

# General Educational Development (GED) Program

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# GED Program: Overview

- ▶ **GED Testing Service (GEDTS)** is an organization that is a part of the **American Council on Education (ACE)**.
- ▶ **GEDTS** implements and enforces policy for GED Tests both in the U.S. and abroad
- ▶ **GEDTS** conducts research to ensure that the curriculum in the GED Tests matches the curriculum being taught in high schools

# GED Program: Overview

## The State GED Testing Program Office:

- ▶ Oversees and supervises GED Testing Centers in Colorado
- ▶ Implements GEDTS policies and CBT Testing
- ▶ Issues 12,000 Colorado High School Equivalency (GED) Diplomas a year
- ▶ Reviews Age Waiver Applications
- ▶ Reviews requests for GED test accommodations
- ▶ On average, processes 500 GED transcript and diploma requests per month

# GED Program: Overview

The GED Tests measure **competency in five subject areas**: Language Arts–Writing, Social Studies, Science, Language Arts–Reading, and Mathematics.

## Eligible applicants:

- ▶ Must be 17 years of age or older, unless waiver for 16 year old is approved
- ▶ Residents of Colorado. Residency is defined as having a Colorado address.
- ▶ Persons who are not enrolled in an accredited high school.
- ▶ Those who have not already graduated from an accredited high school nor received a GED high school equivalency diploma.

# GED Program: Overview

- ▶ Scores range: 200–800 points for each of the five GED tests with a total score of 4,000 points on the entire battery.
- ▶ In order to be issued the GED Diploma, student must receive an average score of 450 and a total score of 2,250 points. 410 is the minimum passing score on each test.
- ▶ In a study conducted by GEDTS, an estimated 60% of recent high school graduates were able to pass the GED Exam with the required 450 point average and 2,250 total points.

# GED Standard Score and Est. Class Rank of Graduating HS Seniors

GED Score	Est. Class Rank	GED Score	Est. Class Rank
700	Top 1%	550	Top 25%
670	Top 2%	530	Top 33%
660	Top 3%	520	Top 40%
640	Top 5%	500	Top 50%
610	Top 10%	460	Top 55%
580	Top 15%	450	Top 60%
570	Top 20%		

# GED Program: Statistics

- ▶ **Number of Testing Centers:** Over 50
- ▶ **Cost:** \$80 - \$110

## 7 month Snapshot: GED Population 16-21 years old

- ▶ 4, 234 16-21 year olds were tested from 7/1/2010-1/31/2011
  - ▶ 1.7% (72 students) were 16 years old
  - ▶ **Majority: between the ages of 17-18 (51%)**
  - ▶ 47% 19-21 years old
- ▶ **Gender:** 59% male, 41% female
- ▶ **Race:** 51% White, 33% Hispanic, 10% African American
- ▶ **Highest Level Completed:**
  - ▶ **9<sup>th</sup> Grade: 14%**
  - ▶ **10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> Grade: 72%**
  - ▶ **12<sup>th</sup> Grade 6%**

Source: 2009 GEDTS/NRSpro Survey

# 4 year Snapshot

GED Students: 16–21 years old only

- ▶ FY 2006-2007: **6,955** 16-21 year olds took the GED
- ▶ FY 2007-2008: **7,522** students
- ▶ FY2008-2009: **8,209** students
- ▶ FY2009-2010: **8,146** students
  - Decrease of 63 students between FY08–09 and FY09–10!



# Defining the GED Exam

## GED Tests are meant for :

- Individuals who have already dropped out of high school
- Individuals who are substantially credit deficient and will be unable to graduate with a high school diploma

## GED Tests is NOT:

- A means for credit recovery to obtain a high school diploma
- An alternative for students who are on track to receive their high school diploma

# Collaboration

- ▶ **Reference** the list of current GED Test Centers and GED Chief Examiners at the state website:

[www.gedcolorado.com](http://www.gedcolorado.com)

- **Utilize GED staff** both at the state office and at GED Testing Centers as a resource for students that will not be able to graduate with a high school diploma
- **Be in communication with state GED staff!** We would love to hear your suggestions as to how we can collaborate to help better serve the high school drop out population

# State GED Contact Information

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