



the education scene



GED®

The US High School
Equivalency Certificate

Accepted in 85 countries world-wide since 1942

Over 20 million graduates

powered by



essential education

GED® Explained

The GED® Programme is a qualification that was originally developed in the US for adult learners as a “second chance” at achieving their school leaving certificate. The programme became so popular that it is now offered in 85 countries around the world. The GED® Programme is the American alternative to the A-level test, HSC, New Zealand’s NCEA, the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme and other higher secondary credentials. With your GED® you will get access to universities in the US and many others world-wide. Countries such as the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, UAE, Bangladesh, Thailand, Malaysia, Nepal and South Africa are among the countries that have accepted students into their universities with the GED® Credential. Note that if you wish to further your studies at a university or Private Higher Education Institution, we would highly recommend you checking the entrance requirements before signing up. For students who are simply looking to advance their skills and obtaining a school leaving certificate, this could be an ideal option to consider.

GED® Study Methods

It’s quite simple. When you register for your GED® with us, you are given a license to online learning software on a platform called Essential Ed. Your license is valid for 12 months. Naturally, this study method requires you to be computer literate and by that we mean that you need to be able to find your way around the Internet, find specified information, watch videos, open up pages on the Internet, following links, and opening and closing windows.

If this is a possible challenge for you, contact us first for help and guidance in this regard.

After you have paid your license fee, you will receive an email with login details and you can commence your studies straight away.

GED® Test Subjects

You need to pass four (4) exams to get your Credential:

1. Reasoning Through Language Arts
2. Mathematical Reasoning
3. Social Studies
4. Science

GED® Individual Learning Plans

What makes this method of learning unique, is that you’ll undergo an informal quick and easy assessment on each subject to start with. The diagnostics working in the background produces a unique learning plan just for you. It determines what you already know and presents you with only the lessons you need in order for you to be successful. Your lessons presented will be the right fit for you. Your progress is measured on a chart that you will see each time you login and you can set yourself goals in terms of the hours you plan to set aside for your studies each week. It tracks your time and you’ll see live updates that inform you if you are reaching your personal goals or not.

Below is an example of your “homeroom” screen:

The screenshot displays the 'Becca's HomeRoom' interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs for 'Learning Dashboard', 'Messages', 'Study Resources', 'Locate a Test Center', 'HomeRoom Tutorial', and 'My Account'. Below this is a subject navigation bar with tabs for 'Math Reasoning', 'RLA Reading', 'RLA Writing', 'RLA Language', 'Science', and 'Social Studies'. The main content area is divided into several sections: 'New Unit: Polynomials' with a 'Start Lesson' button, 'Progress' showing 'Study Level' (Completed, Pending, Not-Started) and 'Practice Test Math Reasoning', and 'Mastery' at the bottom. A cartoon character is visible on the right side of the screen. The interface is designed to provide a personalized learning experience for GED® students.

GED® Testing Process

You are able to structure your exams to suit you. We recommend you work through your Essential Ed online learning software, one subject at a time. When you think you're ready to write an exam, go to ged.org.za and register on this website. You can sign up there for a **Practice Test** before registering for the exam. This site has a host of information you can use to help you prepare for your exams.



If you pass your Practice Test, consider taking your Exam. You can make your exam booking at one of over 40 centres in South Africa and choose a centre nearest you. Once you've passed your first exam, start on your next subject. In no time at all you will have worked through all 4 subjects.

GED® Fees

It's quite simple:

- Your license to your academic content (Essential Ed), available for 12 months = R2,500 excluding VAT
- Practice Tests (10 questions) = Free
- GED Ready® = \$6 per subject or \$24 for all 4 subjects
- Test (Exam) including any re-write, is charged in USD so will fluctuate with the Exchange Rate = \$75 per test

See all relevant information on www.ged.com

Fees are charged by SAQA (South African Qualification Authority) for processing applications for Foreign Qualifications. Please apply to them for the latest fees (if necessary).

Your online learning content is sufficient and you should not need to purchase additional material.

powered by



More about the subjects:



Mathematical Reasoning:

115 min exam – no breaks

2 parts

Calculator allowed in Part 2

Access to calculator reference sheet and math formula sheet

- Basic Math
- Geometry
- Basic Algebra
- Graphs and Functions



Language Arts:

150 min exam – 10min break

3 parts including a written essay

- Reading for meaning
- Identifying and Creating Arguments
- Grammar and Language



Social Studies:

70 min exam – no breaks

Access to calculator reference sheet

- Reading for Meaning in Social Studies
- Analysing Historical Events and Arguments in Social Studies
- Using Numbers and Graphs in Social Studies



Science:

90 min exam – no break

On-Screen calculator available

Access to calculator reference sheet

- Reading for Meaning in Science
- Designing and Interpreting Science Experiments
- Using Numbers and Graphics in Science

Important Rules to Remember:

- You must be 17yrs or older to write your exams in South Africa
- If you want to study at a university or college after your GED®, check first if this will give you access
- Your license fee of R2,500 includes only your online learning content
- You can start your studying anytime
- You need access to the Internet and a computer
- You can write your exams throughout the year
- You can re-write your exams if you fail

GED® FAQs

Is the GED® the same as a high school diploma?

The GED® testing programme serves the equivalent purpose of a secondary school leaving certificate. It has been in existence since 1942.

What does the GED® stand for?

- The term “GED” is a registered trademark of the American Council on Education (“ACE”), which is part owner of the GED Testing Service, who administers the GED® testing programme globally. Originally, the initials “GED®” stood for “General Educational Development,” and the term shows that the GED® test measures the lasting outcomes from a secondary school programme of study.
- A GED® test credential shows that the recipient has the same general level of academic achievement as a typical high school graduate.

What do I need to achieve to pass the GED® test?

- To graduate test-takers must earn a minimum score of 145 on each test subject to pass and earn the high school equivalency credential. In the event a candidate fails, they may retake the exam two additional times at any time. Should they fail a third time, they would have to wait 60 days before the next attempt. There is no minimum grade criterion to qualify for such a rewrite opportunity but it will attract a test fee.

What happens if I fail a test?

- The GED Testing Service permits you to re-test the same subject two additional times without a wait, and then requires a 60-day wait period between additional attempts. There is no minimum grade criterion to qualify for such a rewrite opportunity but it will attract a test fee. The GED® test score report will provide you with detailed feedback to address the skills you need to work on.

What happens when I pass all 4 tests?

- On successful completion of all tests you will be issued an electronic version of your GED® High School Equivalency Credential issued by the Office of the State Superintendent of Education in Washington, DC.

What makes a GED® test credential “equivalent” to a high school diploma or a secondary leaving certificate?

- The GED® test is accepted as an equivalent to a high school diploma by approximately 98% of colleges and universities in the U.S. and 95% of employers because they recognise the GED® test as a rigorous examination equal to or exceeding high school proficiency. The GED® test is aligned to the career and college readiness content standards in use throughout the U.S., and the test is standardised and normed using a national sample of recent high school graduates. In addition, the Office of the State Superintendent of Education in Washington DC has reviewed the test and determined that it meets their requirements in order to be granted a High School Equivalency Credential from Washington DC.

What is the test format?

- The test is completed on a computer.

Is keyboarding speed an issue? How does this influence test time?

- The time given is adequate for students to construct their answer and key in their response. Field testing has demonstrated that even test-takers with minimal keyboarding skills have adequate time.

How hard is the test?

- The test is aligned with today’s high school standards. The difficulty level needed to pass the GED® test is the same difficulty level as needed to pass high school today.

How long do you expect we will wait for scores?

- Scores will be returned from the test within 24 hours of completion of each subject.

Is the 145 an average score needed for total passing or a minimum score required for passing of each test for the 2014 GED®?

- There is no average score needed for total passing.

How can your GED® be evaluated by Admissions Officers?

Refer to this comprehensive guide:

https://ged.com/wp-content/uploads/College_admissions_guide.pdf

For more information:

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