

Important Information About GED Tests in Minnesota

GED Tests Free to Minnesotans for a Limited Time

Beginning February 8, and likely continuing through June 30, 2016, Minnesotans can take the GED for free. In order to have all fees waived, the test taker must enter promotion code MNGED80 and select "MN" in the jurisdiction field.

GED Ready Discount

The GED Ready is the official practice test for the GED and accurately predicts whether a test taker is likely to pass the GED. The cost for the GED Ready has been reduced from \$6 to \$3 and that price will be in place through March 31, 2016.

GED Passing Scores Modified Following Analysis

Over the past 18 months, GED Testing Service looked at GED program graduates and high school graduates to compare their college readiness and college-level skills. As a result, GED Testing Service made the following changes to the passing score, retroactive to January 1, 2014:

- The high school equivalency passing score has been reduced from 150 to 145.
- College Ready and College Ready + Credit cut scores have been added at 165 and 175 respectively.

This means students who took the GED after January 1, 2014, may now have a passing score.

Standard Adult Diploma

The 2014 Minnesota Legislature created a third option for adults needing a secondary credential: the state standard adult high school diploma, which is a competency-based diploma program delivered by Minnesota Adult Basic Education programs and awarded by MDE. Many school districts also recognize the work done by Standard Adult Diploma students by awarding a high school diploma.

Next Steps

The number of Minnesotans taking the GED has been at historically low levels since the inception of the new GED in 2014. The changes noted above provide a great opportunity to promote credentialing opportunities for folks in your community who do not have a secondary credential.

For more information, please contact your local Adult Basic Education Consortium (ABE

Hotline:<https://mnliteracy.org/hotline>), adult secondary credential staff

(brad.hasskamp@state.mn.us or todd.wagner@state.mn.us at MDE, or visit

(<http://mnabe.org/programs/adult-diploma>) or <https://ged.com/>.