion Early Childhood Education Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Sep. 26, 2016; eff. Oct. 15, 2016, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** New title "Dual Immersion Elementary Education (P-5) Endorsement Program." F. June 26, 2019; eff. July 1, 2019, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

### **505-3-.108 Personalized Learning Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare individuals to model personalized learning in the field and at the grade level of their base certification and supplements requirements in Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(2) **Definitions.**

(a) Asset Based Language: language or speech that expresses value for individualities, differences, and diversity of peers and other educators rather than emphasize differences as deficits.

(b) Competency of Focus: an individual competency which the learner and the Learning Coach have prioritized for immediate focus.

(c) Digital Content Ecosystem: Any dynamic and changing collection of instructional content accessed by either a teacher or a learner using a digital system.

(d) Educator as Instructional Designer: the designer of instructional curricula within his/her content area of expertise.

(e) Educator as Learning Coach: the learner's co-planner and guide within the learning environment.

(f) Executive Function: an umbrella term for the complex cognitive processes that serve ongoing, goal-directed behaviors.

(g) Growth and Mastery Mindset: a perspective or attitude toward learning that views it as an ongoing progression of continuous growth and improvement towards new understanding and mastery of interdependent competencies, and not an end point of either success or failure.

(h) Learner Agency: when learners advocate for their own needs, preferences, and interests to plan and drive their learning.

(i) Personalized Learning: an instructional approach that uses student voice to enact an individual path and pace through a collection of competencies.

(j) Responsive Instructional Design: considers user feedback and data to make real-time, high impact adjustments to the learning environment, curricula, and resources.

(3) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the Personalized Learning Endorsement have strengthened and enhanced competencies to utilize personalized learning practices in the field(s) and at the grade level(s) of their base certification.

#### **(4) Requirements.**

(a) A GaPSC approved professional educator preparation provider may seek state approval to offer this field as either a stand-alone endorsement program or as an endorsement program embedded in a GaPSC-approved initial preparation program or an advanced (degree-only) preparation program. In addition to meeting all applicable approval requirements and standards, embedded endorsement programs must meet requirements specified in paragraph (e) 3. (ix) of GaPSC educator preparation rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(b) To receive approval, a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards for the preparation of teachers informed by the Educator Competencies for Personalized, Learner-Centered Teaching published in 2015 by the Council of Chief State School Officers:

1. Prioritized Executive Function: The candidate explicitly teaches students the skills of executive function (self-regulation, emotional responsibility, task completion, working memory, cognitive flexibility, time management, reflection, etc.), teaches practices of metacognition, and prepares the learning environment to promote learner agency. The candidate will:

(i) prepare learners to take responsibility for their learning through the acquisition and practice of executive function;

(ii) design and transform curricula that supports learner acquisition and practice of executive function by considering the cognitive development of the learner; and

(iii) measure and report growth in learner executive function to coach learners towards independence.

2. Learner Agency: The candidate teaches and encourages learners to advocate for their needs, preferences, and interests to plan and drive their learning. The candidate will:

(i) support learners in identifying and advocating for their preferred modalities, talents, and interests when co-planning experiences that support mastery;

(ii) create a flexible or innovative learning environment that supports learner agency; and

(iii) ensure learning experiences reflect preferred modalities, talents, and interests when co-planning experiences that support mastery.

3. Asset-Based Dispositions: The candidate uses asset-based language and classroom practices to serve all learners. The candidate will:

(i) encourage all learners to value his/her own individualities and the diversity of peers and other educators as assets;

(ii) practice responsive pedagogy and curriculum design in a way that promotes diverse learner characteristics as assets; and

(iii) value diverse learner characteristics and demonstrates a belief that all students can learn any competency given adequate resources and time through asset based language.

4. Growth and Mastery Mindset: The candidate defines learning as an ongoing progression by embracing a growth and mastery mindset, rejecting the binary of success and failure. The candidate will:

(i) prepare learners to monitor their own pace and progress and persevere towards mastery, embracing mistakes as learning opportunities;

(ii) identify causes of learner struggles, prescribe solutions, and co-plan with learners to set short and long-term goals for growth; and

(iii) design and implement adaptive tools, strategies and learning experiences to support growth towards mastery for all learners.

5. Authentic and Adaptive Assessment: The candidate co-plans with the learner to collect evidence of mastery using varied and data-rich performances that are on-going, authentic, flexible, and relevant. The candidate will:

(i) prepare learners to self-assess by identifying, documenting, and defending formal and informal learning experiences to build an assessed portfolio as evidence of mastery;

(ii) consider multiple means of demonstration when co-designing assessments aligned to competencies; and

(iii) assess learner experiences (formal and informal) in diagnostic, formative and summative ways as they align to mastery using authentic and adaptive assessments.

6. Flexible Educational Resources: The candidate provides the learner access to flexible resources when co-planning unique ways to master competencies. These include, but are not limited to the resources available in the digital content ecosystem. The candidate will:

(i) provide opportunity for learners to seek or select content from a curated menu of educational resources that address the competencies;

(ii) employ engaging pedagogies and research-based best practices of instructional design to curate, mine, create, and organize high impact educational resources and make them accessible to learners; and

(iii) monitor and observe the effectiveness of educational resources in real-time and suggest or seek alternatives as needed.

7. Individualized Path: The candidate prepares learners to be aware of competency-based learning progressions and to make informed choices in co-planning a unique pathway and pace towards mastery of the curriculum. The candidate will:

(i) co-plan and co-design with the learner a challenging learning pathway towards mastery while considering the interdependencies within and across content(s);

(ii) use data of previously assessed competencies to coach and co-plan current and future learning paths; and

(iii) facilitate and coach the learner towards independence in mastering the content.

8. Dynamic Communication: The candidate facilitates communication that flows multi-directionally from all stakeholders to meet learner needs in a variety of flexible formats. The candidate will:

(i) coach learners to initiate communication with all stakeholders as s/he advocates for her/himself and others;

(ii) communicate curricula to ensure resources are leveraged for best outcomes; and

(iii) model and nurture effective communication strategies to build relationships with all stakeholders.

9. Expanded Collaboration: The candidate values learners as equal contributors in the planning process. The candidate will:

(i) coach learners to effectively collaborate in all interactions (group work, instructional conversations, sharing ideas, critical feedback, roles, peer feedback, etc.);

(ii) collaborate using tools and strategies to acquire real-time feedback and data from all stakeholders to inform curriculum design and improvement;

(iii) build relationships with all stakeholders that foster success, and

(iv) commit to timely personal interaction (co-plan, monitor progress, provide feedback, reflect and celebrate, etc.) with all learners.

10. Life-Long Professional Learning: The candidate perceives his/her own learning as a life-long pursuit. The candidate will:

(i) value and participate in professional learning communities and networks for ongoing growth in personalized learning;

(ii) keep abreast of innovative strategies and technologies that hold potential to support personalized learning; and

(iii) seek and create opportunities as a teacher leader, mentor, coach or content expert within the school, district or state to promote personalized learning.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.108

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Personalized Learning Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Dec. 18, 2018; eff. Jan. 15, 2019, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

## **505-3-.109 Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare individuals to model PBIS in the field and at the grade level of their base certification and supplements requirements in Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

### **(2) Definitions.**

(a) **Interconnected Systems Framework:** Represents a proposed and developing interconnection of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) and School Mental Health (SMH) systems to improve educational outcomes for all student, especially those with or at risk of developing mental health challenges.

(b) **Tiered Fidelity Inventory (TFI):** A checklist used by school staff engaged in School-Wide PBIS to determine how well the PBIS framework is being implemented by the school staff.

(c) **Self-Assessment Survey (SAS):** A survey used by school staff to examine the status and need for improvement of four behavior support systems: (a) school-wide discipline systems, (b) non-classroom management systems (e.g., cafeteria, hallway, playground), (c) classroom management systems, and (d) systems for individual students engaging in chronic problem behaviors.

(d) **School-wide Evaluation Tool (SET):** Is designed to assess and evaluate the critical features of school-wide effective behavior support across each academic school year.

(e) **Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS):** The practice of providing high-quality instruction and interventions matched to student need, monitoring progress frequently to make decisions about changes in instruction or goals, and data to important educational decisions.

(3) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) Endorsement have strengthened and enhanced competencies to model PBIS in the fields and at the grade levels of their base certification(s).

**(4) Requirements.**

(a) A GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider may seek state approval to offer this field as either a stand-alone endorsement program or as an endorsement program embedded in a GaPSC-approved initial preparation program or an advanced (degree-only) preparation program. In addition to meeting all applicable approval requirements and standards, embedded endorsement programs must meet requirements specified in paragraph (e) 3. (ix) of GaPSC educator preparation rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(b) To receive approval, a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards:

1. Foundations of PBIS. Providers will prepare candidates who demonstrate the following competencies:

(i) Understanding the role of school culture and climate in student success and effective behavior management;

(ii) Knowledge of interconnected systems framework (e.g., mental health, trauma-informed care, suicide prevention);

(iii) Understanding of behavioral principles, including, but not limited to, schedules of reinforcement and punishment, operant conditioning, and teaching strategies of proactive behavior management; and

(iv) Knowledge of the origins of the tiered public health prevention model and its connection to a tiered behavior supports framework.

2. School Wide Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (SWPBIS). Providers will prepare candidates who demonstrate the following competencies:

(i) Team-based implementation in the context of tiered systems across the continuum of supports;

(ii) Discipline through the PBIS lens of teaching expected behaviors first in all interventions;

(iii) Identification of critical features of School-Wide Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports through the Critical Features as outlined by the Association for Positive Behavior Supports; and

(iv) Assessment of Critical Features at the school-wide level (e.g., Tiered Fidelity Inventory (TFI), Self-Assessment Survey (SAS), School-wide Evaluation Tool (SET)).

3. Data-Based Decision-Making. Providers will prepare candidates who demonstrate the following competencies:

(i) An understanding of data collection systems and/or use of current student information systems (e.g., School-Wide Information System (SWIS), Infinite Campus, PowerSchool, etc.);

(ii) Use of data to determine the impact of intervention on behavioral outcomes;

(iii) Understanding of behavior in context, including the development of precision statements based upon classroom, school-wide and district data; and

(iv) Knowledge of methods of analyzing discipline data (office referrals, out of school suspension and in school suspension) to address disproportionality.

4. Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS). Providers will prepare candidates who demonstrate the following competencies:

(i) At the Universal tier: Candidates will demonstrate skills required for positive school-wide, classroom, and individual behavior management as it relates to the curriculum (or Tier 1 plan) including:

- (I) Definition and rationale;
- (II) Evidence-based practices; and
- (III) Assessment practices and outcomes.

(ii) At the Targeted tier: Candidates will demonstrate an understanding of the process for identifying concerns, developing strategies and targeting students who require behavior support and instruction beyond the Tier I level including:

- (I) Definition and rationale;
- (II) Evidence-based practices;
- (III) Assessment practices and outcomes; and
- (IV) Progress monitoring and evaluation.

(iii) At the Intensive tier: Candidates will demonstrate the application of "functional behavioral assessment" and "behavior support planning" in the context of Intensive Systems including:

- (I) Definition and rationale;
- (II) Evidence-based practices;
- (III) Assessment practices and outcomes; and
- (IV) Progress monitoring and evaluation.

5. Creating Positive Learning Environments. Providers will prepare candidates who demonstrate the following competencies:

(i) Competencies for PBIS classroom management include:

- (I) Maximize structure;
- (II) Teach expectations, rules and procedures;
- (III) Actively engage students;
- (IV) Acknowledge appropriate behavior; and
- (V) Respond to inappropriate behavior.

(ii) Competencies for culturally responsive practices include:

- (I) Use students' cultures and experiences to enhance their participation in the classroom culture; and

(II) Provide all students with access to effective instruction and adequate resources for learning.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.109

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Dec. 18, 2018; eff. Jan. 15, 2019, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

### **505-3-.110 Urban Education Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare individuals to teach in an urban setting in the field and at the grade level of their base certification and supplements requirements in Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the Urban Education Endorsement have strengthened and enhanced competency to teach in an urban setting in the field(s) and at the grade level(s) of their base certification.

(3) **Requirements.**

(a) A GaPSC-approved professional educator preparation provider may seek state approval to offer this field as either a stand-alone endorsement program or as an endorsement program embedded in a GaPSC-approved initial preparation program or an advanced (degree-only) preparation program. In addition to meeting all applicable approval requirements and standards, embedded endorsement programs must meet requirements specified in paragraph (e) 3. (ix) of GaPSC Educator Preparation Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(b) To receive approval, a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards for the preparation of educators:

1. Context of Urban Education. The program shall prepare candidates who are able to:

(i) Demonstrate an understanding of the dynamic context of urban schools and classrooms (e.g. classroom management, motivation, inclusive classrooms, and cultural relevance) as different from other contexts, and apply that understanding in their instructional practices;

(ii) Situate urban schools in their broader historical, social, political and economic contexts and demonstrate a deeper understanding of the ways in which these factors shape communities and learning environments; and

(iii) Demonstrate an understanding of the intersectionality of race, ethnicity, gender, class, language, ability, sexual orientation, and culture and the potential impact of these characteristics on students' educational experiences, and apply that understanding in their instructional practices.

2. Culturally Relevant Pedagogy, Curriculum, and Leadership. The program shall prepare candidates who are able to:

(i) Demonstrate an understanding of the definition of culturally relevant pedagogy and leadership;

(ii) Critically evaluate, develop, and implement culturally relevant and linguistically responsive curriculum;

(iii) Demonstrate an understanding of evidenced-based models of culturally relevant teaching, learning and assessment practices;

(iv) Demonstrate an understanding of the impact of students' diverse identities (race, ethnicity, gender, class, language, ability, sexual orientation, and culture), cultural backgrounds and experiences on teaching, learning, assessment practices, and academic success, and use this understanding to inform, plan, and implement culturally relevant teaching, learning, assessment, and classroom management practices; and

(v) Research, evaluate and apply leadership and advocacy strategies that support a culturally relevant learning environment.

3. Urban Learner and Learning in the 21st Century. The program shall prepare candidates who:

(i) Recognize the cultural capital of urban students and validate them as assets (funds of knowledge) to inform instructional practices and dispositions;

(ii) Explore and experience the contexts in which students from urban communities live and form identities; and

(iii) Investigate cultural trends and advancements in technologies that impact the learning of students from urban communities.

4. Communication, Engagement, and Partnerships with Families Schools and Communities. The program shall prepare candidates who:

(i) Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of school partnerships between families, home and communities;

(ii) Demonstrate the cultural competence to establish, elicit, and maintain clear two-way communication between school, families, home and communities;

(iii) Become culturally self-aware by increasing knowledge and understanding of their beliefs and values in order to engage communities and support families; and

(iv) Demonstrate an understanding of how to engage and establish authentic partnerships between families, schools, and communities to support student learning and wellbeing.

5. The Impact of Educator Culture, Perspectives, and Implicit Bias. The program shall prepare candidates who:

(i) Demonstrate their understandings of how cultural norms and implicit bias impact their perspectives of urban education;

(ii) Demonstrate an understanding of how to assess personal implicit bias; and

(iii) Reflect on how personal knowledge of implicit and explicit bias can be used to create inclusive and equitable educational opportunities.

6. The Impact of Systems, Structures and Policies on Urban Education. The program shall prepare candidates who:

(i) Demonstrate an understanding of how issues of race, gender, class, identity, privilege, and power impact students living in urban communities, and apply that understanding in their instructional practices;

(ii) Demonstrate an understanding of the evolution of law and policies and its impact on urban education with an emphasis on institutional, structural, and environmental racism and classism, and apply that understanding in their instructional practices;



- (iii) Demonstrate an understanding of the impact of racism and classism on the institutional, structural, and environmental (e.g. facilities, housing, zoning, resources, technology, etc.) inequalities in urban education, and apply that understanding in their instructional practices;
- (iv) Demonstrate a deep understanding of the achievement and opportunity challenges facing students, families, teachers, and leaders working and living in urban communities, and apply that understanding in their instructional practices;
- (v) Demonstrate an understanding of the implications of student discipline policies and practices on student retention, dropout rates, and the school to prison pipeline; and
- (vi) Critically analyze the implications of school, district and/or state policies and practices on the overrepresentation of culturally, racially, and linguistically diverse students in special education.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.110

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Urban Education Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Dec. 18, 2018; eff. Jan. 15, 2019, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

### **505-3-.111 Elementary Agriculture Education (P-5) Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving initial educator preparation programs that prepare individuals to teach agriculture in grades P-5 and supplements requirements in Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(2) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the Elementary Agriculture Education (P-5) Endorsement program are qualified to teach Agriculture Education courses in grades P-5.

#### **(3) Requirements.**

(a) GaPSC approved professional educator preparation providers may seek state approval to offer this field as either a stand-alone endorsement program or as an endorsement program embedded in a GaPSC-approved initial preparation Agriculture Education program or an advanced (degree-only) preparation program for individuals holding Agriculture Education (6-12) certification. In addition to meeting all applicable approval requirements and standards, embedded endorsement programs must meet requirements specified in paragraph (e) 3. (ix) of GaPSC Educator Preparation Rule [505-3-.01](#), REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(b) Candidates admitted to a stand-alone program or a program embedded in a degree-only program must hold certification in Agriculture Education (6-12) at the point of enrollment. Candidates admitted to an embedded program at the undergraduate level must be simultaneously enrolled in a GaPSC-approved program leading to initial certification in Agriculture Education (6-12).

(c) To receive approval, a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards appropriate for teachers of P-5 students, which are informed by standards published by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (2012):

1. Promoting Child Development and Learning: Candidates prepared in P-5 agriculture education endorsement programs are grounded in a child development knowledge base. They use their understanding of children's

characteristics and needs, and of multiple interacting influences on children's development and learning, to create environments that are healthy, respectful, supportive, and challenging for each child. The indicators are as follows:

- (i) Knowing and understanding pre-Kindergarten through 5th grade children's characteristics and needs;
- (ii) Knowing and understanding the multiple influences on early development and learning; and
- (iii) Using developmental knowledge to create healthy, respectful, supportive, and challenging learning environments for all pre-Kindergarten through 5th grade children.

2. Using Developmentally Effective Approaches: Candidates prepared in P-5 agriculture education endorsement programs understand that teaching and learning with children is a complex enterprise, and that details vary depending on children's ages, characteristics, and the setting within which teaching and learning occur. They understand and use positive relationships and supportive interactions as the foundation for their work with children and families. Candidates know, understand, and use a wide array of developmentally appropriate approaches, instructional strategies, and tools to connect with children and families and positively influence each child's development and learning. The indicators are as follows:

- (i) Establishing a classroom environment grounded in positive relationships and supportive interactions as the foundation of their work with children;
- (ii) Knowing and using effective research based strategies and tools for pre-Kindergarten through 5th grade children including the appropriate use of technology;
- (iii) Using a broad repertoire of developmentally appropriate research-based teaching/learning approaches (play, small group projects, open-ended questioning, group discussion, problem solving, cooperative learning, reflection, and inquiry experiences) to help pre-Kindergarten through 5th grade children develop intellectual curiosity, solve problems, and make decisions; and
- (iv) Reflecting on one's own practice to promote positive outcomes for each child.

3. Using Content Knowledge to Build Meaningful Curriculum: Candidates prepared in P-5 agriculture education endorsement programs use their knowledge of agriculture education to design, implement, and evaluate experiences that promote positive development and learning for each and every child. Candidates understand the importance of developmental domains and academic (or content) disciplines in agriculture education curriculum. They know the essential concepts, inquiry tools, and structure of agriculture education, and can identify resources to deepen their understanding. Candidate use their own knowledge and other resources to design, implement, and evaluate meaningful, challenging curriculum that promotes comprehensive development and learning outcomes for every child. The indicators are as follows:

- (i) Understanding content knowledge and resources in agriculture education;
- (ii) Knowing and using the central concepts, inquiry tools, and structures of agriculture education;
- (iii) Using content knowledge, appropriate content standards, and other resources to design, implement, and evaluate developmentally meaningful and challenging curriculum for each child; and
- (iv) Recognizing and utilizing opportunities for appropriate curriculum integration.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.111

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Elementary Agriculture Education (P-5) Endorsement Program" adopted. F. June 26, 2019; eff. July 1, 2019, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.

### **505-3-.112 Dyslexia Endorsement Program**

(1) **Purpose.** This rule states field-specific content standards for approving endorsement programs that prepare individuals to recognize the characteristics of dyslexia and support students with dyslexia in the field and at the grade levels of their base certification and supplements requirements in GaPSC Rule [505-3-.01](#) REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(2) **Definitions.**

(a) **Articulatory:** Motor movements that are involved in the production of speech sounds.

(b) **Curriculum-Based Measures (CBMs):** A set of individually administered, standardized procedures designed to assess basic skills in reading, mathematics, writing, and spelling.

(c) **Dyslexia:** A specific learning disability that is neurobiological in origin. It is characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities. These difficulties typically result from a deficit in the phonological component of language that is often unexpected in relation to other cognitive abilities and the provision of effective classroom instruction. Secondary consequences may include problems in reading comprehension and reduced reading experience that can impede growth of vocabulary and background knowledge.

(d) **Expressive Language:** Ability to speak and understand language. It encompasses verbal and nonverbal communication skills and how an individual uses language. Expressive language skills include facial expressions, gestures, intentionality, vocabulary, semantics (word/sentence meaning), morphology, and syntax (grammar rules).

(e) **Morphology:** The study of how the aspects of language structure are related to the ways words are formed from prefixes, roots, and suffixes, and how words are related to each other to understand meanings of words and word combination.

(f) **Multisensory and Multimodal Language-learning Techniques:** Use of two or more sensory pathways (auditory, visual, kinesthetic, and tactile).

(g) **Orthographic:** The ability to perceive and manipulate aspects of a writing system and the visual aspects of reading and spelling, such as letter, letter patterns, and words.

(h) **Phonics:** The understanding and use of the alphabetic principle, that there is a predictable relationship between phonemes (the sounds in spoken language) and graphemes (the letters that represent those sounds) in written language and that this information is used to decode and spell words.

(i) **Phonemic Awareness:** The most complex of phonological awareness skills. It is the ability to notice, think about, and work with the individual phonemes (sounds) in spoken words. The ability to recognize that a spoken word consists of a sequence of individual sounds and the ability to manipulate individual sounds.

(j) **Phonological Awareness:** Encompasses a broad spectrum of processes that comprise a range of understandings related to large chunks of speech (e.g., words within sentences, syllables within words), as well as phonemes (sounds) within words.

(k) **Phonological Sensitivity:** Phonemic and phonological awareness difficulties.

(l) **Receptive Language:** Ability to understand words and language. Involves attention, listening, and processing the message to gain information. Areas of receptive language skills include attention, receptive vocabulary, following directions, and understanding questions.

(m) Semantic: Ability to understand meanings of words and word combination.

(n) Syntactic: Ability to arrange words in sentences.

(3) **In-Field Statement.** Completers of the Dyslexia Endorsement have strengthened and enhanced competency for recognizing the characteristics of dyslexia and for supporting students with dyslexia in the field(s) and at the grade levels of their base certificate(s).

(4) **Requirements.**

(a) A GaPSC-approved professional educator preparation provider may seek state approval to offer this field as either a stand-alone endorsement program or as an endorsement program embedded in a GaPSC-approved initial preparation program or an advanced (degree-only) preparation program. In addition to meeting all applicable approval requirements and standards, embedded endorsement programs must meet requirements specified in paragraph (e) 3. (ix) of GaPSC Educator Preparation GaPSC Rule [505-3-.01](#) REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS FOR APPROVING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDERS AND EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

(b) To receive approval, a GaPSC-approved educator preparation provider shall offer a preparation program described in program planning forms, catalogs, and syllabi addressing the following standards for the preparation of teachers adapted from the International Dyslexia Association (2018).

1. Foundations of Literacy Acquisition. Programs shall prepare candidates who are able to:

(i) Understand the five (5) language processing requirements of proficient reading and writing: phonological, orthographic, semantic, syntactic, and discourse;

(ii) Understand that learning to read, for most people, requires explicit instruction;

(iii) Understand the reciprocal relationships among phonemic awareness, decoding, word recognition, spelling, and vocabulary knowledge;

(iv) Identify and explain aspects of cognition and behavior that affect reading and writing development;

(v) Identify (and explain how) environmental, cultural, and social factors contribute to literacy development;

(vi) Explain major research findings regarding the contribution of linguistic and cognitive factors to the prediction of literacy outcomes;

(vii) Understand the most common intrinsic differences between good and poor readers (i.e., linguistic, cognitive, and neurobiological);

(viii) Know phases in the typical developmental progression of oral language, phonemic awareness, decoding skills, printed word recognition, spelling, reading fluency, reading comprehension, and written expression; and

(ix) Understand the changing relations among the major components of literacy development in accounting for reading achievement.

2. Knowledge of Diverse Reading Profiles, Including Dyslexia. Programs shall prepare candidates who are able to:

(i) Recognize the tenets of the (2003) International Dyslexia Association definition of dyslexia, or any accepted revisions thereof;

(ii) Know fundamental provisions of federal and state laws that pertain to learning disabilities, including dyslexia and other reading and language disability subtypes;

(iii) Identify the distinguishing characteristics of dyslexia and other language difficulties including expressive and receptive language;

(iv) Understand how reading disabilities vary in presentation and degree; and

(v) Understand how and why symptoms of reading difficulty are likely to change over time in response to development and instruction.

3. Assessments. Programs shall prepare candidates who are able to:

(i) Understand the differences among and purposes for screening, progress monitoring, and diagnostic and outcome assessments;

(ii) Understand basic principles of test construction and formats (e.g., reliability, validity, criterion, normed);

(iii) Interpret basic statistics commonly utilized in formal and informal assessments;

(iv) Know and utilize in practice well-validated screen tests designed to identify students at risk for reading difficulties;

(v) Understand and apply the principles of progress monitoring and reporting with Curriculum-Based Measures (CBMs) including graphing techniques;

(vi) Know and utilize in practice informal diagnostic surveys of phonological and phonemic awareness, decoding skills, oral reading fluency, comprehension, spelling and writing;

(vii) Know how to read and interpret the most common diagnostic tests used by psychologists, speech-language pathologists, and education evaluators;

(viii) Integrate, summarize, and communicate (orally and in writing) the meanings of educational assessment data for sharing; and

(ix) Understand the developmental aspects of reading abilities and how they impact the purpose of assessment, the areas of literacy that should be focused upon, and the interpretation of assessment results.

4. Structured Literacy Instruction. Programs shall prepare candidates who demonstrate an understanding of:

(i) The essential principles and practices of structured literacy instruction, as indicated by the following:

(I) Understand and apply in practice the general principles and practices of structured language and literacy teaching, including explicit, systematic, cumulative, and teacher-directed;

(II) Understand and apply in practice the rationales for multisensory and multimodal language-learning techniques; and

(III) Understand the rationale for and adapt instruction to accommodate individual differences in cognitive, linguistic, sociocultural, and behavioral aspects of learning.

(ii) Phonological and phonemic awareness, as indicated by the following:

(I) Understand the rationale for and identify, pronounce, classify, and compare all the consonant phonemes and all vowel phonemes of English;

(II) Understand and apply in practice considerations for levels of phonological sensitivity;

(III) Understand and apply in practice considerations for phonemic awareness difficulties;

(IV) Know and apply in practice considerations for the progression of phonemic awareness skill development, across age and grade;

(V) Know and apply in practice considerations for the general and specific goals of phonemic awareness instruction;

(VI) Know and apply in practice considerations for the principles of phonemic awareness instruction: brief, multisensory, conceptual, articulatory and auditory verbal; and

(VII) Know and apply in practice considerations for the utility of print and online resources for obtaining information about languages other than English.

(iii) Phonics and word recognition, as indicated by the following:

(I) Know and apply in practice considerations for the structure of English orthography and the patterns and rules that inform the teaching of single-and multisyllabic regular word reading;

(II) Know and apply in practice considerations for systematically, cumulatively, and explicitly teaching basic decoding and spelling skills;

(III) Know and apply in practice considerations for organizing word recognition and spelling lessons by following a structured phonics lesson plan;

(IV) Know and apply in practice considerations for using multisensory routines to enhance student engagement and memory;

(V) Know and apply in practice considerations for adapting instruction for students with weaknesses in working memory, attention, executive function, or processing speed;

(VI) Know and apply in practice considerations for teaching irregular words in small increments using special techniques;

(VII) Know and apply in practice considerations for systematically teaching the decoding of multisyllabic words; and

(VIII) Know and apply in practice considerations for the different types and purposes of texts.

(iv) Automatic, fluent reading of text as indicated by the following:

(I) Know and apply in practice considerations for the role of fluent word-level skills in automatic word reading, oral reading fluency, reading comprehension, and motivation to read;

(II) Know and apply in practice considerations for varied techniques and methods for building reading fluency;

(III) Know and apply in practice considerations for text reading fluency as an achievement of normal reading development that can be advanced through informed instruction and progress-monitoring practices; and

(IV) Know and apply in practice considerations for appropriate uses of assistive technology for students with serious limitations in reading fluency.

(v) Vocabulary, as indicated by the following:

(I) Know and apply in practice considerations for the role of vocabulary development and vocabulary knowledge in oral and written language comprehension;

(II) Know and apply in practice considerations for the sources of wide differences in students' vocabularies;

(III) Know and apply in practice considerations for the role and characteristics of indirect (contextual) methods of vocabulary instruction; and

(IV) Know and apply in practice considerations for the role and characteristics of direct, explicit methods of vocabulary instruction.

(vi) Listening and reading comprehension, as indicated by the following:

(I) Know and apply in practice considerations for factors that contribute to deep comprehension;

(II) Know and apply in practice considerations for instructional routines appropriate for each major genre: informational text, narrative text, and argumentation;

(III) Know and apply in practice considerations for the role of sentence comprehension in listening and reading comprehension;

(IV) Know and apply in practice considerations for the use of explicit comprehension strategy instruction, as supported by research; and

(V) Know and apply in practice considerations for the teacher's role as an active mediator of text-comprehension processes.

(vii) Written expression, as indicated by the following:

(I) Understand the major skill domains that contribute to written expression;

(II) Know and apply in practice considerations for research-based principles for teaching letter formation, both manuscript and cursive;

(III) Know and apply in practice considerations for research-based principles for teaching written spelling and punctuation;

(IV) Know and apply in practice considerations for the developmental phases of the writing process; and

(V) Know and apply in practice considerations for the appropriate uses of assistive technology in written expression.

5. Professional Dispositions and Practices. Programs shall prepare candidates who:

(i) Establish and maintain collaborative relationships with relevant professionals (e.g., speech-language pathologist, school psychologist, curriculum specialist) providing intervention to individuals with dyslexia;

(ii) Strive to do no harm and to act in the best interests of struggling readers and readers with dyslexia and related language based learning disabilities;

(iii) Maintain the public trust by providing accurate information about currently accepted and evidence-based best practices in the field;

(iv) Avoid misrepresentation of the efficacy of educational or other treatments or the proof for or against those treatments;

(v) Respect objectivity by reporting assessment and treatment results accurately, and truthfully;

(vi) Support equitable treatment of individuals with dyslexia and related language-based learning disabilities;

(vii) Respect confidentiality of students or clients; and

(viii) Respect the intellectual property of others.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 505-3-.112

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. § [20-2-200](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Dyslexia Endorsement Program" adopted. F. Dec. 13, 2019; eff. Jan. 1, 2020, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 11, 2020; eff. July 1, 2020, as specified by the Agency.

**Amended:** F. June 15, 2021; eff. July 1, 2021, as specified by the Agency.



# **Department 515. RULES OF GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

## **Chapter 515-12. TELEPHONE SERVICE**

### **Subject 515-12-1. TELEPHONE SERVICE**

#### **515-12-1-.35 Eligible Telecommunications Carriers**

(1) An Eligible Telecommunications Carrier must meet the requirements set forth in 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(1)(A) and (B) and all rules and regulations duly promulgated by the Federal Communications Commission set forth in 47 C.F.R. part 54, Subpart C (Carriers Eligible for Universal Service Support), Subpart D (Universal Service Support for High Cost Areas), or Subpart E (Universal Service Support for Low-Income Consumers), except to the extent the FCC has granted a waiver of its rules and regulations.

(2) An Eligible Telecommunications Carrier shall satisfactorily resolve within a reasonable time period any and all complaints filed against it with the Commission's Consumer Affairs Unit.

(3) An Eligible Telecommunications Carrier shall advertise the availability of Lifeline service on its internet website.

(4) An Eligible Telecommunications Carrier shall not charge usage (i.e., decrement minutes) or charge fees of any kind for calls to customer service.

(5) An Eligible Telecommunications Carrier shall file the number of Lifeline subscribers that the carrier serves in the State of Georgia as of June 30th and December 31st of each year, broken down by eligibility criterion. The report shall be filed 15 days from the close of the period.

(6) An Eligible Telecommunications Carrier that provides no-cost service after application of the Lifeline discount shall file with the Commission quarterly reports, due no later than 15 days from the close of each quarter, that report the number of customers who have been deactivated pursuant to [47 C.F.R. § 54.405\(e\)\(3\)](#), the number of customers who did not pass annual verification, and the number of customers who were voluntarily deactivated.

(7) Lifeline materials including advertisements, application forms, and verification forms must include the following language: "Unresolved complaints concerning Lifeline service can be directed to the Georgia Public Service Commission's Consumer Affairs Unit at [local and toll free number for the Consumer Affairs Unit]."

(8) Any proposed increases in an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier's least cost service rate available to Lifeline customers, any increase in connection charges, or the addition of any proposed surcharges, other than those specifically provided for in State or Federal law, shall require 30 days written notice to the Commission.

(9) An Eligible Telecommunications Carrier shall include its lowest cost service offering in all Lifeline advertisements.

(10) Under [47 C.F.R. § 54.314\(a\)](#), the Commission submits to the Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC") and the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") an annual certification prior to October 1, of each year. The annual certification includes those carriers that have certified to the Commission that all federal high-cost support provided to such carriers within Georgia was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which support is intended. In order to be included in the annual certification that the Commission submits to USAC and the FCC for a given year, a carrier shall file its certification with the Commission on or before August 1, of that year.

**Cite as** Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 515-12-1-.35

**AUTHORITY:** O.C.G.A. §§ [46-2-30](#), [46-5-160](#) through 174, 46-2-51, [47 U.S.C. § 254\(f\)](#).

**HISTORY:** Original Rule entitled "Eligible Telecommunications Carriers" adopted. F. May 11, 2012; eff. May 31, 2012.

**Amended:** F. Jan. 16, 2013; eff. Feb. 5, 2013.

**Amended:** F. Oct. 21, 2013; eff. Nov. 10, 2013.

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**Amended:** F. Oct. 18, 2016; eff. Nov. 7, 2016.

**Amended:** F. Jan. 10, 2017; eff. Jan. 30, 2017.

**Amended:** F. June 16, 2021; eff. July 6, 2021.