Objectives

• Briefly Review the “why” Behind the New GED® Test
• GED® Test Overview
• 2016 National Test Data
• High Level Content Overview
• Resources for Educators and Students
• GED® Program Highlights
• Updates and Next Steps
A new GED® test in 2014: Why?

- Changes occurring in the landscape of education and the workforce require a new kind of GED® test
  - GED® grads not set-up for success in today’s world of postsecondary ed
  - Fewer and fewer low-skill jobs available
  - Students don’t have skills jobs require

Our focus is on the test-taker, not the test

- Support before and after test
- Quicker transition to jobs and college
- Global access to study tools
- Access to score reports providing actionable feedback
- Easier scheduling
- Simpler testing process
A Program…Not just a test

Prepare
Nationally accessible preparation programs

• MyGED™ portal
• Publisher alignment
• GED Ready™ with enhanced score report
• GED Marketplace™
• GED Analytics™
• GED Manager

Perform
Next generation exam

• 2014 GED® test
  • Aligned with CCR for Adult Education
  • Score report aligned with publisher products
  • Same-day scoring
  • MyGED™ portal
  • GED Analytics™
  • GED Manager

Progress
Support for post-test transitions

• Enhanced score report
• GED Analytics™
• Credentialing with Smart Transcript
• MyGED™ portal
• PathSource
• GED Manager
The GED® Test: Content Overview

Purposes of the GED® test

1. To provide results leading to the award of a high school equivalency credential

2. To provide evidence of readiness to enter workforce training programs, jobs, or postsecondary education

3. To provide actionable information about a candidate’s academic strengths and weaknesses
Subject Areas

• Mathematical Reasoning: 115 minutes
• Reasoning Through Language Arts (RLA): 150 minutes (10 minute break built in)
• Science: 90 minutes
• Social Studies: 70 minutes

New Item Types

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Multiple-choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fill-in-the-blank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drag-and-drop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hot-spot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drop-down</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-answer (2 on Science test)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extended-response (1 each on RLA)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
New score scale

- Scores range from 100 to 200 on each of the four content modules
- Test-takers must score a minimum of 145 on each subject area to pass
- Three performance levels:
  - High School Equivalency: 145-164
  - GED® College Ready: 165-174
  - GED® College Ready + Credit: 175-200
- Standardized and normed on a national sample of high school grads from the class of 2013

The GED® test

- Available in English and Spanish
- A wide array of accommodations available
  - Including zoom-text, alternate color palettes, Braille, screen reader, extended time, paper testing for special circumstances
- Test administered in secure testing centers, not via the Internet
Computer-based assessment

- GED® test is delivered on computer
- A paper based test is available as an accommodation, however this is very rare
- We continue, to work with correctional facilities across the U.S. as they transition to computer

GED® Test Information

- Cost in MA will be $31.25 per module.
- 4 modules x $31.25 = $125.00
- Pay for each module as you schedule
- 24 hour cancellation/reschedule policy
Test Information

• Discounted Retests – we waive our fee on 2 retests per subject area
• Example: I take Math and score a 140. I paid $31.25.
• Retest 1: I pay $10.00 (test center comp)
• Retest 2: I pay $10.00 (test center comp)
• If I still haven’t passed after my 3rd attempt I would pay $31.25 on my 4th attempt and if needed I’d receive 2 discounted retests again

Test Information

• After 3 failed attempts in a subject area test-taker must wait 60 days to test again in that subject for each subsequent attempt (GEDTS policy)
• Test vouchers can be purchased:
  www.pearsonvue.com/vouchers
What computer skills are necessary?

- Mouse skills
- Basic keyboarding skills
- Use of tools embedded in testing software

Test-takers can practice these skills on the GEDTS computer skills tutorial, available on our web site 24/7.
National Test-taker Data

2016 Testing Numbers YTD
- Test-takers: 302,714
- Completers: 198,587
- Passers: 158,763
- Pass rate: 80%

National Test-taker Data

2016 Pass Rates by Subject Area
- Math: 80%
- RLA: 83%
- Science: 90%
- Social Studies: 88%
High-Level Content Overview

The GED® test aligned to leading standards
A New Paradigm: Key Shifts

- Critical Thinking Skills: All content areas
- Problem-solving Skills: All content areas
- Close Reading Skills: All content areas
- Evidence-based Writing Skills: RLA, Social Studies & Science

Test based on Webb’s Depth of Knowledge (DOK) model

- Level 1: Recall
- Level 2: Skills and Concepts
- Level 3: Strategic Thinking
- Level 4: Extended Thinking
What do students need to know and be able to do?

- **Read closely** and **extract information** from complex text
- **Analyze** what they have read
- **Make logical inferences** or valid claims
- **Evaluate evidence** gleaned from text
- **Express information** or findings in words (extended response or short answer)

Reasoning Through Language Arts

A focus on:
- 75% informational texts, 25% literary texts
- Academic, workforce, and literary contexts
- A range of text complexity, including texts at the college- and career-ready level
- Text length of 450 to 900 words
- Vocabulary, with emphasis on words that appear frequently in a wide variety of disciplines
  - (e.g., relative, vary, formulate, specificity, accumulate, calibrate, itemize, periphery, misfortune, dignified, faltered, unabashedly)
Then . . . and Now

2002 Essay Prompt
What is one important goal you would like to achieve in the next few years?

In your essay, identify that one goal and explain how you plan to achieve it. Use your personal observations, experience, and knowledge to support your essay.

2014 Extended Response
While Dr. Silverton's speech outlines the benefits of cloud seeding, the editorial identifies drawbacks of this process.

In your response, analyze both the speech and the editorial to determine which position is best supported. Use relevant and specific evidence from both sources to support your response.

RLA Extended Response

- Creation of Arguments & Use of Evidence
- Development of Ideas & Organizational Structure
- Clarity & Command of Standard English Conventions
What students will need to do

Reasoning through Language Arts – Reading

• Read closely text that
  – Is more complex
  – Is greater in length
• Determine what is explicitly stated
• Make logical inferences based on evidence
• Make inferences about characters

Mathematical Reasoning

A focus on:
• Quantitative problem solving (45%) and algebraic problem solving (55%)
• Some items test procedural skill and fluency as well as problem solving
• Both academic and workforce contexts
• Statistics and data interpretation standards also on GED® Social Studies and GED® Science
• Use of either the on-screen scientific calculator (TI-30XS) or a handheld (TI 30XS) for all but the first 5 test items
New Tools – Formula Reference and Calculator

Science

A focus on:

- Science practices: skills of reasoning and thinking scientifically
- Science content: Life science (40%), physical science (40%), and Earth and space science (20%)
- Items will test textual analysis and understanding, data representation and inference skills, as well as problem solving with science content, 50% in scenarios
- Each item aligned to both one Science Practice and one Content Topic
- Both academic and workforce contexts
Science – Short Answer

Deforestation, or clearing away trees, is occurring in tropical rain forests.

Explain how deforestation could disrupt the life cycle of Dendroconicus umbrinus in natural rain forests. Include multiple pieces of evidence from the text to support your answer.

Type your response in the box. This task may require approximately 40 minutes to complete.

Social Studies

A focus on:

• Social Studies practices: skills of analysis, thinking, and reasoning
• Social Studies content: civics and government (50%), US history (20%), economics (15%), and geography and the world (15%)
• Items will test textual analysis and understanding, data representation and inference skills, as well as problem solving with social studies content, 50% in scenarios
• Each item aligned to both one Social Studies Practice and one Content Topic
• Both academic and workforce contexts
Overall implications for instruction

- Increase emphasis on
  - Critical thinking skills and
  - Its application in all content areas
- Approach teaching content so that learners are able to develop—and demonstrate—skills and competencies
- Teach writing to emphasize analytical skills and the ability to read critically to identify and draw on evidence in source material
- Teach grammar within the context of writing
- Incorporate use of and comfort with technology

Resources: Getting Ready for the GED® Test
Key Resources for Educators

Find them on: www.gedtestingservice.com/educators

#1: The Assessment Guide for Educators

Covers all content areas
Item types
Assessment targets
Guidelines for how items are scored
#2 Performance Level Descriptors

www.gedtestingservice.com/educators/pld

- Four Performance Levels explained
  - Below Passing
  - HSE
  - GED® College Ready
  - GED® College Ready + Credit
- What skills are demonstrated at each level
- What skills need development to advance to the next level

#3 The Resource Guides

- MATHEMATICAL REASONING
  - 2014 Sample-Based Test Tutorial (View Online Now) (Download and View Later)
  - 2014 Sample-Based Test Tutorial in Spanish (View Online Now) (Download and View Later)
  - 2014 Practice Calculator Tutorial (View Online Now) (Download and View Later)
  - 2014 Sample-Based Test Tutorial in Spanish (View Online Now) (Download and View Later)
  - 2014 Item Sampler (English & Spanish)
  - 2014 Item Sampler Introduction Video (Click here to view in Spanish)
  - 2014 Sample Test Explanation (Click here to view in Spanish)
- SCIENCE
  - 2014 Sample-Based Test Tutorial (View Online Now) (Download and View Later)
  - 2014 Item Sampler (Print & Spanish)
  - 2014 Sample-Based Test Tutorial in Spanish (View Online Now) (Download and View Later)
  - 2014 Item Sampler Introduction Video (Click here to view in Spanish)
  - 2014 Sample Test Explanation (Click here to view in Spanish)
- REASONING THROUGH LANGUAGE ARTS
  - 2014 Sample-Based Test Tutorial (View Online Now) (Download and View Later)
  - 2014 Sample Based Test Tutorial in Spanish (View Online Now) (Download and View Later)
  - 2014 Item Sampler (English & Spanish)
  - 2014 Sample-Based Test Tutorial in Spanish (View Online Now) (Download and View Later)

GEDtestingservice.com • GED.com
#4 “Tuesdays for Teachers”

http://www.gedtestingservice.com/educators/professionaldevelopment

#5 In Session

- Monthly newsletter
- Easy sign-up
- Topics of interest to adult educators
- Focus on changes that impact you and your students
#6 Tutorials

- Ensures no surprises on test day
- Opportunity to practice and build skills
- Familiarity can lead to better performance

Resources

- Computer based tutorial for test-takers (English & Spanish)
- Free Practice Test for test-takers (English or Spanish)
- Calculator Tutorial (English or Spanish)
The place where it all lives:
www.gedtestingservice.com/educators

GED Testing Program Highlights
MyGED®

• First step for all test-takers is to go to www.ged.com
• Create an account: email address & password
• Register, schedule, take the GED Ready®, utilize other resources and tools

MyGED®

• We encourage adult educators, and others, to create an account at www.ged.com to become familiar with the registration process as well as the key features of MyGED which include the GED Ready® Practice Test
• Please use a personal email when creating your account. Don’t use your work email address.
tools to help test-takers prepare

GEDtestingservice.com • GED.com

study

get the support you need to pass the GED® test with the right study tools.

browse study tools
find the study tool that's right for you at GED Marketplace®, your one-stop shop for GED® test prep products.

find local study tools
contact your local adult education center and ask about available study tools and classes—some are even free!

prove you're GED Ready™
ask your GED Ready™ provider if they offer our official practice test. You can also take our free practice test online to help boost your confidence for test day.
The GED Ready® Practice Test

• GED Ready® is best predictor of success on the GED® test
• Actionable feedback
  – Provides information for personalized study plans for use by students and educators
  – Is aligned to instructional material – helps educators guide student remediation
  – Taken online (except in correctional facilities)
  – Gives direction
    • More students who fail go on to retake instead of giving up

The GED Ready®

• GED Ready® Practice Test
• Provides score information & is highly predictive of results on operational test
  – The 2002 OPT did not have this linkage
  – GED Ready® reports scores in three zones:
    • Red: Not likely to pass (100-133)
    • Yellow: Too close to call (134-144)
    • Green: Likely to pass (145-200)
**GED Ready® Promotion for Massachusetts**

- GED Ready Promotion for Massachusetts!
- Promotion will run from January 15th – March 15th
- $1.00 price per GED Ready subject area

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**GED Ready® Standard Pricing**

- If purchased via MyGED the retail price is $6.00 per GED Ready subject area
- Adult Education Centers can purchase GED Ready vouchers from a publisher for approximately $2.75-$4.00 per GED Ready subject area
Score Report redesigned to show ‘How I can score higher’ on page 1

Sample GED Ready® and GED® Test Score Report
### Algebraic Problem-Solving with Expressions and Equations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill You Can Improve</th>
<th>Study Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Compute with rational expressions</td>
<td>Student Book Pages 66-67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solve algebraic and real-world problems that involve linear equations</td>
<td>Student Book Pages 80-81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solve quadratic equations in one variable</td>
<td>Student Book Pages 78-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compute volume and surface area of right prisms and pyramids, cylinders, spheres, cones, and composite figures</td>
<td>Student Book Pages 88-91 Pages 106-111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compute with linear expressions</td>
<td>Student Book Pages 50-51 Pages 64-65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solve linear equations, polynomial, and rational expressions</td>
<td>Student Book Pages 80-82, Pages 86-88, Pages 96-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Create quadratic equations and linear expressions, equations, and inequalities with written descriptions you have been given</td>
<td>Student Book Pages 50-53 Pages 80-83 Pages 70-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compute with and factor polynomials</td>
<td>Student Book Pages 50-51 Pages 64-65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solve algebraic and real-world problems that involve a system of two linear equations</td>
<td>Student Book Pages 62-63</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Algebraic Problem-Solving with Graphs and Functions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill You Can Improve</th>
<th>Study Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Locate points and graph linear equations on the coordinate plane</td>
<td>Student Book Pages 75-77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understand that a unit rate is equivalent to slope in a proportional relationship</td>
<td>Student Book Pages 74-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use slope to identify parallel and perpendicular lines, and to solve geometric problems</td>
<td>Student Book Pages 74-77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Write the equation of a line with a given slope through a given point</td>
<td>Student Book Pages 74-77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For a linear or nonlinear relationship, sketch graphs and interpret key features of graphs and tables in terms of quantities</td>
<td>Student Book Pages 72-73 Pages 78-79 Pages 82-83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Find the slope of a line from a graph, equation or table</td>
<td>Student Book Pages 74-75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluate linear and quadratic functions</td>
<td>Student Book Pages 80-81</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# American Council on Education Credit Recommendations – GED® Testing

The American Council on Education (ACE) provides credit recommendations for the GED® Testing Program. Students who earn a GED® Certificate may be eligible for credit at many colleges and universities. For more information, visit GEDtestingservice.com.
College Ready Passing Levels

- **GED® College Ready** – new score level (165 or higher per subject area) for ACE CREDIT® Recommendation (students can bypass dev. ed. and placement exams)
- **GED® College Ready + Credit** – new score level (175 or higher per subject area) where students may be eligible for up to 10 college credit hours
  - (3 Math, 3 Social Studies, 3 Science, 1 English/Humanities)

Some of the Institutions Currently Adopting the GED® Credit Recommendations

- Georgia Technical College System
- Colorado Community College System
- Southern New Hampshire University
- Community College of Rhode Island
- Kent State University
- Brookdale Community College (Lincroft, NJ)
- Miami Dade College (Florida)
- 6 Community Colleges in Oregon
What is GEDWorks™

- GEDWorks™ is a program designed for employers to sponsor the GED® test for their employees. No cost for employees.
- Help frontline workers gain a valuable credential
- All-inclusive program gives the student all the tools they need to pass the test
- Available nationally
## Founding Employers

- Walmart
- Taco Bell
- KFC
- Southeastern Grocers (SEG): Bi-Lo, Winn-Dixie, Harveys
- More employers to come soon

### PathSource Career Exploration

![PathSource Logo]
What is PathSource?

• Career exploration tool integrated into MyGED
• Career assessment
• Information on salaries, necessary education, projected job growth
• Over 3,000 videos to help students learn more about jobs from real people currently working in those fields
• Access PathSource from the College and Careers tab in MyGED

GEDPrep Connect™
Objectives of GEDPrep Connect™

- Increase awareness of Adult Education programs with GED® candidates
- Connect more students with programs to drive completion and success rates
- Promote programs through GED.com
- Improve Adult Education programs’ access and management of student information

Insight from programs and candidates

- Interviews conducted with 30 state and local adult education directors and 15 local programs around the country
- New features circulated for feedback from 50 adult education program staff and state leaders
- Webinars held to gather feedback on prototypes
- Survey sent to 100,000 GED® candidates to gather perceptions about adult education
- Several modifications made to GED.com and GED Manager™
You told us …

• Students need more opportunities to find local adult education programs through the GED.com experience
• You want better student reporting and management tools
• You want to reach out to students that express interest in your programs through GED.com
• Share My Scores needs more visibility as an option for students
• Students need reminders about adult education throughout their journey

The new page to start gathering data

• Only shown to students in adoptive states

Let's learn more about you
Tell us about yourself
There are millions of students just like you who have made this journey, and we're here to help.

Progress: 59% complete

What brings you here today?
- I'm ready to schedule my GED® test
- I'm studying and plan to test soon
- I'd like to get started on earning my GED® credential
- I am just looking around

Are you in a GED® Test Prep Class or using an Adult Ed Center to prepare?
- Yes
- No

Back Continue
Benefits of GED® Test Prep Centers

What can a GED® Test Prep Center do for me?

- Support throughout your GED® journey
- Expert instruction on GED® test subjects
- Practice for the GED® test
- Help with career and college planning
- And more

"Saint Gabriel’s Hall is the best thing that ever happened to me. I got the time I needed to find out who I really am, and the resources that I never had before. The best support system, and with all that I made a future for myself." — Fred, GED® graduate

Are you interested in finding a GED® Test Prep Center?

- Yes, help me find a GED® Test Prep Center
- No, thanks

Select a GED® Test Prep Center (optional)

Select a GED® Test Prep Center to get expert help preparing for the test. By selecting a center, you agree to share your scores with the center, and the center may contact you about enrolling in their program. Investigating a center is optional and is not required to receive adult education services. After you have selected a center, you can remove or change your center at any time by clicking the button "Remove selection" or by going to Edit Profile.
How to Manage Student Enrollment

Click on Manage GED® Prep Connect Enrollment
Student Search- will be set to Enrollment status

New Student Outcomes Data Preview
Students Enrolling and Persisting in Postsecondary

- 40,000 GED® graduates submitted for National Student Clearinghouse match
  - Consisted of follow-up on the graduates identified in the 2015 match and all graduates from 2014 - 2016
  - Plus additional random sample of graduates from 2014 – 6/30/2016
- Result: 35% of GED® graduates went on to post-secondary institutions within 12-18 months of passing GED® test
  - 75% in 2-year program
  - 25% in 4-year program
- 93% continue to be enrolled
- Of the ~7% who are no longer enrolled, 81% had already received some sort of certificate or credential
- The mean scaled score of students going on to PSE is ~158-160 (depending on the content area)

Take-Aways From Research To Date

- GED® grads are moving on to certificate and credentialing programs more rapidly than in the past
- Those who enroll in PSE programs:
  - Appear overall to be having success in their first credit-bearing courses
  - Are tending to persist in their enrollment thus far
Updates on GED Test Launch in MA

GED Test Launch

• Test available in MA starting on January 3rd
• Test will be available at a number of test centers across MA in January
• Additional centers will become GED testing centers throughout 2017
GED® Test Launch

GED Test will be available in January at the following locations:

- Berkshire C.C.
- Holyoke C.C.
- North Shore C.C. (Lynn)
- Northern Essex C.C. (Haverhill)
- Quincy College (Quincy & Plymouth)
- Springfield Tech C.C.

Next Steps

- In person professional development at 3 locations in MA:
  - 2/15 – Massasoit C.C. in Brockton
  - 2/16 – Abisi Adult Education Center in Lowell
  - 2/17 – Holyoke C.C.

- More webinars for adult educators
- More to come on GEDPrep Connect tool
GED Testing Service Annual Conference

- July 26-28th in Dallas, TX
- Professional Development Sessions for Adult Educators
- Learn from session leaders and adult education colleagues from across the U.S.
- Early bird rate available until March 1st

Thank you for attending!

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