

High School Equivalency Testing:

GED & HiSET

Office of Postsecondary &
Workforce Readiness

The Colorado State Board of Education approves the high school equivalency (HSE) examinations utilized in Colorado to measure major outcomes and concepts associated with high school education.

There are two state board-approved high school equivalency examinations in Colorado: GED and HiSET. The Colorado High School Equivalency Diploma is awarded for successful completion of one of these approved examinations.

Note: The Department of Education stopped contracting with TASC in 2020. However, any credentials earned through TASC are still valid and recognized.

GED: GENERAL EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT

Overview: The GED is administered only on a computer at approved testing centers, or at home (the Online Proctored test) as of 2020. It consists of four (4) content area tests. The GED is published by GED Testing Service (GEDTS).

Content Area Tests: Reasoning through Language Arts (RLA), Mathematical Reasoning, Science, Social Studies

Minimum Passing Score: 145 (out of 200) in each content area

Cost: At a test center: \$37.50 per content area test = \$150 for the complete exam. Online Proctored (at home): \$43.50 per content area test = \$174 for the complete exam.

Test Outcomes:

2021 Colorado Pass Rate: 82%

National Pass Rate: 76%

Individual Content Area Colorado Pass Rates:

Reasoning through Language Arts: 89%

Math: 81%

Science: 94%

Social Studies: 89%

Approved Testing Centers:

- HSE Exams can only be administered at testing centers approved by the Colorado Department of Education.
- CDE approves testing centers based on geographic location and testing volume in the region.
- Approved testing centers:
 - Can choose to administer only one or both exam types.
 - Can choose to administer exams on a computer, paper, or both.
 - Must also meet the requirements of the publisher of each exam administered at their site.



HiSET: HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY TEST

Overview: The HiSET is administered on computer and paper at approved testing centers, or at home (the HiSET Exam at Home) as of 2020. It consists of five (5) content area tests. The HiSET is published by PSI Services.

Content Area Tests: Language Arts – Reading, Language Arts – Writing, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies

Minimum Passing Score: 8 (out of 20) in each content area, 2 (out of 6) on the essay, and a total combined score of at least 45 (out of 100) on all 5 subtests.

Cost: Computer version (at testing center): \$28.25 per content area test = \$141.25 for the complete exam.
Paper version (at testing center): \$32.50 per content area test = \$162.50 for the complete exam.
HiSET Exam at Home: \$35.75 per content area test = \$178.75 for the complete exam.

Test Outcomes:

2021 Colorado Pass Rate: 77%

National Pass Rate: 71%

Individual Content Area Colorado Pass Rates:

Reading: 76%

Writing: 86%

Math: 71%

Science: 91%

Social Studies: 86%

Where can I learn more?

- GED website: <https://ged.com/>
- HiSET website: <http://hiset.org/>
- Office of Postsecondary & Workforce Readiness, High School Equivalency Testing: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/postsecondary/hse>