

Georgia's Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education Foundation Skills and DESSA Crosswalk

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The Georgia Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education (CTAE) developed [11 Foundation Skills](#). These skills align with the state's academic standards and provide a broad foundation to help students prepare to manage lifelong learning and career transitions in a rapidly changing economy.

The DESSA suite of assessments measures key social and emotional competencies essential for student success now and into the future. The DESSA assessments span kindergarten through 12th grade and can be completed by educators, students, and parents or guardians. The assessments are nationally standardized, norm-referenced, strength-based behavior rating scales, measuring the positive skills, behaviors, and mindsets necessary for students to thrive.

This crosswalk highlights the alignment between the Georgia CTAE Foundation Skills and DESSA assessment items. It demonstrates how the DESSA assessments can be used by districts and schools to ensure all Georgia students have the knowledge and skills necessary for future successes in the Georgia workforce.

Alignment between the CTAE Foundation Skills and DESSA Items

CTAE-FS-1 Technical Skills	
Learners achieve technical content skills necessary to pursue the full range of careers for all pathways in the program concentration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prepare for school, activities, or upcoming events• Think before they acted• Work carefully on projects or schoolwork• Update their thinking as they learn more about something• Set goals for themselves• Imagine a positive future for themselves

CTAE-FS-2 Academic Foundations	
Learners achieve state academic standards at or above grade level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prepare for school, activities, or upcoming events• Work carefully on projects or schoolwork• Keep working until they achieve a goal• Express high expectations for themselves• Expect that they will be successful

CTAE-FS-3 Communications	
Learners use various communication skills in expressing and interpreting information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen to others • Ask questions when learning new things • Ask for advice when needed • Respond to others' feelings in kind and safe ways • Gather information before making an important decision • Update their thinking as they learn more about something

CTAE-FS-4 Problem Solving and Critical Thinking	
Learners define and solve problems, and use problem-solving and improvement methods and tools.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take action to solve problems • Keep working until they achieve a goal • Cooperate with others to solve a problem • Update their thinking as they learn more about something • Seek out challenging tasks • Accept that making mistakes is part of learning • View negative outcomes as a learning opportunity • Work to develop their personal strengths

CTAE-FS-5 Information Technology Applications	
Learners use multiple information technology devices to access, organize, process, transmit, and communicate information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adapt well to new situations • Adjust their behavior to match different settings • Gather information before making an important decision • Update their thinking as they learn more about something

CTAE-FS-6 Systems	
Learners understand a variety of organizational structures and functions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to creating a positive learning environment • Believe their contributions to a group or team matter • Make positive contributions to their class, school, or community • Feel comfortable being themselves in different situations • Agree to and follow expectations for their behavior

CTAE-FS-7 Safety, Health, and Environment	
Learners employ safety, health and environmental management systems in corporations and comprehend their importance to organizational performance and regulatory compliance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree to and follow expectations for their behavior • Think before they acted • Accept responsibility for their actions • Express high expectations for themselves • Contribute to group or team goals • Believe their contributions to a group or team matter

CTAE-FS-8 Leadership and Teamwork	
Learners apply leadership and teamwork skills in collaborating with others to accomplish organizational goals and objectives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperate with others to solve a problem • Contribute to group or team goals • Compromise for the good of the group • Believe working with others leads to greater success • Believe their contributions to a group or team matter • Help make their class a place where everyone can learn • Resolve conflicts positively • Interact positively with classmates • Encourage others • Listen to others

CTAE-FS-9 Ethics and Legal Responsibilities	
Learners commit to work ethics, behavior, and legal responsibilities in the workplace.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree to and follow expectations for their behavior • Accept responsibility for their actions • Think before they acted • Demonstrate a sense of who they are and what is important to them • Do the right thing in a difficult situation • Express high expectations for themselves • Motivate themselves when they don't want to do something • Make positive contributions to their class, school, or community

CTAE-FS-10 Career Development	
Learners plan and manage academic-career plans and employment relations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show an awareness of their personal strengths • Work to develop their personal strengths • Demonstrate a sense of who they are and what is important to them • Speak positively about their future potential • Prepare for school, activities, or upcoming events • Gather information before making an important decision • Set goals for themselves • Believe working with others leads to greater success • Ask for advice when needed • Feel comfortable asking for help when they don't understand something

CTAE-FS-11 Entrepreneurship	
Learners demonstrate understanding of concepts, processes, and behaviors associated with successful entrepreneurial performance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Set goals for themselves• Persist to achieve a goal• Believe they can achieve their goals• Can imagine a positive future for themselves• Speak positively about their future potential• Can make a positive difference in the world• Seek out things that challenge them• Express high expectations for themselves• Accept that making mistakes is part of learning



The DESSA System from Aperture Education: A Riverside Insights Company is a student resilience system that helps educators measure and strengthen social, emotional, and behavioral skills to reduce challenges that interfere with learning. The DESSA universal screening and supplemental assessments are widely used, practical, evidence-based measures of social and emotional competence of students in grades K-12. These powerful data analytic tools enable educators to identify trends, validate curriculum effectiveness, and drive positive academic and well-being outcomes for students. Robust reporting in the DESSA System provides insights for educators and staff to proactively differentiate instruction using DESSA-provided instructional strategies and tiered intervention resources. The DESSA System's strength-based approach is grounded in resilience theory and designed to bring the whole child into focus. To learn more, visit www.ApertureEd.com.