Utah GED® Testing Information

The General Educational Development Tests (GED) were developed in 1942 to measure major and lasting outcomes and concepts associated with a traditional four-year high school education. The tests consist of questions in five subject areas: language arts (writing), social studies, language arts (reading), science, and mathematics. A Utah High School Completion Diploma is awarded upon successful completion of the five subtests

Value of a GED: According to a survey of college admissions officers performed by the American Council on Education, approximately 95 percent of colleges and universities accept the GED Tests in lieu of a high school diploma. **All Utah colleges and universities accept a GED.** GED scores may need to be higher than average to enter certain universities. **Most employers**, including governments, accept the GED Tests as being on par with a high school diploma for entry into and retention of employment.

GED Tests: GED Tests can be administered in English or Spanish, Braille, large print, or audiocassette. Accommodations in either language are available upon request.

Who is Eligible in Utah to Take GED Tests:

1. Any adult not currently holding a secondary diploma
2. Any 17-18-year-old whose class has graduated
3. Any 17-18-year-old whose class *has not graduated* who submits the Adult Education and/or GED Testing Application for 16-18-Year-Old Non-Graduates form, sections 1 and 2 completed
4. Any 16-year-old out-of-school youth who submits the Adult Education and/or GED Testing Application for 16-18-Year-Old Non-Graduates form, sections 1, 2, and 3 completed

Registration Requirements for GED Testing:

1. Current government-issued picture identification that includes the person's name, photo, address, birth date, and signature
2. Testing fee – see the GED website www.utahged.info for current fee information

Special Accommodations: Many persons have learning, emotional, or physical disabilities. GED Testing Services (GEDTS) has created a way to offer testing accommodations for some of these documented disabilities. Information on accommodation is available at the GED website, www.utahged.info.

For More Information: www.utahged.info

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GED® Accommodations

GED testing accommodations may be given to eligible persons who have documentation from a licensed diagnostician. Accommodations information and forms can be found on the GED testing website at http://www.schools.utah.gov/adulted/ged/accommodation/processing.htm.

GED Test accommodations that need prior approval by Utah GED Testing Administrator:

- Extended time
- Frequent, supervised breaks
- Private room
- Large print with extended time
- Audiocassette version
- Calculator, talking calculator (for Part Two of the Math test)
- For Braille version—use of a brailler
- Sign Language interpreter for test instructions
- Printed instructions

Any of the above accommodations require the completion of the appropriate "Request for Accommodation" form found on the GED Tests website noted above.

GED Test accommodations that can be provided without the Utah GED Testing Administrator's approval:

- Wearing hats with brims to minimize the effects of fluorescent lighting
- Priority seating to avoid distractions
- Large print test forms with normal time limit
- Earplugs—hearing protectors
- Glasses with tinted lenses, goggles, magnifying glass
- Allergy/dust masks or other chemical sensitivity masks
- Gloves
- Straight-edge without any markings
- One test per day
- Colored transparency overlays
- Clear overlays with colored highlighter
- Post-it™ notes to mark spatial direction
- Adaptive devices such as pencil holders, muscle and skeletal aids such as wrist braces, etc. that the candidate provides
- Organizers/learning strategies written on scratch paper from memory
- Other similar aids that are compensatory and do not give an advantage to the test taker

IN ALL CASES, any of the items will be inspected before they are allowed into the testing room.

If a service animal is required in the testing room, please call Marty Kelly, State GED Administrator (801-538-7824).

GED Test accommodations that would not be approved by the Utah GED Testing Administrator:

- Food and drinks
- Rulers
- Other calculators
- Big coats at the seats of examinees
- Personal pens and pencils
- Personal scratch paper
- Any audio (including cell phones, etc.)