Criteria for State Comparison Selection

1. The state's average 2013 NAEP scale score must be higher than Georgia's in at least one of the following areas: 4th grade reading, 8th grade reading, 4th grade math, or 8th grade math. This difference must be statistically significant.
2. The state's average 2013 NAEP scale score is not lower (statistically significant) than Georgia's in at least any of the following areas: 4th grade reading, 8th grade reading, 4th grade math, or 8th grade math.
3. The state's percent of students performing at Proficient or higher on the 2013 NAEP must be greater than Georgia's in at least two of the following areas: 4th grade reading, 8th grade reading, 4th grade math, or 8th grade math.
4. The state must be similar to Georgia in terms of the percentage of NAEP test takers who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch.

These criteria identify three states: Florida, Kentucky, and North Carolina.

A fourth state, Texas, was included in the comparison below because it met all criteria except that the 4th grade students in Texas perform lower than Georgia's students in reading.

*Tennessee is closely comparable to Georgia on demographic and economic indicators. While that state has not significantly out-performed Georgia on the 2013 NAEP assessments in terms of scale scores or percent proficient, Tennessee's 2013 scores are very close to Georgia's scores. More importantly, Tennessee has shown more rapid growth and improvement in NAEP scores than any other state. Tennessee was the only state that made gains between 2011 and 2013 in 4th grade reading, 4th grade math, 8th grade reading, and 8th grade math.**

		GA	**FL**	**KY**	**NC**	**TX**	***TN***
% of Students Tested Who Are FRL**							
	4th grade reading	60%	60%	52%	58%	62%	*55%*
	8th grade reading	58%	56%	49%	54%	56%	*53%*
	4th grade math	61%	61%	52%	57%	63%	*55%*
	8th grade math	59%	56%	49%	54%	56%	*53%*
Per Pupil Expenditure, adjusted for cost of living***		$10,089	$8,623	$10,468	$8,899	$8,493	*$9,220*

		GA	FL	KY	NC	TX	*TN*
Average Scale Score performance relative to Georgia**							
	4th grade reading	222	**higher (227)**	same (224)	same (222)	lower (217)	*same (220)*
	8th grade reading	265	same (266)	**higher (270)**	same (265)	same (264)	*same (265)*
	4th grade math	240	same (242)	same (241)	**higher (245)**	same (242)	*same (240)*
	8th grade math	279	same (281)	same (281)	**higher (286)**	**higher (288)**	*same (278)*
Percent Proficient or above relative to Georgia**							
	4th grade reading	34%	**higher (39)**	**higher (36)**	**higher (35)**	lower (28)	*same (34)*
	8th grade reading	32%	**higher (33)**	**higher (36)**	**higher (35)**	lower (31)	***higher (33)***
	4th grade math	39%	**higher (41)**	**higher (41)**	**higher (45)**	**higher (41)**	***higher (40)***
	8th grade math	29%	**higher (31)**	**higher (30)**	**higher (36)**	**higher (38)**	*lower (28)*
Demographic comparisons****	% of population <18	23.3	20.6	23.1	23.2	26.6	*23.0*
	% of population ≥25 with HS diploma	84.7	86.1	83.0	84.9	81.2	*84.4*
	% of population ≥25 with BA/BS/higher	28.0	26.4	21.5	27.3	26.7	*23.8*
Income comparisons****	Per capita 2013	$25,182	$26,236	$23,462	$25,284	$26,019	*$24,409*
	Median household 2013	$49,179	$46,956	$43,036	$46,334	$51,900	*$44,298*

		GA Proposed	FL[1]	KY[2]	NC[3]	TX[4]	*TN*[5]
State Funding Formula Type and Characteristics	Type of formula*****	Foundation / Base Formula	Foundation/ Base Formula	Foundation/ Base Formula	Teacher Allocation	Foundation/ Base Formula	*Teacher Allocation*
	Base amount of student funding	Yes (enrollment; 4-8 is 1.0)	Yes (FTE 4-8 is 1.0)	Yes (per-pupil ADA)	Yes (10-12 is base class size)	Yes (per pupil ADA)	*Yes (per-pupil ADM)*
	Teacher salaries include base and T&E	Yes	No (funded by FTE calculation; state minimum salary)	Accounted for in base calculations (state minimum salary based on degree & experience)	Yes – funded based on state average salary	None indicated (state minimum salary based on years of experience)	*Instruction-al salary unit cost x number of positions*
	Weight for K-3	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	*Yes (class size)*
	Weight for 4-8	No – is the base	No – is the base	No	Yes	No	*Yes (class size)*
	Weight for 9-12	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	*Yes (class size)*
	Weight for CTAE	Yes	Yes	No	Yes (9-12)	Yes	*Yes*
	Weight for SWD	Yes (3 levels)	Yes (3 levels; 1 level has 3 subcatego-ries)	Yes (3 levels)	Yes (1 level)	Yes (12 categories; 8 different weights)	*Yes (10 levels)*
	Weight for ELL/LEP	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	*Yes*
	Weight for ED and/or At-Risk	Yes (ED)	Yes (at-risk)	Yes (ED)	Yes (at-risk)	Yes (at-risk)	*Yes (at-risk alternative)*
	Weight for Gifted	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	*No*
	Considerations for District Differences	Yes – to be discussed	Yes (district cost differential, small size, declining enrollment, sparsity, transpor-tation, local capacity & effort)	Yes (transpor-tation, hospital/ homebound, local effort)	Yes (low wealth, technology, small county, transpor-tation)	Yes (local cost differential, district size, transpor-tation, sparsity, local effort, property wealth per student)	*Yes (fiscal capacity of small schools, transpor-tation distance, technology)*

		GA Proposed	FL[1]	KY[2]	NC[3]	TX[4]	*TN*[5]
State Funding Weights Comparisons	Type of formula*****	Foundation / Base Formula	Foundation/ Base Formula	Foundation/ Base Formula	Teacher Allocation	Foundation/ Base Formula	*Teacher Allocation*
	Base amount of student funding	Base student allocation determined by the state. FY16 $2,046.69	Base student allocation determined by the state. FY15 $4,031.77	Multiply the per pupil funding amount set by the General Assembly by the prior year average daily attendance (ADA), adjusted for growth.	Determined by state based according to class size ratio.	State allotment (FY15 $5040) is adjusted for district cost index, size, and sparsity. Adjusted allotment **x** ADA (not SWD & CTAE) **x** state regular program adjustment factor.	*State calculates average daily membership to determine instruction, classroom, and non-classroom component funding levels.*
	Weight for K-3	0.2658	0.126	NA	1:19 & 1:18	NA	*1:20*
	Weight for 4-8	1.0	Base of 1.0	NA	1:24 & 1:23	NA	*1:25 & 1:30*
	Weight for 9-12	0.1876	0.004	NA	1:26.5 & 1:29	NA	*1:30 & 1:26.5*
	Weight for CTAE	0.1058	0.004 (0.1 or 0.2 if industry credential)	NA	$10,000 per LEA + $33.82 ADM 8-12	1.35	*ADM identified / 20 x 1.2 = positions*
	Weight for SWD	1.5160, 2.9333, 3.6157	0.0 4-8, 0.004 9-12, , 0.126 K-3, 3.548 and 5.104	2.35, 1.17, and 0.24	$3761.75 per funded child count	1.1, 1.7, 2.3, 2.7, 2.8, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0	*Level # identified & served / funding level =positions*
	Weight for ELL/LEP	0.1047	0.147	0.096	TA base $ + ($368.27 x # LEP) + concentration	0.1	*ADM identified & served / 30 = positions*
	Weight for ED and/or At-Risk	0.2500	DJJ summer funds	FRL x 0.15	HS SRO base $ + ($87.89 x # ED) + $236,654	0.2 and 2.41	*ADM identified & served / 300 = positions*
	Weight for Gifted	0.1058	0.16 9-12	NA	$1237.29 for 4% of ADM	0.12	*NA*
	Considerations for District Differences	To be discussed and determined: equalization, sparsity, local 5 mills, transportation supplemental possibility	Annual capped weighting per FTE group; small district SWD supplement for two highest cost; small isolated school supplement; district cost differential.	LEA minimum equivalent tax rate of 30 cents per $100 in assessed value of property and motor vehicles in the district. Complex transportation calculation.	Supplemental funding for disadvantaged students, driver training, low wealth, technology, small LEA, transportation.	Transportation: number of riders **x** set rate per mile that is based on the linear density of the district's eligible school bus route miles	*Funding for multiple position types determined as above. Transportation complex 3-year average. Cost differential determined by General Assembly.*

*Source: *http://www.nagb.org/newsroom/naep-releases/2013-reading-math.html*

**Source: 2013 NAEP State Profiles: http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/states/

***Source: 2011-12 PPE is from Table 236.75 of the Digest of Education Statistics: http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/current_tables.asp. Cost of living adjustment is based on Regional Price Parities from the Bureau of Economic Analysis: www.bea.gov/newsreleases/regional/rpp/rpp_newsrelease.htm

****Source: United States Census Bureau: http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/index.html

*****Source: Center for Public Education: Money Matters: A Primer on K-12 School Funding. Teacher Allocation is based on the teachers, administrators, and support staff needed to operate a school, as determined by school enrollment. Foundation/Base formulas include a base-level amount of monetary support for each student that is then adjusted, depending on how much support the student would need in the district (grade-level bands, SWD, ELL, at-risk, etc.).

[1]Source: http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/5423/urlt/Fefpdist.pdf

[2]Sources: http://education.ky.gov/districts/SEEK/Pages/default.aspx and www.teachingdegree.org/kentucky/salary/

[3]Source: http://www.ncpublicschools.org/docs/fbs/resources/data/highlights/2014highlights.pdf

[4]Sources: http://tea.texas.gov/Finance_and_Grants/State_Funding/Manuals/School__Finance_Manuals/ and www.teachingdegree.org/texas/salary

[5]Source: http://www.tn.gov/assets/entities/education/attachments/loc_fin_bep_handbook.pdf