

## GED®

*A nationally normed exam that measures the major and lasting outcomes and concepts associated with a traditional four-year high school education.*

**GED Testing Center locations, times, and cost**  
See the *Utah GED website at [www.utahged.info](http://www.utahged.info)* under examinee resources.

# SECTION J

## GENERAL EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT TEST®

### The GED® Test

The Utah State Office of Education contracts with the General Educational Development® Testing Service (GEDTS), a joint venture with the American Council on Education & Pearson VUE, to administer the GED® Tests. The General Educational Development Test was originally developed in 1942 to assess and quantify skills of returning WWII servicemen. Now the GED® Tests measures the major and lasting outcomes and concepts associated with a traditional four-year high school education, as well as a measurement of College & Career Readiness

The GED® Test consists of four tests measuring student achievement in the following four subject areas: Reasoning Through Language Arts, Mathematical Reasoning, Social Studies, and Science. In Utah, upon passing the GED® Tests, an individual is awarded a Utah High School Completion Diploma. The Utah High School Completion Diploma can be used in lieu of a Carnegie-unit based high school diploma for nearly all employment and college admissions opportunities.

### Preparing for the GED® Test

Most Utah school district adult education programs offer GED® Test preparation course instruction to prepare students for the GED® Test. GED® preparation materials and/or instruction are also available at many nonprofit agencies, local libraries, on television (GED® Connections), and in books found in stores.

### Eligibility to Take the GED® Test

1. If the applicant is enrolled in any Utah K-12 school, the applicant is NOT eligible to take GED® Tests.
2. If the applicant's high school graduating class has graduated, the applicant must be at least 17 years of age.
3. If the applicant's graduating class has NOT graduated, the applicant must be at least 16 years of age and out-of-school.
4. Special conditions involving school principals, counselors and the local adult education programs exist to assure that potential applicants and parents/guardians are aware of the consequences of dropping-out of school and pursuing GED® testing. GED® Testing Centers require the applicant to have completed the "Adult Education Program and/or GED® Testing® Application for 16-18 Year-Old Non-Graduates" form obtained from counselors in public high schools, charter schools or special purpose residential schools. (Appendix A –"Adult Education Program and/or GED® Testing Application for 16-18 Year-Old Non-Graduates" form)

5. By signing the form the GED® testing applicant and parent/guardian acknowledge:
  - A. that counseling has been provided for the applicant explaining the major consequences of the applicant's education choices;
  - B. that the applicant is formally withdrawn from a program of K-12 instruction; and
  - C. permission from parent/guardian has been given for the applicant to take the tests (or the applicant presents his/her marriage certificate in lieu of parent/guardian permission).
6. Sixteen year-old persons seeking admission to a GED® Testing Center must first access a Utah state-sponsored adult education program for verification that they have the academic readiness necessary to take the GED® Tests. Verification by an adult education program is not a guarantee that the youth will pass the GED® Tests.
7. Seventeen and eighteen year-old persons seeking admission to a GED® Testing Center must first access a Utah state-sponsored adult education program for assistance in being "released from the 16-18 year-old registration queue" as part of the test registration process.

### **District Support**

1. Districts do not have authority under Board Rule to delay or deny access to the GED® if the person is qualified as defined above, even though the student's class has not graduated.  
NOTE: This is inclusive of correctional facilities, detention centers and jails providing education services under the direction of a local school district.
2. Districts shall allow students to re-enter K-12 programs if the student has taken and failed one or all of the four GED® Tests. (Board Rule R277-702-4-C)
3. An out-of-school youth of school age who passes the GED® Tests and receives a Utah High School Completion Diploma is not eligible to return to a K-12 high school unless it is required for the provision of a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 20 U.S.C., Chapter 33. (Board Rule R277-733-7-E-c-5)
4. Any credits awarded as a result of passing the GED® Tests cannot transfer to the K-12 system.

### **Accommodations**

GED® testing applicants are encouraged to seek appropriate accommodations for GED® testing if they qualify based on diagnoses of learning, physical, emotional or other disabilities and if proper documentation from a licensed diagnostician is presented to the GED Testing Services accommodations team.

## GED® Test Taking Locations

There are numerous GED® Testing Centers in Utah. GED® testing registration is completed online at <http://www.gedtestingservice.com/testers/test-on-computer>. Centers can be found on the Internet under “examinee resources” at [www.utahged.info](http://www.utahged.info).

## Minimum Score Requirements

To be issued a Utah High School Completion Diploma, an individual must pass the GED® Tests in Utah, with a score of 150 on each of the four 2014 GED® Test modules.

## Adult High School Credit

**Note: the following pertains only to GED® outcomes prior to July 1, 2009.**

### Utah Passed GED®

**Note: the following pertains only to GED® outcomes prior to July 1, 2009.**

A student who successfully passes all five of the GED® Tests in Utah may be awarded NO MORE THAN FIVE (5) Adult High School Completion credits toward an Adult Education Secondary Diploma at the discretion of the school district if:

1. the GED® was taken in the state of Utah; and
2. there is a “hard copy” transcribed record of GED® Tests; or
3. the GED® Tests outcomes were transcribed into UToPIA by June 30, 2009.

### Out of State Passed GED®

Persons taking the GED® Tests outside of Utah who present with a transcribed record of GED® Tests may receive units of academic credit based solely on what is recorded on an out of state transcript.

Persons who have successfully passed the GED® Tests in another state may pursue a Carnegie-unit Adult Education Secondary Diploma depending on what the GED® credential is called/labeled in the state where the GED® Tests were passed. Contact the USOE-Adult Education Services for credential titles/definitions of out-of-state GED® Tests credentials.

GED® credit (previously transcribed) may be awarded at the discretion of the district in Core Curriculum areas as follows:

Subject	English test	Spanish test	English/Spanish
English	0 – 1.0	0	0 – .50
Social Studies	0 – 1.0	0 – 1.0	0 – 1.0
Mathematics	0 – 1.0	0 – 1.0	0 – 1.0
Science	0 – 1.0	0 – 1.0	0 – 1.0
Elective	0 – 5.0	0 – 4.0	0 – 4.5
<b>Maximum</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>4.50</b>

GED® credit may not be awarded in Social Studies for US History, US Government, and citizenship courses. GED® credit awarded in science may only be awarded for Earth Science.

## The GED and College Admissions

Some universities expect higher GPAs from high school graduates for admissions. They may likewise expect a higher GED<sup>®</sup> score for acceptance. Often GED<sup>®</sup> scores become part of a combination of scores required (i.e., ACT + GED<sup>®</sup> scores) for admission to colleges and universities. Many colleges require potential students to take assessments to determine if the potential students have the “ability to benefit” by enrollment. Potential students are to be encouraged to contact the admissions office at the institution they are interested in attending.

## K-12 Education Withdrawal and GED® Testing Registration Application Form

**Section 1**

This form must be completed in its entirety at the time of withdrawal from a K-12 program of instruction and prior to enrolling in an adult education program or registering to take the GED® test. The form must be submitted to an adult education center to begin GED testing registration.

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Number (SSID): \_\_\_\_\_

The above named applicant has been counseled by school personnel and understands and accepts the consequences and educational choices with the decision to withdraw from a K-12 program of instruction.

Last School District Code \_\_\_\_\_ Student's District Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Last School Number \_\_\_\_\_ Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**To be completed by school personnel at the time the applicant aged 16-18 withdraws from the K-12 educational system.**

**Verification K-12 withdrawal**

School District _____	Withdrawal Date _____	Last grade <u>completed</u> : _____
Charter School _____	Withdrawal Date _____	Total credits earned: _____
Special Purpose School _____ (Not associated with a school district)	Withdrawal Date _____	

Homeschooled: Yes No  
 Date of Exemption: \_\_\_\_\_

*The following signatures acknowledge:*

1. That counseling has been provided to the applicant explaining the consequences of the applicant's education choices.
2. Verification of the applicant's withdrawal from a K-12 program of instruction.

**School Counselor** (print name): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

and

**School Principal, Student Services Representative, or Designee** (print name): \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

As the applicant's parent/guardian I understand and accept the consequences and educational choices associated with decisions that may affect the applicant and grant permission for the applicant to participate in an adult education program of instruction.

and

**Parent/guardian signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 3**

**The 16-18 non-graduate applicant, whose class has not graduated, seeking admission to a GED Testing Center must bring this completed withdrawal/permission document to an adult education program along with a government-issued picture ID.**

**As a GED Testing Applicant, I understand and accept the consequences associated with my decision to withdraw from a K-12 program of instruction, including:**

1. If I pass the GED test according to the Utah state standard (minimum score of 150 on each of the four test modules), I cannot return to a K-12 program of instruction unless I have an IEP and then only until age 22 for FAPE.
2. If I pass the GED test, I will be issued a Utah High School Completion Diploma.
3. If I do not pass the GED test, I may return to a K-12 program of instruction and will be required to complete all necessary graduation requirements for a traditional K-12 diploma, or I may enroll in an adult education program to continue with the graduation requirements necessary for an Adult Education Secondary Diploma.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Applicant's Signature** **Date**

As the applicant's parent/guardian, I understand and accept the consequences and educational choices associated with decisions that may affect the applicant and grant permission for the applicant to participate in GED® testing.

**Parent/guardian signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Note: If the applicant is married, a marriage certificate may be presented at the GED Testing Center in lieu of having a parent/guardian signature on this document.)

**Section 3**

Additional permission required for 16-year-olds seeking to register and take the GED® test: 16-year-olds seeking admission to a GED Testing Center must access a Utah state-sponsored adult education program for academic testing verification that they have the academic readiness skills necessary to take the GED test.

To be completed by an Adult Education Program Director/Designee: The above named applicant demonstrates academic readiness to take the GED Test. My signature is not a guarantee that the applicant will pass the GED test.

**Name of Adult Education Program:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name and Position (print):** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_