

So You Want to Take the GED®

The GED® is a battery of tests that determine one’s proficiency in the subjects of Language skills, Math, Science and Social Studies.

Is the GED® a good fit? It is a rigorous exam that is based on the core content curriculum. Students need to know about economics, government, biology, chemistry, algebra, geometry, grammar, and writing. The GED® is no longer a comprehension-based pen-and-paper multiple-choice test; it is delivered solely by computer. In fact, you don’t even get a pen or paper when you take the test; if you need to work through a problem, you use a dry erase tablet. Less than half of the entire test is multiple choice. Therefore, in addition to content, you now must also possess strong digital literacy/computer skills.

What is a passing score? There are three levels of mastery. Depending on what your goals are after you’ve passed, here are the scores for which you should aim: GED® Ready/high school proficiency; College Ready; College Ready + Credit. 145 in each subject is the minimum passing score.

How long will it take? We cannot tell you how long it will take for you to prepare for the GED®. That depends on how motivated and committed you are in studying. Each subject is a timed test varying between 70–155 minutes.



The breakdown is:

Language Arts: 155 minutes

Science: 95 minutes

Mathematical Reasoning: 120 minutes

Social Studies: 75 minutes



Once you feel you are ready, you will need to create a personal account at www.ged.com. Your account is where you can look at practice questions, take practice tests (get free vouchers if enrolled in our free program) and schedule official tests. All your scores will be found in your site as well.

Great Rivers Adult Education Consortium can help walk you through the whole process! Enrolling in an ABE program, such as ours, you can often get discounted GED® testing. Usually the test costs \$120(\$30/subject) but there are sometimes funds through the State of Minnesota that will offer discounts.

Still have questions or want to enroll in a free, flexible prep class? Call us at 651-425-6634 and talk with one of our office staff.